Office of School Board Members Board Meeting of August 17, 2005

Perla Tabares Hantman, Member

SUBJECT:

THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO INITIATE RULEMAKING AT THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2005 SCHOOL BOARD MEETING TO CODIFY THE DECISIONS MADE AT THE UPCOMING WORKSHOP REGARDING THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL (OIG) OR ITS SUCCESSOR; AND, ON AN INTERIM BASIS, ALIGN THE OIG UNDER THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE AUDITS AND MODIFY THE ROLE OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE OVERSIGHT OF THE OIG

COMMITTEE:

INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

On Monday, August 8, 2005, a special meeting of the Innovation, Efficiency and Governmental Relations Committee was convened to discuss Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Office of Inspector General (OIG). During this meeting, it was suggested that a workshop be conducted to define further the mission, role, structure and standards of that office or its successor.

Once the mission, role, structure and standards of that office are defined, each should be codified by way of a School Board rule. In addition, a set of processes will commence after the workshop, which include the hiring of staff for the newly-defined office.

Until the staff is hired, it is important for the District "to provide a central point for coordination of and responsibility for activities that promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency" (Florida Statute Section 20.055).

Given the Statutory guidelines for an OIG, the logical office to provide this "central point for coordination" on an interim basis is the Office of Management and Compliance Audits. To ensure independence, these OIG functions should be overseen by the School Board Audit Committee.

ACTION PROPOSED BY MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:

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

- 1. direct the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking at the September 7, 2005 School Board meeting, to codify the decisions made at the upcoming workshop regarding the Office of Inspector General (OIG) or its successor:
- 2. direct the Superintendent to temporarily align the functions and role of an OIG as defined in Florida Statute 20.055 under the Office of Management and Compliance Audits until the newly-defined office is staffed; and
- temporarily modify the current roles of the School Board Audit Committee to include oversight of the OIG functions and role until the new structure is defined and implemented.