

Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member

SUBJECT: ETHICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

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

In 2001 the School Board created the Ethics Advisory Committee (EAC). Since its inception, the Office of Management and Compliance Management served as the liaison to the board by providing administrative support to the EAC. On June 15, 2012, the Chief Auditor notified the School Board that he would no longer serve as the liaison.

Upon the Chief Auditor's announcement, the School Board Attorney was asked to provide administrative support to the EAC. On May 22, 2013 the School Board Attorney sent a letter to the Board stating that he would no longer provide administrative support. Thus, there is no entity within the School Board who is responsible to coordinate the work of the EAC, preventing it from organizing, meeting, and fulfilling its mission as set for by Board Policy No.0158.

A possible solution may be to assign the coordination function to the Office of Professional Standards, under the auspices of the Human Capital Department, at least on a temporary basis.

Another obstacle that prevents the EAC from conducting meetings is the lack of quorum, often due to unfilled positions pending appointment from one of the appointing organizations. As such, it would be advisable to expand the network of appointing organizations to include other local educational institutions such as Miami-Dade College, Florida Memorial College, and Nova Southeastern University. Entities such as the Miami-Dade County Bar Association and other local non-profit organizations may be considered as well.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to temporarily assign the administrative liaison function of the Ethics Advisory Committee to a department of his choosing, and thereafter initiate rulemaking procedures, with input from the EAC, to broaden the scope of appointing organizations.