

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

SUBJECT: DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ESTABLISH A FIVE-YEAR PLAN WITH UM-NSU CARD TO IMPROVE SERVICES OFFERED TO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

UM-NSU CARD is committed to optimizing the potential of children and adults with autism and related disabilities through services including individual and family support services, program consultation and technical assistance, parent and professional training, and public awareness and community outreach.

Aiming to improve the services offered at our schools for students and families affected by an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), this item recommends that a five-year collaboration plan be established with UM-NSU CARD.

The five-year plan would include but not be limited to UM-NSU CARD:

- (a) sponsoring three to five teacher partners annually through the PEPSA Program (Partnership for Effective Programming for Students with Autism);
- (b) sponsoring one to two large scale regional teacher training conferences annually through the PEPSA Program;
- (c) hosting two to four breakfasts each month at schools serving students with autism (during which families may register for CARD services);
- (d) hosting CARD Mobile Clinic events throughout the district to promote autism awareness;
- (e) providing support to district in delivering school-based trainings required by student IEPs;
- (f) providing an annual administrator's training;
- (g) providing an annual summer institute for teachers and related service providers;
- (h) sponsoring the "If I Only Had the Money" contest for teachers annually (giving financial awards to teachers for innovative projects to benefit students with an ASD);
- (i) sponsoring teachers to attend the Annual CARD Conference.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. RAQUEL REGALADO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to establish a five-year plan with UM-NSU CARD aiming to improve services for students and families affected by autism spectrum disorders.