

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF SCHOOL BOARD DECORUM POLICY, 0169.1

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

At its meeting of July 13, 2016, The School Board of Miami Dade County, Florida approved Good Cause Item G-2, Review of School Board Decorum Policy, 0169.1, which authorized further review of School Board Policies involving decorum at School Board meetings. As noted in the Agenda Item, submitted by the Board Attorney, the action authorized by the Board was being recommended because, "Recent concerns have been raised regarding the legality of portions of School Board policies involving public participation and decorum (Policy 0169.1)."

As part of Item G-2, it was further noted that the Board's policies are rooted in solid legal precedent and statutory authority; however, members of the public continue to make statements that may warrant further clarification of our policy. While the Board Attorney's Office may have engaged in a review of the decorum policy, the results of such a review have not, to date, been shared with the members of this School Board. Further, as part of recent media coverage in both English and Spanish language formats, the Board Attorney's office advanced opinions which appear to differ from the Board's understanding of decorum policy and from the information which is provided to the public at the beginning of each meeting and public hearing.

Therefore, to ensure that the members of the Board and the public have a clear and accurate understanding of School Board Policy 0169.1, it is incumbent upon the School Board Attorney to conduct a thorough review and deliver to this body, in writing, a clear and concise clarification of what is and what is not permitted under School Board Decorum Policy, 0169.1.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the School Board Attorney to conduct a thorough review and deliver a written report to the Board providing a clear and concise clarification of what is and what is not permitted under School Board Decorum Policy, 0169.1, no later than December 14, 2016.