

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT ON SECURITY AND CRIME STATISTICS

COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL SERVICES

Accurate reporting of district-wide and school site crime and discipline statistics to the School Board, Parents and the Community is integral to understanding the current state of security in our schools.

By Federal and State law, Miami-Dade Schools Police maintains statistics on crime happening in and around school sites as well as disciplinary incidents occurring throughout the year and reports them annually to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (Uniform Crime Report- UCR) and the Florida Department of Education (School Environmental Safety Incident Report- SESIR).

The School Board, which must decide on policies affecting school safety and discipline as well as allocate resources for such purposes, needs to have an annual briefing of incidents occurring at school sites to better understand how effective our efforts are. Recently, in Dekalb County, Georgia, the School Board discovered inaccuracies in crime statistics, which not only gave a false sense of security, but highlighted the need for additional resources and new management practices.

Parents and the Community also have a vested interest in the safety and security of our schools and should receive the same information on an annual basis. Summary district-wide data and detailed statistics specific to each school based on the annual submission of UCR and SESIR to the appropriate authorities should be posted via the Dadeschools.net portal.

Providing this briefing to the board and information to parents and the community becomes much more critical this year with further implementation of the No Child Left Behind legislation and the Unsafe School Choice Option Policy. Beginning this year, parents will be afforded the opportunity to transfer their child from a school if that school is designated a "Persistently Dangerous School." Thankfully, no school will meet this criteria for the 2003-2004 school year.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County direct the Superintendent and Chief of Police to report annually to the Board at its August Meeting on the State of Schools' Security and Discipline, to include, but not limited to district-wide and school specific summary crime data (UCR) and discipline statistics (SESIR). This information would also be posted on the Dadeschools.net portal.

**REPLACEMENT
D-17**