

February 11, 2002

Ms. Betsy H. Kaplan, Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST THE SUPERINTENDENT TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE
ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF HAVING DOUBLE
SESSIONS, ESPECIALLY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

School overcrowding is one of the primary challenges facing Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Additionally, there is no anticipated slowdown in the population growth, thus the existing conditions are expected to remain constant or worsen. Traditionally, the solution to overcrowding is new construction or the placement of relocatable classrooms in existing facilities. However, in light of the circumstances described, it is prudent that this district engage in activities that explore alternative solutions to overcrowding.

As such, it is requested that the Superintendent conduct a study on the advantages and disadvantages of double sessions as an avenue to ease overcrowding in secondary schools. The study should include parental input as well as the perspective of educators to include teachers and administrators. A cost analysis that includes the additional cost of transportation, maintenance, etc., should also be included. It is requested that the study be presented to the School Board at its regularly scheduled meeting of May 15, 2002.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. BETSY H. KAPLAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent of Schools to conduct a study on the advantages and disadvantages of double sessions in the secondary schools. The study should be presented at the May 15, 2002, School Board meeting and should include parents' and staff input as well as the fiscal impact.

ETP:rw

**REPLACEMENT
J-9**