

September 11, 2001

Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

**SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA PARTICIPATE IN THE 2002 FAST TRACK INITIAL MASTER BOARD PROGRAM OFFERED BY THE FLORIDA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

This year, the Florida legislature passed the "2001 Sharpening The Pencil Act" (HB 269) to improve school district management and use of resources, and identify cost savings. The legislation requires all Florida school districts to undergo a Best Financial Management Practices Review once every five years. Miami-Dade County was selected to undergo the review this year.

The comprehensive review, conducted by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA), will assess the district's effectiveness in fourteen areas, one of which is Management Structures. The first goal within this section is to determine whether the "district's school board and superintendent have established clearly delineated responsibilities and the policies and practices they need to effectively manage the district." Among the measures used for assessing effectiveness in this section is whether "The board has qualified as a master board and board members receive ongoing training."

REVISED

The Florida School Boards Association has created a Fast Track Initial Master Board Program designed to facilitate meeting this criterion of the OPPAGA "Best Financial Management Practices Review." The program includes Leadership Team Forums, Core Belief Workshops and elective workshops, and will commence in January 2002.

The cost to the Board of participating in this program is the registration fees for the two Forums, which covers food, beverages, meeting room rental, and audio-visual equipment, and travel and lodging expenses for participants. There is no fee for the four-onsite workshops. The deadline to submit the letter of intent to participate is September 17, 2001.

ADDED

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, participate in the 2002 Fast Track Initial Master Board Program offered by the Florida School Boards Association.

**REVISED  
REPLACEMENT  
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