Office of School Board Members Board Meeting of June 16, 2004

Betsy H. Kaplan, Member

SUBJECT:

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO JOIN WITH OTHER FLORIDA SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO SHARE PROPORTIONATE COSTS OF COMPETENT CONSTITUTIONAL LEGAL RESEARCH ON WHETHER THE STATE OF FLORIDA IS COMPLYING WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENT TO ADEQUATELY FUND PUBLIC EDUCATION AND DETERMINE WHETHER LEGAL

REMEDIES ARE JUSTIFIED

COMMITTEE:

LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Unfortunately, I was at WLRN when the Superintendent's A-8 agenda item recommending that legal research be authorized to determine the adequacy of state funding for public education as required by the Florida constitution was discussed and voted upon. It is my understanding that a motion for approval was defeated by a 4/4 tie.

I am supportive of this proposal and wish to sponsor the same issue at the School Board meeting on June 16th.

I am attaching a copy of the Superintendent's A-8 agenda item on the May 19, 2004 agenda for reference.

ACTION PROPOSED BY MS. BETSY H. KAPLAN:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize the Superintendent and Board Attorney to join with other Florida school districts to share proportionate costs of competent constitutional legal research on whether the State of Florida is complying with the constitutional requirement to adequately fund public education and determine whether legal remedies are justified.