

Virginia Bradford, Assistant Superintendent
District Compliance Units

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD RULE: INITIAL
READING 6Gx13- 1B-1.032, BI-RACIAL TRI-ETHNIC
COMMITTEE**

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

By order of June 21, 2001, as modified on August 16, 2001, United State District Judge William P. Dimitrouleas declared this system unitary and relinquished supervision over the District effective June 30, 2002. The Court stated that in the natural progression of returning control and decision-making to the School Board, control over the Bi-Tri Committee, including renaming the committee if deemed appropriate, would rest with the School Board.

In accordance with the order of Judge Dimitrouleas, commencing January 1, 2002 an advisory committee, The School Board Bi-Tri Committee, which reports to the School Board was created. The Committee is comprised of eleven members, one appointed by each School Board member, and two appointed by the Superintendent.

At its February 28, 2003 meeting, the members of The School Board Bi-Tri Committee voted unanimously to change its name to The Diversity Equity and Excellence Advisory Committee (DEEAC). The members expressed the desire to conclude the era of Court ordered desegregation and positively connote the beginning of a multicultural and unitary school system.

Attached are the Notice of Intended Action, and the proposed amended rule. Changes from the current rule are indicated by underscoring words to be added and ~~striking through~~ words to be deleted.

Authorization of the School Board is requested for the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act for the amendment of School Board Rule 6Gx13- 1B-1.032, Bi-Racial Tri-Ethic Committee.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to amend School Board Rule 6Gx13- 1B-1.032, Bi-Racial Tri-Ethnic Committee.

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, announced on April 14, 2004, its intention to amend Board Rule, 6Gx13- 1B-1.032, Bi-Racial Tri-Ethnic Committee, at its meeting of May 19, 2004.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed amendment is to change the name of The Bi-Racial Tri-Ethnic Committee to The Diversity Equity and Excellence Committee.

SUMMARY: The School Board appointed the Bi-Racial Tri-Ethnic Committee which voted unanimously to request a name change at its February 23, 2003, meeting. Specific authority is given to The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida to honor this request in Pate v. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Case No. 69-1020-CIV-Dimitrouleas, order of June 21, 2001 as modified by order of August 16, 2001.

SPECIFIC LEGAL AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH RULEMAKING AUTHORITY IS AUTHORIZED: 1001.41(1)(2); 1001.42(22); 1001.43(10) F.S.

LAW IMPLEMENTED, INTERPRETED, OR MADE SPECIFIC: Pate v. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Case No. 69-1020-CIV-Dimitrouleas, order of June 21, 2001 as modified by order of August 16, 2001.

IF REQUESTED, A HEARING WILL BE HELD DURING THE BOARD MEETING OF May 19, 2004, which begins at 1:00 p.m., in the School Board Auditorium, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33132. Persons requesting such a hearing or who wish to provide information regarding the statement of estimated regulatory costs, or to provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), Florida Statutes, must do so in writing by May 10, 2004, to the Superintendent of Schools, Room 912, at the same address.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO APPEAL THE DECISION made by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, with respect to this action will need to ensure the preparation of a verbatim record of the proceedings, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes).

A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AMENDED RULE is available to the public for inspection and copying at cost in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

Originator: Ms. Susan Rothstein
Supervisor: Ms. Virginia Bradford
Date: March 24, 2004

Participation by the Public**BI-RACIAL TRI-ETHNIC COMMITTEE DIVERSITY EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE ADVISORY COMMUNITY**

During the court supervised desegregation process of the Miami-Dade County School System, United States District Judge C. Clyde Atkins appointed a Bi-Racial Committee of twelve citizens which reported to the Court and which was to assist the Court and the School Board in implementing the desegregation plan. Subsequently, the committee was renamed the ~~Bi-Racial Tri-Ethnic Committee (Bi-Tri-Committee)~~. Diversity Equity and Excellence Advisory Committee.

By order of June 21, 2001, as modified on August 16, 2001, United States District Judge William P. Dimitrouleas declared this school system unitary and relinquished supervision over the District effective June 30, 2002. The Court stated that in the natural progression of returning control and decision-making to the School Board, control over the Bi-Tri Committee (including renaming the committee if deemed appropriate) would rest with the School Board. The Court further ordered that

“...effective today, the School Board of Miami-Dade County shall have control over the appointment of members, including the terms and method of appointment. The terms of the current members shall end on December 31, 2001, and they shall remain on the Committee until that date, thus allowing for some overlap between the current members and any new members, unless current members individually choose otherwise. It is hoped that the current chairperson, Mr. James Howe, will remain the Chairman through at least December 31, 2001. Starting from today, the School Board may appoint additional members to the Committee and/or reappoint current members at their sole and unreviewable discretion, for such length of terms as the School Board shall determine;”

In accordance with the order of Judge Dimitrouleas, commencing January 1, 2002, an advisory committee, the ~~School Board Bi-Tri-Committee~~, Diversity Equity and Excellence Advisory Committee, which reports to the School Board is created. The Committee shall be comprised of eleven members, one to be appointed by each School Board member, and two to be appointed by the Superintendent. The initial term of the committee members appointed by Board members from odd numbered districts and one of the Superintendent's appointees shall be four years and the remaining five members will serve for two years. Thereafter, all appointments will be for a term of four years except for appointments to serve out an un-expired term, which shall end on the date when the original appointment would have ended.

Any vacancies on the committee between the adoption of this rule and December 31, 2001 shall be filled by majority vote of the School Board on a recommendation to be made by the Chair of the Board. ~~The Bi-Tri Committee~~ The Diversity Equity and Excellence Advisory Committee shall review issues pertaining to the successful maintenance of a multicultural school system, including such matters as the recruitment and diversity of personnel, transportation of students, selection of school sites, establishment of attendance zones and other matters as may be assigned by the School Board from time to time.

Specific Authority: ~~230.22(2); 230.23(22)~~ 1001.41(1)(2); 1001.42(22); 1001.43(10)
F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: Pate v. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Case No. 69-1020-CIV-Dimitrouleas, Order of June 21, 2001 as modified by order of August 16, 2001.

History

New: 12-12-01

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA