

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

**SUBJECT: CLASS SIZE REDUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF REMEDIAL PROGRAMS FOR 2003-2004 SCHOOL YEAR**

On March 26, 2003, Agenda Item SP-2, the School Board authorized the reduction in basic pupil-teacher ratios by one (1) student district-wide. Additionally, it authorized a class size of twenty (20) students for remedial programs of retained 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.

The approved Constitutional amendment explicitly states that the state will incur all costs associated with classroom size reduction. The Florida Legislature has not concluded its budget-making process, yet, to date, each chamber varies differently in their approaches this mandate.

State funding of Supplemental Academic Instruction, a funding source for remedial programs, also has yet to be decided for the next fiscal year. The school district should be fully aware of exactly what funding will be available to help carry out its plans prior to approving them.

Additionally, although the School Board provided specific direction to the Superintendent on November 20, 2002, the late delivery of the subject board item did not afford this critical item the appropriate discussion and analysis it deserves. Of note, three members were unable to voice their opinion or vote on the matter.

For these reasons, it is being requested that the previous actions taken on March 26, 2003 be rescinded and reconsidered at a regular board meeting following the completion of the Florida Legislature's budget and only after appropriate deliberation and analysis via a board workshop or committee meeting.

This item does not appear in the published agenda. There is good cause to vary from the agenda since the School Board should be fully aware of what funding will be available to carry out its classroom size reduction plan and maximum board participation in such a critical decision is desirable.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MR FRANK J. BOLAÑOS:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida rescind actions taken on March 26, 2003 in regard to *Class Size Reduction and Implementation of Remedial Programs for 2003-2004 School Year* and reconsider those actions at a regular board meeting following the completion of the Florida Legislature's budget and only after appropriate deliberation and analysis via a board workshop or committee meeting.