

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Board Member

SUBJECT: EXPLORING THE EXPANSION OF PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN POSITIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, FIRE DEPARTMENT AND POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATIONS, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS AND INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is known for innovation in education. We have been a leader in Choice programs for decades and continue to develop and implement cutting-edge models for delivery of curriculum that will prepare our students for the businesses of tomorrow while utilizing emerging technologies. These models include non-traditional grade configurations, commuter schools that do not restrict students and parents to boundaries, virtual instruction, single-gender instructional environments, as well as educational models housed within various business settings through unique partnerships.

For example, one of the secondary career academies that Miami-Dade County Public Schools offers focuses on Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security. Currently, however, this particular career cluster is non-comprehensive in that it is not offered at every high school. Furthermore, the magnet program currently offered at the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial High School is over enrolled, demonstrating an overwhelming interest by Miami-Dade Public School students in this particular field of public service. These programs can provide students industry certification and opportunities to earn postsecondary credit and scholarships. They also facilitate students' successful transition between high school, college and careers.

It is the intent of this item to request a feasibility study be conducted, which should include, but not be limited to:

- Identifying the student population interested in public service careers;
- Identifying workforce demand for talent in public service careers;
- Identifying entry level positions in public service careers and their corresponding prerequisites;
- Designing pilot programs that address students' interests and public service workforce needs, including curriculum and practical training experience, that lead to a certification or certificate; and
- Identifying the resources and contributions available from potential collaborating community partners.

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

H-16

**ACTION PROPOSED BY DR. DOROTHY
BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:**

That the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. Explore the feasibility of creating a pilot program for public service careers; and
2. Provide an update to the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida at the April 2019 School Board Meeting.