

Dr. Marta Pérez, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: PROCESS FOR NAMING AND RENAMING OF SCHOOLS**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO DISTRICT  
STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION**

Several times in the past I proposed changes to School Board Rule 6Gx-13 7E-1.02, Educational Facilities – Naming, that would prohibit naming a school after a living Board Member, regardless of whether or not that person was currently serving on the Board, as well as for persons who are alive. There were several reasons why I felt the change made sense. One is that it would assure the public that Board Members were not using their positions to further their names or legacy. Further, it would deter the appearance that schools would be named for political reasons. It would also be easier to use the rule across the board, regardless of who the person may have been, since we all have ideas about who is or is not meritorious, and names can be used to divide communities. Lastly, because we are all imperfect beings, we have seen institutions, streets, and other tax-payer funded entities that have been named for a certain person and that person goes on to embarrass himself and the institution by his actions.

Last month we witnessed just the sort of divisiveness that our Board Rule created when various community groups voiced objections to the naming of a school. The Board, public servants that we are, endured earned criticism for our process.

This item proposes that the process for naming and renaming schools be reviewed in its entirety.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to convene a task force to review the process for naming schools and for the task force to make recommendations to the Board that will ultimately lead to rulemaking procedures to amend School Board Rule 6Gx-13 7E-1.02, Educational Facilities – Naming.