

School Police and District Security  
Gerald L. Darling, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXTEND THE REPORTING TIMEFRAME FOR THE PROMOTING AND MAINTAINING A SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE AN ADDITIONAL 90 WORKDAYS IN ORDER TO THOROUGHLY ADDRESS CRITICAL AREAS REGARDING SCHOOL SAFETY**

**COMMITTEE: SCHOOL SUPPORT ACCOUNTABILITY**

On December 12, 2001, Mr. Frank Bolaños, School Board Chair, initially proposed Item J-5 which was voted on by the Board to establish a task force to review all issues surrounding consolidating all security elements under the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department. On June 16, 2004, Mr. Bolaños proposed Item D-15 and the Board voted to implement a standing committee to address District security concerns. As a result of Items D-15, and A-2 from the June 16, 2004 School Board meeting, Dr. Rudolph F. Crew, Superintendent, proposed Item A-8, which was subsequently voted on by the Board, at the November 17, 2004, School Board meeting. The item authorized staff to forward previous recommendations relating to Promoting and Maintaining a Safe Learning Environment to an expanded task force of stakeholders in order to provide a comprehensive report outlining recommendations to the Board within 90 workdays.

During the holiday recess, staff coordinated the distribution of materials for review and scheduled the first in a series of meetings on key topics. The task force has convened on two occasions, Wednesday, January 12, 2005, and Monday, January 31, 2005. Membership on the task force includes all parties mentioned in School Board Item A-2 from the June 16, 2004, School Board Meeting. Additionally, numerous other district and school site personnel have been selected to participate in this process.

The task force, which will continue to meet, will be prepared to submit a summary of all minutes, attendance rosters for each meeting, along with detailed recommendations, for the Board's consideration. The task force has discussed the following items:

- a standardized curriculum for a mandatory school security monitor training program, and a centralized hiring process for school security monitors;
- school security camera systems to include their location, procedures for monitoring, project priority, evidence collection, and staffing; and
- the conducting of site screenings with an emphasis on security teams.

**D-3**

Future meetings will address developing a school security monitor allocation formula, reviewing the Center for Outdoor Suspension report, and other items relating to maintaining and enhancing school safety and accountability.

Due to the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT), school site personnel have requested that no meetings be scheduled which will conflict with the preparation and administering of the FCAT. The task force representation will need an extension of the initial 90 workday timeframe in order to provide recommendations to the Board.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, extend the reporting timeframe for the Promoting and Maintaining a Safe Learning Environment Task Force an additional 90 workdays in order to thoroughly address critical areas regarding school safety.