

Demetrio Pérez, Jr., M.S., Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT URGENT MEASURES TO INSURE THE COMMUNITY'S CONFIDENCE IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The School Board must take all necessary measures to insure the public's trust in public education and its governance. Current perceptions are forcing us to take action. We must review and revise all procedures that give the slightest perception of misuse of the public trust. To quote Tennessee Williams, "...it's an unanswered question, but let us still believe in the dignity and the importance of the question."

The most powerful tools that can be used to insure confidence are a commitment and action. Certainly, the School Board is committed. This agenda item is demanding action.

The following measures must be taken:

1. Identify a team of three top administrators, representing the make-up of this community. They will assist the panel of three auditors assigned to Miami-Dade County Public Schools by the Legislature. They will be prepared to respond and to make information available as requested. They will also coordinate any review and/or revision needed for the purpose of clarification. This team will cut the red tape so that the panel of auditors, or any responsible party, will receive our full support.
2. Review and revise, if needed, the School Board policy governing non-salaried expenditures and purchase approvals.
3. Review and revise, if needed, the school procurement policies and the rules governing credit cards and an update on its current use. Prepare a report for the board.
4. If needed, create a Blue Ribbon Committee that will assist to stabilize the image of the school system.
5. Schedule regular conferences with editorial boards and media representatives in order to promote better communication and keep the community abreast of what is taking place in the school system.

It is imperative that the Board take action to guarantee that the public trust is restored. We must demonstrate that every penny spent is spent wisely and for the betterment of all our students.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DEMETRIO PÉREZ, JR., MS.:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to develop and implement urgent measures to insure the community's confidence in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.