

Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

SUBJECT: MILITARY MAGNET CHOICE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, EVALUATION AND TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS AND INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS

For over 50 years, Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) Programs reflect our District's commitment to higher standards in education. M-DCPS has been at the forefront of the educational choice movement providing extraordinary options for our students.

Military magnet programs offer students the ability to challenge themselves physically in a dynamic environment where leadership and academics are linked together. Students seeking to enter such programs seek high standards of leadership, self-discipline, honor and integrity.

The ability to have a military magnet curriculum which would prepare students with a rigorous curriculum driven by STEM, would allow our students the ability to compete for entrance into the United States Service Academies, which serve as federal academies for undergraduate education and training of commissioned officers in the United States Armed Forces. These academies are very competitive and students who have had an educational opportunity of this type in high school have a better preparation to apply to the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, the United States Coast Guard Academy, the United State Air Force Academy and the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

Additionally, as Miami-Dade County is home to many military families whose children attend our public schools, the ability to have a military magnet program would provide a unique educational opportunity for military families whose children desire to follow in their family's commitment of military service to our country, by seeking admission to this type of magnet program.

This item supports the District's legacy of choice programs which are a sound investment for the future of our students and would provide parents with another educational opportunity for our students.

This item seeks to direct the Superintendent to explore the feasibility to include a military magnet choice program for students in the District's choice programs starting in the 2016-2017 school year.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
LUBBY NAVARRO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to explore the feasibility to include a military magnet in the District's choice programs for the 2016-2017 school year.