

Frank J. Bolaños, Chairman

SUBJECT: REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL SERVICES

The School Board of Miami-Dade County is faced with an opportunity to lead our community with the important reform efforts that our school system needs for the betterment of our schoolchildren. Integral to this reform is enhanced transparency, accountability and efficiency at both the school board and administrative level. A reenergized committee structure that takes a more systemic view of the issues before it will assist in this effort.

The proposed reorganization of school board committees aims to set the tone for systemic reform in the areas of instructional excellence; accountability in supporting our schools; innovative and efficient business management practices and the reform of our facilities and construction processes.

Deleted

The many advisory committees that have been created to address specific issues would be assigned to, and give a progress report to, its relevant School Board Standing committee. This reorganization aspires to "connect the dots" between the myriad of monthly agenda items presented by the administration and board members, as well as the important work of the staff and citizen advisory committees. When presented to the committee, the committee members will ask: How does this advance the work and objective of this committee?

Revised

This new approach to the work of the Board will better align the efforts of the Superintendent and the Board as both attempt to carry out important and necessary reform-based initiatives. It will encourage the Board to remain focused on macro, policy issues and not micromanage. It aims to empower the initiatives and objectives of the committees and encourages board members and staff to focus on their special area of interest and or expertise. In a collaborative way, the Committee members and staff will set specific goals for the both the standing committee and advisory committees. They will measure and monitor the initiative, following an issue from its inception through its completion. This integrative approach will enhance the Board's role as a policymaker.

The new process will strive to increase the access to meetings and participation of our many stakeholders. The dates of all committee meetings will be published in advance for the entire school year, making it easier for the public to participate and making it a more transparent process. Key representatives of our school community will be invited to sit at the table as ex-officio, non-voting members of the committees. By inviting some of our key stakeholders to form part of our committees we will send a loud and clear message of a transparent and participatory style of governance. All committee minutes should conform to a standard format and be maintained by the Superintendent's designee.

This item has been revised to address the suggestions that were made at the Legislative Relations, Public Relations and Personnel Services meeting of December 9, 2004.

Revised

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
CHAIRMAN FRANK J. BOLANOS:**

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

1. Suspend Board Rule 6Gx13-8C-1.23 to implement a pilot project through the April 13, 2005 School Board Meeting and create the following standing School Board Committees:

Instructional Excellence & Community Engagement

Develops policy and considers matters related to pre-kindergarten through secondary curriculum and instruction, educational planning and assessment, exceptional student education, student services, federal programs, all grants administration, including Title I, adult, vocational and alternative education, community schools and services, increasing the graduation rate and decreasing the dropout rate, education evaluation and research, parental involvement, Parent Academy, community relations, media communications, public relations, information and marketing, and related procurement and rulemaking. The district-wide Teacher of the Year will serve as a non-voting ex-officio member.

School Support Accountability

Develops policy and considers matters related to supporting the delivery of educational services at the school site including, attendance services and boundaries, school security, police and district safety, student discipline, uniforms, school improvement zone, educational facilities compliance, personnel, wage and salary, human resources, leave and retirement, employee support programs, teacher education certification, professional standards, professional development, equal educational opportunity and diversity compliance, labor relations and related school operations procurement and rulemaking. The district-wide Principal of the Year will serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member.

Revised

Innovation, Efficiency & Governmental Relations

Develops policy and considers matters related to district-wide accountability, systemic reform, strategic planning, performance improvement, budget, financial investments, risk and benefits management, information technology, energy management, transportation, food services, schools of choice, legislative and intergovernmental policies and related procurement and rulemaking. A representative of the Coalition of Unions will serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member.

Facilities & Construction Reform

Develops policy and considers matters related to real estate, land acquisition and development, growth management, facilities planning, construction, maintenance, plant operations, and related construction and maintenance procurement and rulemaking. A representative from the Land Acquisition and Facilities Maintenance Operations Advisory Board will serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member.

2. Authorize the School Board Chairman to comprise each school board committee with four voting school board members and appoint the Chair, Vice-Chair and Ex-Officio members to each committee. The appointments will be for a term of six months and be made following the November organizational meeting and in May of the subsequent year. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the School Board will serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of each committee that they do not directly serve on.

3. Authorize the scheduling of committee meetings for the entire year and committee minutes conforming to the same format.

4. Determine at the April 13, 2005 School Board meeting whether to extend the pilot project and initiate rulemaking to amend Board Rule 6Gx13-8C-1.23.