

Rudolph F. Crew, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE TENTATIVE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2008 AND THE RESCHEDULING OF THE 5:01 P.M., AUGUST 1 AND SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARINGS TO 6:00 P.M.

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: GENERAL OPERATIONS

Each year, as a part of the Board's November Organization Meeting, a schedule of School Board meetings is approved for a one-calendar-year period, beginning with the upcoming January. This year, for example, when the Board meets on Tuesday, November 20, 2007, it will give final approval to the recommended meeting schedule for January-December 2008.

Consistent with past practice, and in order to aid District planning efforts, staff is proposing that the Board give advance tentative approval to meeting dates through December 2008. By the Board tentatively approving a schedule of meeting dates at this time, planning for the many district-wide activities which occur throughout the 2007-2008 school year may begin. This then places Board members and staff in a better position to plan their own calendars of activities and avoid schedule conflicts.

In projecting Board meeting dates through the end of 2008, staff considered: (1) the pattern of Board meeting dates from previous years; (2) the Board's 2007-2008 adopted school calendar, including holidays and recess periods; (3) legislatively-mandated window periods for such special meetings as budget public hearings; (4) projected dates of major state and national professional association meetings and/or conventions which Board members may be attending; and (5) major religious holidays.

Considering that the dates for September-December 2007 meetings have already been approved by the Board, the tentative dates projected for January-December 2008 School Board meetings are as follows:

January 16	May 21	July 30*	October 15
February 13	June 18	August 20	November 18***
March 12	July 16	September 10**	December 10
April 16			

* First Budget Public Hearing

** Regular Meeting/Second Budget Public Hearing

*** Organization Meeting/Regular Meeting

Staff will return to the Board at the November 20, 2007, Organization Meeting for final adoption of the 2008 calendar of School Board meetings.

Additionally, at the November 21, 2006 Organization Meeting, the Board approved its 2007 School Board meeting schedule which included the 5:01 p.m., August 1 and September 5, 2007 Budget Public Hearings. Subsequent to said approval, the Board meeting agenda format has been restructured to allow for the Superintendent's priority items to be heard at 5:00 p.m. Because of this conflict in the present schedule it is requested that the Board approve the rescheduling of the 2007 Budget Public Hearings to begin at 6:00 p.m.

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

1. tentatively approve for planning purposes, the following schedule of Board meeting dates for the period January-December 2008: January 16, February 13, March 12, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, July 30 (First Budget Public Hearing), August 20, September 10 (Regular Meeting/Second Budget Public Hearing), October 15, November 18 (Organization Meeting/Regular Meeting), and December 10. The final listing of meeting dates for 2008 will be established by the Board at the 2007 Organization Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 20, 2007; and
2. approve the rescheduling of the August 1 and September 5, 2007 Budget Public Hearings from 5:01 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.