

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING**

**COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL SERVICES**

The School Board has a responsibility to hear from and be accessible to the citizenry it serves. The monthly public hearing of the School Board is the ideal opportunity to hear from citizens in a public forum on any issues of concern to constituents.

However, the unpredictability of the length of the regular school board meeting, and thus a start time for the public hearing has only lessened the public interest to use this avenue. Additionally, those same reasons seem to frustrate those who do take the initiative to come forward and speak to the board.

In June of this year, the School Board implemented a three month pilot of a time-certain start to the monthly public hearing. Overall, the results have been positive and well received by members of the public.

It is recommended that board rules be amended at this time to allow for a time-certain start of 6:30 PM at every monthly School Board meeting.

This change would also help to satisfy OPPAGA's concerns of making the public more accessible to the district's stakeholders.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida direct the Board Attorney to amend appropriate board rules to allow for a time certain start of 6:30 PM for the monthly public hearing.