

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF THE 5TH ANNUAL YOUTH TOBACCO PREVENTION SUMMIT, SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF HIALEAH IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 1964, the Surgeon General linked smoking use to serious diseases. Since that time much progress has been made in reducing tobacco use. However, recent data shows that youth smoking rates have stabilized and are not decreasing. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, every day, nearly 3,500 children between the ages of 12 and 17 will try their first cigarette. Approximately 850 of these will become habitual daily smokers, with potential detrimental health effects throughout their adult lives.

To help increase awareness of the dangers of tobacco use, the City of Hialeah several years ago launched a Youth Tobacco Prevention Summit. Now in its fifth year, the Summit highlights the dangers associated with smoking and the use of tobacco flavored products. In particular, these products may be mistaken for candy, leading to a false impression that they are safe.

In advance of the Summit, student from area schools will participate in the development of Public Service Announcements, to continue spreading the message throughout the entire school year. This year's event will take place at Goodlet Park, located at 4200 West 8 Avenue, Hialeah, on November 18, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. All students from Miami-Dade County, between the ages of 12 and 18, are encouraged to attend this important safety event.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse the 5th Annual Youth Tobacco Prevention Summit, sponsored by the City of Hialeah in partnership with the Florida Department of Health and the Miami-Dade County Health Department.