

Mrs. Manty Sabatés Morse, Board Member

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 00-26 ENDORSING FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS (FADSS) POSITION STATEMENT REGARDING FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING THE FLORIDA EDUCATION FINANCE PROGRAM OR ANY NEWLY CREATED FUNDING FORMULA**

The 2000 Legislature established the Task Force on Public School Funding to examine and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on the funding of public schools. Final recommendations are due by February 1, 2002. Effective June 30, 2004, the Florida Educational Finance Program (FEFP) is repealed.

Members of the Task Force are appointed by the Governor, Speaker of the House, and President of the Senate. A list of current appointees is included in Attachment B to this agenda item.

Because the deliberations of this Task Force will affect virtually all funding mechanisms of this school district, as well as other districts in the state, it is important that a public position be taken by the Miami-Dade County School Board regarding essential principles which must be retained in any potential restructuring of the FEFP.

Resolution No. 00-26 has been prepared for that purpose and is included as Attachment A.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MRS. MANTY SABATÉS MORSE:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, adopt Resolution No. 00-26 endorsing the position statement of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) regarding fundamental principles which must be retained in the Florida Education Finance Program.

MSM:ca

**RESOLUTION NO. 00-26 OF THE  
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
ENDORING THE POSITION STATEMENT OF THE  
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS  
REGARDING THE FLORIDA EDUCATION FINANCE PROGRAM  
OR ANY NEWLY CREATED FUNDING FORMULA**

**WHEREAS**, a task force has been assembled to review the distribution formulas of the Florida Education Finance Program;

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Education Finance Program is the predominant funding source for programs of the Miami-Dade County School Board;

**WHEREAS**, certain fundamental principles embodied in the Florida Education Finance Program provide for a highly equitable and need-sensitive distribution of educational funds;

**WHEREAS**, it is highly desirable that these fundamental principles be retained in any restructuring of the Florida Education Finance Program or any newly created funding formula; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate for The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida to publicly identify and endorse those principles,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 00-26 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorsing the following position statement prepared by the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) and recommending that these principles be maintained in any restructuring of the Florida Education Finance Program or newly created program.

**The FEFP or any newly created formula should:**

- Allocate funds based upon actual full-time-equivalent (FTE) student enrollment. Attendance rates should not effect school funding.
- Provide and ensure that a base student allocation based on a budgetary analysis of the cost of providing services is part of any funding formula.
- Recognize that some educational programs are more expensive to provide because of the needs of the students. Employ different program weights to account for these cost differences (e.g. specialized equipment, additional staff, lower student/adult ratio, etc.)

- Provide for a program to reimburse English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) enrollment at actual district by district enrollment rates and not cap reimbursable enrollment at an arbitrary level, since districts are legally mandated to offer this high-cost program to eligible students.
- Employ various fiscal adjustment programs to account for a higher or lower cost of living or doing business from county to county. Examples of adjustments include a District Cost Differential (DCD), Compression Adjustment, and full funding of Sparsity.
- Continue the equalizing features of the Required Local Effort millage levy to minimize differences in property tax revenue per pupil caused by differences in the amount of assessed property value per pupil

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this thirteenth day of September, A.D. 2000

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary