

October 22, 2002

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO PREPARE A PLAN OF ACTION FOR ADDRESSING THE ANTICIPATED BUDGETARY SHORTFALL PRIMARILY ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2002-2003 DECLINE IN STUDENT ENROLLMENT, AND FOR INCREASING THE DISTRICT'S CONTINGENCY RESERVE**

REVISER

According to information contained in an October 13, 2002 *Miami Herald* article, the preliminary first-semester attendance count of students taken Friday, October 11, 2002 counted 365,501 students or about 7,000 fewer students than were projected for enrollment. As reported in the article, this significant decline in student enrollment for the 2002-2003 school year will result in the school district receiving approximately \$28 million dollars less for its \$2.4 billion operating budget. This financial shortfall comes at a time when the Board has already reduced its contingency reserves and has implemented severe cost savings measures for this current fiscal year.

In order to ensure that the district has a plan of action in place well prior to the mid year, the School Board should establish policy associated with implementing further cost reductions to offset the current operating budget shortfall caused by the decline in student enrollment for this academic year and adding to its contingency reserves to protect against further unforeseen financial events.

Therefore, it is recommended that The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida direct the Superintendent to prepare a plan of action for addressing the budgetary shortfall associated with the 2002-2003 decline in student enrollment, and for increasing the District's contingency reserve.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida direct the Superintendent to prepare a plan of action by the November 20, 2002 Board meeting for addressing the anticipated budgetary shortfall primarily associated with the 2002-2003 decline in student enrollment, and for increasing the District's contingency reserve.

REVISER

**REVISED  
REPLACEMENT  
D-13**