

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: RECEIVE THE 2004 STATUS REPORT ON INCREASING THE
GRADUATION RATE AND DECREASING THE DROPOUT RATE**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

At the December 12, 2001 meeting of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Mr. Frank J. Bolaños, Board Member, requested that the Superintendent establish an Ad Hoc Committee to develop strategies to increase the graduation rate and decrease the dropout rate in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. The Ad Hoc Committee, which was formed and comprised of multiple district offices/divisions, worked with administrators, teachers, outside agencies, and parents to address student needs and generate viable solutions which would address specific goals and objectives.

Meetings have been held regularly beginning in January 2002, resulting in the development of the district-wide implementation plan, *Increasing the Graduation Rate and Decreasing the Dropout Rate*, which details benchmarks and strategies to address the issues at hand, and the *2003 Status Report*. The *2004 Status Report* has been generated and includes recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Members.

Copies of the *2004 Status Report* will be transmitted to School Board Members under separate cover and are available for inspection by the public in the Office of the Board Recording Secretary and the Citizen Information Center.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to receive the *2004 Status Report on Increasing the Graduation Rate and Decreasing the Dropout Rate*.

RKF/BB/DM:ye