

Frank J. Bolaños, Chairman

**SUBJECT: PROVIDING FOR AN INDEPENDENT AND EFFECTIVE  
WATCHDOG**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY, AND GOVERNMENTAL  
RELATIONS**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of the Inspector General (M-DCPS OIG) was approved by the School Board on May 15, 2002, and created by Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) on August 20, 2002, pursuant to Sections 20.055 and 1001.20(4), Florida Statutes. The mission of the M-DCPS-OIG is to promote honesty, integrity, credibility and to prevent fraud, waste and abuse in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida strongly supports the detection and prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse in the District.

The MOU and related employment contracts for the present M-DCPS-OIG are due to expire on August 31, 2005. Given the timing, it seems appropriate for the School Board to discuss options on how best to fulfill the above mission responsibilities and determine the appropriate structure that will institutionalize these functions into the every day workings of MDCPS. To that end, members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida present at the August 8, 2005 special convening of the Innovation, Efficiency, and Governmental Relations Committee meeting (hereafter Committee meeting) recommended conducting a School Board Workshop.

As recommended at the Committee meeting, the purpose of the School Board Workshop will be to offer School Board members the opportunity to 1) discuss how comparable organizations detect and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse, 2) determine the appropriate model to fulfill these functions at M-DCPS, and 3) define the necessary qualifications needed to implement the selected model.

School Board Agenda Item B-2 additionally recommends that The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida renew the employment contracts of the Inspector General and other MDCPS-OIG staff for an additional 60 days.

It was recommended at the Committee meeting that the proposed actions on School Board Agenda Item B-2 be voted on separately.

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

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

1. Conduct a School Board Workshop to:
  - a. Discuss how comparable organizations detect and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse;
  - b. Determine the appropriate model to fulfill these functions for M-DCPS; and
  - c. Define the necessary qualifications needed to implement the selected model.
2. Renew the employment contracts of the Inspector General and other MDCPS-OIG staff for an additional 60 days.