

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: PARTNERSHIPS WITH MUNICIPALITIES TO SUPPORT SCHOOL SAFETY**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

In light of the tragedy that took place at Marjory Stoneman Douglas Senior High School, and other tragedies that have taken place on school grounds across the nation, it has become crucial for school districts to enhance their safety practices and advocate for these enhancements at the local, state, and federal levels of government.

Recently, the Florida Legislature proposed a bill to allocate supplemental funding for the hiring and training of additional School Resource Officers (SROs). SROs are sworn law enforcement officers who are responsible for providing security and crime prevention services on school sites. Miami-Dade County Schools Police Department currently maintains an SRO Program that focuses on building relationships between police and the school community, as well as proactively addressing school violence and other concerns.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is committed to the safety and security of students and staff during the school day and as such, maintains a fully certified and accredited police force. It is the intent of this district to augment that force with additional officers utilizing funding allocated for that purpose by the state of Florida. However, we recognize that the creation and maintenance of an envelope of safety in and around our schools is a community-wide responsibility. Therefore, we should partner with municipalities whenever possible to enhance police presence around our schools.

This agenda item is being brought forth to request the Superintendent review existing agreements with municipalities and other law enforcement agencies to ensure their officers are able to provide supplemental support in and around District schools. This item further seeks to authorize the Superintendent to enter into similar agreements with other municipalities or agencies as may be appropriate to provide for the safety of our schools and the students and staff within them.

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**

**PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

- (a) Review current mutual aid agreements and memorandum of understanding agreements with municipalities and/or law enforcement agencies across Miami-Dade County and as appropriate, enter into agreements with additional entities for the purpose of deploying police officers to support increased safety in and around our schools; and

- (b) Provide an update to the Board no later than April 25, 2018.