

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

**SUBJECT: THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
INSTITUTE BOARD MEMBER AGENDA WORK/BRIEFING SESSIONS  
INSTEAD OF SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON A THREE  
MONTH TRIAL BASIS**

Pursuant to School Board Rule 6Gx13-8C-1.23, interested School Board members meet each month in nine separate committee meetings for the purpose of reviewing and discussing agenda items associated with its regularly scheduled School Board meetings. This process is time consuming and does not afford Board members the opportunity to be briefed at one time on all items associated with the upcoming School Board meeting. It also results in a greater allocation of staff time because certain staff members are required to attend more than one committee meeting.

In the past, prior to the establishment of the School Board Committee Structure, a briefing session for School Board member assistants provided an opportunity to review and discuss all agenda items for an upcoming meeting. This agenda briefing session format could be utilized as a means to allow interested Board members to preview and discuss agenda items at one meeting rather than nine separate meetings. The meeting would be advertised in accordance with the Open Government in the Sunshine Law and would be held approximately one week before the Board meeting after the publication of the official agenda. This would afford interested Board members, assistants and members of the public to meet with the responsible members of administration at that time.

Rather than adopt the briefing session format on a permanent basis or abandon the School Board Committee Structure, this item recommends utilizing the agenda work/briefing sessions on a trial basis for the next three months in order to determine its merit and suitability. After such time, a recommendation could be made to continue this process or the School Board Committee Structure process.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida institute Board member agenda work/briefing sessions instead of School Board committee meetings on a three month trial basis.