

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: CIVICS EDUCATION**

**COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, & TECHNOLOGY**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS & INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County has a long history of recognizing the special role of civics education in our schools. As reflected in agenda items B-4 proffered by then Vice-Chair Perla Tabares Hantman in 2006 and H-9 proffered by Board Member Maria Teresa Rojas in 2019, we believe that our schools should prepare students to become knowledgeable and responsible citizens.

Pursuant to Governor Ron DeSantis' Executive Order 19-32, the Florida Department of Education is conducting a thorough review of all K-12 civics education course standards in order to provide recommendations and revisions to enhance the civics curriculum currently offered in Florida's public schools.

The goal of this review is delineated in Executive Order 19-32, which requests that the Commissioner of Education provide a report identifying "opportunities to equip high school graduates with sufficient knowledge of America's civics, particularly the principles reflected in the United States Constitution, so as to be capable of discharging the responsibilities associated with American citizenship."

Moreover, in recent weeks, there have been reports concerning the possible implementation of a civics exam, similar to the citizenship exam given to naturalized citizens, to be taken by all high school seniors.

This item is presented for the Board to request that the Superintendent conduct an assessment of the current civics curriculum offered at District high schools, with a special focus on the relevant course offerings and curriculum available to junior and senior high school students in light of the civics education component of Executive Order 19-32 and the possible implementation of a new comprehensive civics test for high school seniors.

This 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, request the Superintendent conduct an assessment of the current civics curriculum offered at District high schools, with a special focus on the relevant course offerings and curriculum available to junior and senior high school students in light of the civics education component of Executive Order 19-32 and the possible implementation of a new comprehensive civics test for senior high school students, and to report back to the Board no later than March 9, 2020.