

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Board Member

**SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD PARTICIPATION IN A GRANT UNDER THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES/ CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC), ENTITLED "COMMUNITIES PUTTING PREVENTION TO WORK"**

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

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

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently announced a funding opportunity entitled *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* (CPPW) for the development of community-based prevention and wellness strategies to address obesity, physical inactivity, and poor nutrition.

The Miami-Dade County Health Department will lead the grant application process seeking a grant award in the amount of \$20 million, with the cooperation of local government leaders, the school district, businesses, healthcare providers, academic institutions, foundations and other advocacy groups interested in promoting health in our communities.

The School District will play a leading role in the development of the grant, under the "Youth Component" category, that will implement population-based approaches such as policy and environmental changes across five evidence-based strategies in communities and schools to ensure county-wide impact. Advancing these strategies in both communities and schools is a necessary component of the grant in order to achieve behavioral changes in school-age children with a goal of sustaining the learned healthy behaviors into adulthood. The strategies include, but are not limited to, promoting physical activity by enhancing bicycling and walking safety skills (leveraging on existing safe routes to schools program initiatives), improving access to and consumption of healthy, safe and affordable foods, raising awareness of the importance of healthy eating to prevent childhood obesity, and expanding physical activity in schools.

As of the writing of this Board item, key School District Departments are working on a unified strategic wellness policy plan that will be incorporated in the CPPW grant submittal by the December 1, 2009 deadline. The policies will be consistent with and in full support of the current Miami-Dade County Public Schools Wellness Policy (including the proposed updated policy for consideration by the School Board at its November 17, 2009 meeting under Agenda Item E-36).

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The following are the local entities partnering with the School District in support of the CPPW "Youth Component" grant category:

- Miami-Dade County, under the Education Compact
- University of Miami Miller School of Medicine/WalkSafe Program
- Education Fund
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Miami
- Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Department/Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade County
- Miami-Dade County Public Schools Community Traffic Safety Team
- The City of Miami

The CPPW grant application deadline is December 1, 2009. Award notifications will begin on or about February 26, 2010 for a 24-month budget period.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse the participation of the School District in a grant under U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), entitled "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."