

Ms. Evelyn Langlieb Greer, Member

SUBJECT: EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

**Alternative Education and Dropout Prevention
District Athletic Advisory Committee
Citizens' Coalition for Public Schools
Diversity, Equity, and Excellence Advisory Committee
Food and Nutrition and Physical Education Advisory Committee
Urban Systemic Program (USP) Advisory Committee
Schools of Choice Advisory Committee**

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, created the Efficiency and Competition Committee on March 12, 2002 and restructured the Committee on March 16, 2005. The Efficiency Committee has met and determined that its first order of business is to review each of the standing Board committees and to recommend to this Board whether to sunset, restructure or continue without change such committees.

The members of the Efficiency Committee are: Ms. Evelyn Langlieb Greer, Ms. Susan Marie Kairalla, Ms. Leslie Coller, Mr. Jack Eads, Mr. Artie Leichner and Mr. Joseph Cortese.

The Efficiency Committee met on June 16, 2005, and adopted the following recommendations, which are reported to the Board for its information:

Alternative Education and Dropout Prevention

Mr. Antonio Martinez, District Director, Alternative Education

This Committee was established based on a recommendation of a task force in 1994; it was not established by a Board item. The Committee functioned until October 2004, when the Board approved the Superintendent's reorganization and alternative education schools were reassigned to Regions. The function of the Committee was to share ideas, concerns, and common issues in the alternative education area. The last meeting was in October 2004. The members of the Committee have explored whether and how to continue and have recommended that the Committee be dissolved. The Committee was created by the Superintendent, its work is now a staff function, and the Superintendent should decide whether the Committee should continue. There have been no representatives from the School Board on the Committee.

Action: The Committee is the responsibility of the Superintendent, the administration should decide whether there is a need for this Committee.

District Athletic Advisory Committee

Ms. Karen D. Cohn, Instructional Support Specialist, Department of Athletics/Activities and Accreditation

This Committee was created in 1964 as a result of recommendations made after a grand jury investigation. The Committee has evolved past the initial goals. It now involves citizens and parents in the decision-making process of implementing high-caliber, well-rounded athletic programs in secondary schools and makes recommendations to establish criteria and the framework by which to operate the athletic programs in M-DCPS. The Committee also promoted females in athletics.

Action: The Efficiency Committee makes no recommendations to change this Committee.

Citizens' Coalition for Public Schools

Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Administrative Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Grants Administration

The Coalition is an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization comprised of individuals, organizations and businesses. The Committee is an advocate for adequate, stable and equitable funding to ensure high-quality public education. The Committee provide updates to the District and to Committee members on the state and federal legislation. It has membership dues.

Action: The Efficiency Committee makes no recommendations to change the Coalition, as it is an independent not-for-profit organization.

Diversity, Equity, and Excellence Advisory Committee

Ms. Gloria Simmons, Executive Director, Diversity Compliance

This Committee was established by School Board Rule as a result of a court order. It was created to monitor the efforts of the District to comply with the court order as well as monitor other issues. The Committee reviews issues and annually advises the Superintendent and the District on maintaining a multicultural system, including recruitment and diversity of personnel, students, transportation, site selection and attendance zones and keeps the District aware of all issues pertaining to diversity and equity.

Action: The Efficiency Committee makes no recommendations to change this Committee.

Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education
Dr. Ruby Poitier, Administrative Director, ESE Field Service

This Committee was created in October 1979 to assist the Superintendent in reviewing the current status of exceptional student education, to identify problem areas, to develop goals/objectives and to recommend priorities for the provision of a free and appropriate public school education for exceptional students. It is an active committee that involves parents of students with disabilities.

Action: The Efficiency Committee makes no recommendations to change this Committee

Food and Nutrition and Physical Education Advisory Committee
Ms. Carol Chong, Director, Food & Nutrition

This Committee was created in 1994 to advise the Board on issues relevant to school food and nutrition and physical education programs. The Committee has addressed, for example, the healthy school initiatives program and is dealing with the wellness program which will be presented to the Board in July.

Action: The Committee is the responsibility of the Superintendent and the administration should decide whether there is a need for this Committee. The Efficiency Committee suggests that the Superintendent review this committee, streamline and improve its composition and encourage its work on the wellness policy that is required by Federal law.

Urban Systemic Program (USP) Advisory Committee
Dr. Yuwadee Wongbundhit, Executive Director, Mathematics and Science

This Committee is required by a federal grant and invites stakeholders to support the Miami USP, assures that all stakeholders understand the basis of systemic reform in math, science, and technology and the impact it can have on students. The Committee meets once a year.

Action: This Committee will automatically sunset at the end of the federal grant in August 2005, so no action is necessary.

Schools of Choice Advisory Committee
Mr. Michael Bell, Assistant Superintendent, Schools of Choice

This Committee was established as an Advisory Committee for Magnet Schools/Programs in April 1987 and was revised in December 1992. The Committee promotes a greater understanding of the District's goals for public schools of choice programs, encourages community involvement, analyzes special program needs, assures equity and quality of education for all sectors of our diverse communities. The programs are very well established and the Committee is no longer necessary.

Action: The Committee's mission has been completed, and its purpose can be fulfilled more efficiently by staff.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. EVELYN LANGLIEB GREER:**

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

1. eliminate the Schools of Choice Advisory Committee as a standing Board committee;
2. thank the members of the Schools of Choice Advisory Committee for a job well done; and
3. Accept the recommendations of the Efficiency Committee as to the committees reviewed above.