

Office of School Board Members  
School Board Meeting of February 14, 2007

February 9, 2007

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Member

**SUBJECT:            PROPOSED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING GOVERNANCE  
                         CHANGES**

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

At the Board's Governance Workshop held on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, a number of substantive changes to the procedures and policies regarding School Board meetings, public hearings and agenda presentation were discussed. Some of these changes included restructuring the manner Board member agenda items are presented, the removal of the televised public hearings from a time certain during the regular School Board meetings to a non-televised time following the Thursday Committee meetings, changes to the subject matter of Board member B-1 agenda items, and a time change for the Superintendent's A agenda items, as well as other important changes.

Thereafter, after the Governance Workshop, the School Board Chair distributed two memoranda (attached hereto), outlining the intent to initiate rulemaking to change long-standing School Board rules and policy, and further, to commence a three month pilot project to effectuate the proposed governance changes to Board meetings and citizens' input (formerly called public hearings). Additionally, a Special School Board meeting was scheduled by the Chair for the day of the School Board Committee meetings, February 8, 2007.

In light of the fact that the changes discussed at the Governance Workshop and set forth in the memoranda by the Chair are substantive and represent a departure from previous School Board meetings and public hearings, these matters must receive the necessary consideration, including public input on these issues affecting public access to information. Therefore, this agenda item proposes that the School Board discuss these proposed initiatives and vote on these changes, which are outlined in the Chair's memoranda prior to implementation.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, discuss the proposed governance changes set forth in the Chair's memoranda and vote on each proposal prior to implementation and rule-making.

**WITHDRAWN**

**02/09/2007**

**H-18**

**MEMORANDUM**

February 1, 2007

**To:** Honorable Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County  
Rudolph F. Crew, Superintendent of Schools

**From:** Agustin J. Barrera, Chair

**SUBJECT:** School Board Committee Meeting Pilot

As a result of the deliberations at the School Board Governance Workshop held yesterday, through this memorandum, I'm notifying Board members and the Superintendent of the following changes to the operation of our School Board Committees. These changes derive from the consensus reached by Board members at the Governance Workshop after listening to suggestions from our facilitator, Ms. Carolyn Kitchens. These changes will be instituted as a three month pilot project commencing with the February 8, 2007 School Board Committee meetings.

Accordingly, the starting times for the School Board Committees is as follows:

Instructional Excellence and Community Engagement	1:00p.m. - 2:00p.m.
Facilities and Construction Reform*	2:00p.m. – 3:00p.m.
Innovation, Efficiency and Governmental Relations*	3:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.
School Support Accountability*	4:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.

\*The starting times for these Committees' meetings are purely an approximation, and may begin upon conclusion of the immediately preceding meeting.

If a Committee's meeting is completed before the time mentioned above, the following Committee may commence immediately thereafter. Citizens wishing to attend these meetings should be notified that the starting times of the Committee meetings that follow the first Committee meeting at 1:00p.m. are only approximate times and that they should appear well in advance of the subsequent Committees' meetings in order to ensure attendance for the entire Committee meeting.

In addition, pursuant to the consensus reached by the Board at the Governance Workshop, proposed Board member items (which will be considered as initiatives) must be submitted for the respective School Board Committee's consideration and approved by a majority of the Board members present, before the proposed item may be placed on the Agenda for the regular School Board meeting. Those proposed items not approved by a majority of the Committee members will not be placed on the Agenda and will not be considered by the Board at its regular meeting.

In the interim, I am requesting that the Superintendent initiate rulemaking at the February 14, 2007 Board meeting, to amend School Board Rule 6Gx13-8C-1.23 (School Board Committee) and School Board Rule 6Gx13-8C1.15 (Agenda –

**MEMORANDUM**

February 1, 2007

**To:** Honorable Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County  
Rudolph F. Crew, Superintendent of Schools

**From:** Agustin J. Barrera, Chair

**SUBJECT:** Initiation of Rulemaking to Amend Citizen Appearances Board Rule

As a result of the discussions at the School Board Governance Workshop held yesterday, I'm requesting that the Superintendent initiate rulemaking to amend School Board Rule 6Gx13-8C-1.17(Citizen Appearances—Board Meetings) to effectuate the following changes to that portion of the School Board's regular monthly meeting dealing with public speakers:

- 1) Members of the public wishing to address the Board on non-Agenda items will be heard at the conclusion of the School Board Committee meetings at approximately 5:00p.m. School Board Committee meetings are typically held the Thursday, preceding the regular monthly School Board meeting; This process will replace the portion of the School Board meeting currently known as "Scheduled Public Hearing;"
- 2) Citizens who wish to address the Board on non-Agenda items must sign-up to speak no later than by 4:30 p.m. the Tuesday before the School Board Committee meeting or two (2) days before the School Board Committee meetings, on those rare occasions were the School Board Committee meetings are not held on the Thursday preceding the regular monthly Board meeting; and
- 3) These citizen appearances on non-agenda items will no longer be referred to as "Scheduled Public Hearings," as this moniker incorrectly describes this portion of the meeting reserved for citizen input.

In accordance with the consensus reached at the Governance Workshop, I'm also requesting that the Superintendent implement the changes (attached hereto) to the order and presentation of the Agenda, to take effect at February 14, 2007 Board meeting:

It is my utmost desire and expectation that these changes will enhance the effectiveness of our Board meetings and will to a more rewarding discourse at these meetings.

cc: School Board Attorney