

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH RESPONDING TO CRITICAL INCIDENTS AT SCHOOL SITES, AMEND STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES TO INCLUDE URGENT LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS FOR FUNDING TO ENHANCE SCHOOL AND STUDENT SAFETY, AND COLLABORATE WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO ENHANCE THE SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS

Revised

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

A top priority for Miami-Dade County Public Schools is the safety and security of our students, faculty, and staff. As such, procedures should be clearly defined for school site administrators, region and district staff, mental health service professionals, and school resource officers to properly assess critical incidents at school sites, particularly involving students, the necessary and immediate services to properly respond to these incidents, and any follow up activities.

In light of the tragedy that occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas Senior High School, as well as the other mass shootings that have occurred around the country at an alarming rate, it is clear that additional resources are necessary to enhance school safety. Currently, M-DCPS spends approximately \$50 million in safety and security but receives less than \$10 million for this purpose in legislative allocations. We currently fund school police, but there is a need for additional officers. We have made capital investments in security technology but the need is greater to cover 45 million square feet of space. We have focused on efforts to identify and direct students to counseling, but there is a need for more mental health professionals in our schools. Finally, as we know, the safety of youth within our community cannot be the exclusive responsibility of the School Board. As we have in the past, we must call upon the resources across our community to assist us, particularly through the leveraging of police resources that could provide enhanced visibility around our schools.

Revised

So while it is always prudent to examine current practices, which this item requests the Superintendent do, it is also the intent of this item that we, as the School Board, amend our State and Federal Legislative priorities to include an urgent request for funding targeted at safety, security, and infrastructure enhancements, as well as recurring funding for licensed mental health personnel in schools, along with training to identify troubled youth. Finally, this item recommends we request the County and local municipalities collaborate with M-DCPS to provide an ongoing additional law enforcement presence around local school facilities, as possible.

**Revised
H-1**

This Agenda Item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida,

1. request that the Superintendent to review protocol and procedures associated with responding to critical incidents at school sites and report back to the School Board by March 21, 2018;
2. modify the Board's Legislative Priorities at both the State and Federal levels to include the urgent request for funding to enhance school and student safety; and
3. request that the County and local municipalities collaborate with M-DCPS to provide an ongoing additional law enforcement presence around local school facilities as possible.

Revised