

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF NATIONAL TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK TO BE HELD THE THIRD WEEK OF EACH OCTOBER**

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

**LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVED SAFETY THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT BY IMPLEMENTING PREVENTATIVE MEASURES AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has advised that almost 7,000 drivers between the ages of 16 to 20 were involved in fatal crashes in the United States in 2006. Authorities cited common risk factors such as nighttime driving, text messaging, and driving with multiple passengers in the vehicle as common risky driving behaviors. As a way of promoting safe teen driver skills and to help reduce crashes involving teen drivers in communities throughout the nation, this year, the United States Congress designated the third week of each October as National Teen Driver Safety Week. This safety initiative encourages parents, young drivers, lawmakers and educators to work together to change risky driving behaviors at the high school age level and help save lives across the country.

To advance this important teen driver safety initiative at Miami-Dade County Public Schools, it is recommended that the School Board endorse the third week of each October as National Teen Driver Safety Week and promote the annual event at all public senior highs in coordination with the annual Senior High School Student Safety Campaign (developed in accordance with a grant awarded by the Metropolitan Planning Organization, and authorized by the Board at its September 5, 2007 meeting).

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN, VICE CHAIR:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse National Teen Driver Safety Week to be held the third week of each October.