

Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Adolescent pregnancy rates are declining, reports the Health and Human Services National Center for Health Statistics. In Florida for example, the birthrate among 15-19 year old girls has fallen from 68 per 1,000 girls to 61, but there is still a need for further reductions. Fifty percent of adolescents who have a child become pregnant again within two years of the baby's birth declares Dr. Felice, Director of Adolescent Medicine at the University of Maryland. She further adds that in 1996, 22 percent of adolescent births were repeat births, i.e., a second or third child. An interesting finding of Dr. Felice's research was that adolescent mothers who return to school after the first birth are less likely to have a repeat birth. This School District must continue to combat teen pregnancy.

It is recommended that the Superintendent review and update all available information on this district's approach to combating teen pregnancy and note what additional actions could be undertaken to improve these programs. The report shall include the district's cost in administering all programs now in place and the cost of any additional program recommended by the Superintendent. This report will be submitted to the Board no later than the Board meeting of October 20, 1999.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PEREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent of Schools to prepare and review a report on this district's approach to combating teen pregnancy in agreement with the intent stated above.