

Mrs. Manty Sabatés Morse, Member

SUBJECT: INSTRUCT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO INITIATE RULE-MAKING PROCEDURES ESTABLISHING NOON FRIDAY PRIOR TO THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AS THE DEADLINE FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS TO SUBMIT THE FULL CONTENT OF THEIR BOARD ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING

Miami Dade County School Board members are entrusted by the public to make decisions that affect, shape, and mode the fourth largest school system in the country. The decisions made by the Board members have a tremendous impact on the lives of many in Miami Dade County. In addition to the more than 350,000 students, they affect teachers, paraprofessionals, and other important personnel that make the system work. As the largest employer in the county and with its more than four billion dollar budget, whatever happens to the system, has serious economic implications for the entire population of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Considering our importance to the community should force us to be more attentive to the decisions that we make on a monthly basis. I am of the opinion that, as Board members, we need as much time and as much information as it is possible prior to the meeting for us to properly weigh in the different options available and conduct research of our own. Although this applies to all Board items, principally, I am referring to the ones presented by fellow Board members. Most of these items address policy changes that heavily impact the system and thus require far more time to research than is currently allowed when some Board members for various reasons do not submit the full content of their item until a day or two, and in some cases, hours before the monthly Board meeting. Providing the heading is simply not enough.

As Board members, we should set the example for staff and present the items with as much information and adequate time to consider it.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MANTY SABATES MORSE:

That The Superintendent be instructed by the Miami Dade-County School Board to initiate rule-making establishing Noon Friday before the monthly Board meeting as the deadline for Board members to submit the full content of the item they wish to bring to the Board for consideration.