

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO RESCIND BOARD ACTION OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2008, DIRECTING THE ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR AN INDEPENDENT BUDGET REVIEWER, INCLUDING A REVISED SCOPE OF SERVICES

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY, AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN: EVALUATE AND REDESIGN INTERNAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS

At the Special Board meeting of September 4, 2008, upon rejection of item SP-1 – Award Bid No. 010-JJ10 – Independent Budget Reviewer, staff was directed to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an Independent Budget Reviewer to include a revised scope of services.

Since that time the Board has appointed a new Superintendent who immediately assembled a working group of selected senior staff and independent outside retired Chief Financial Officers from three large Florida school districts to review the recently adopted 2008-09 General Fund budget. The work of this group also included reviews of major revenue and expenditure estimates, as well as significant line-items. The results of this work, which included a transformation of central office functions and departments, culminated in Budget Resolution No. 1, adopted at the Board meeting of November 18, 2008, which involved a reduction of approximately \$89 million in certain appropriations and a correction of budgetary flaws identified by this group during the course of their review.

In addition to these actions, the Superintendent has formed a Business Advisory Council made up of outside volunteer CEOs and CFOs to review district financial and business matters on an ongoing basis. He has also requested that the Office of the Inspector General and Management Audits become involved in exercising oversight of the previous budget process and management, as well as current financial activities which are functioning under the direction of a newly appointed Associate Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer.

In light of these developments, it appears that an outside budget reviewer is not warranted at this time, nor would it be the best use of our District's limited financial resources. Consequently, I am proposing that the Board rescind its directive to identify an independent budget reviewer.

H-10

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida rescind its action of September 4, 2008, directing the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an independent budget reviewer, including a revised scope of services.