

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

**SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVES TO OUTDOOR SUSPENSION**

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

Administering just punishments is an important part of maintaining a safe learning environment and instilling a sense of accountability in our students' moral development. The Code of Student Conduct has been successful in making sanctions for disciplinary problems uniform and fair for all students.

Nevertheless, more often than not, those students that are assigned outdoor suspension, are typically struggling in school and at risk of being retained. Although outdoor suspension is well-intentioned, by removing these students from an educational setting, more harm than good is being done.

The opportunity exists to create a more educational and structured setting for these students. Administrative staff and individual principals have researched many of these options such as intensive tutoring sessions and a centralized suspension centers. It would benefit the School Board to learn more of these alternatives and their impacts to be considered for future revisions to the Code of Student Conduct.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to present a feasibility report within ninety days on structured, educational alternatives to outdoor suspension.