

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

**SUBJECT: STRENGTHENING BOARD EFFECTIVENESS, COUNTY-WIDE ELECTION & TERM LIMITS**

**COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL SERVICES**

On March 12, 2003 the School Board initiated discussions surrounding the effectiveness and structure of the School Board. A chronology of the board actions taken is as follows:

**March 12, 2003 Countywide Chair:** The board confirmed its interest in an at-large countywide election of the School Board Chair.

**December 10, 2003 Board Effectiveness:** The School Board directed the Board Attorney to amend Board Rules or initiate rulemaking, if necessary, within the limits of all applicable laws and Roberts Rules of Order to allow the following:

1. The School Board Chair may establish the agenda in consultation with the Superintendent.
2. Board Members' items to be moved forward as "B" items.
3. The ability of Board members to request a time-certain hearing of agenda items at least 48 hours prior to the start of an official meeting by written request to the Chair.
4. Priority items to be determined by the Board Chair in consultation with the Superintendent shall be moved forward as Board Priority "A" items only after a majority vote by the Board at the start of its meeting.
5. Deferral until next regularly scheduled School Board meeting of any agenda item when the agenda item and supplemental materials are distributed less than three days before the scheduled meeting, absent a showing of good cause as determined by the Board Chair.
6. Conduct a workshop to discuss issues prior to Initial Reading at the February 11, 2004 Board meeting.

**December 10, 2003 Countywide Chair:** Deferred amending the 2004 Legislative Program proposing a revision to Florida Statute 1001.3715, giving flexibility for school districts to elect the School Board Chair on a countywide basis, until it was discussed in a workshop prior to the February 11, 2004 Board meeting.

**January 14, 2004 Term Limits:** Referred the recommendation for adoption of the concept of term limits for any school board that desires to establish term limits for itself to the February governance issues workshop.

**February 9, 2004** Board Governance workshop was attended by Chair Michael Krop and Members Dr. Marta Perez, Ms. Perla Tabares-Hantman, Dr. Solomon Stinson, Mr. Frank Cobo and Mr. Frank Bolaños. It was decided that the following recommendations would be proposed at the February 11, 2004 meeting.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY:  
FRANK J. BOLAÑOS:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. Approve a one month pilot assigning Board Member items to the Agenda section that they relate to.
2. Approve a pilot deferring agenda items to the next scheduled board meeting when the completed agenda item and supplemental materials are not distributed by the Monday before the publication of the Board agenda, absent a showing of good cause as determined by the Board Chair.
3. Consider an amendment to the state legislative program to revise FS 1001.3715, providing flexibility for school districts to elect the School Board Chair on a countywide basis.
4. Consider an amendment to the state legislative program to revise FS 1001.36, providing flexibility for school districts to allow for a combination of single member and at-large districts.
5. Consider an amendment to the state legislative program to propose a revision to Article IX of the State Constitution, providing flexibility for school districts to limit the term of office for a member of a school board.