

Ms. Susie V. Castillo, Board Member

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL GRANT WRITING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR PARENTS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: EDUCATION**

In a time of shrinking education budgets, grants can provide valuable funding to address a diverse range of needs in our schools. They can serve to fund a multitude of items and projects ranging from new library books to improving or replacing old playgrounds. They help fill in the gaps where budgets fall short. Because of this, as a school district we should continuously dedicate resources to seeking new grant opportunities and supporting those who seek them to benefit our students.

Although it is often district administrators, school leaders, and teachers who apply for grants, sometimes it's parents. Unfortunately, they do not always have the resources and guidance necessary to fully complete grant/contest applications, and it can quickly become a very frustrating process. For this reason, it would be beneficial to have a dedicated resource that parents could access should they require assistance in completing a grant application for one of our schools.

This item calls for the administration to utilize existing resources and community partnerships to create a program that would provide grant-writing tools and training for parents interested in applying for grants benefiting M-DCPS.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. SUSIE V. CASTILLO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to develop a program, utilizing existing resources and community partnerships, to help train and guide parents in applying for grants/contests in support of district schools, no later than the start of the 2014-2015 school year.

**Replacement  
H-15**