

Mr. Renier Diaz de la Portilla, Board Member

**SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT OF THE FIRST ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED
ACADEMICS AT FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY (FIU)**

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN: ENSURE ACHIEVEMENT OF HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS BY
ALL STUDENTS**

Last month I brought forth to Dr. Mark Rosenberg, President of FIU, an idea for expanded higher education opportunities for our MDCPS students. The idea consisted of implementing an academic academy in South Florida's only public major research University. The plan was an ambitious one, but Dr. Rosenberg matched that ambition with an unwavering willingness to move forward on this promising new partnership. Today, this idea is a reality. The Academy for Advanced Academics at FIU will open this fall.

The Academy will consist of 11th and 12th grade students by the 2010-2011 school year. Students will have an opportunity to take up to four college-level courses while completing all requirements for their high school graduation at the University's campus. The students will further benefit from close proximity to the school's multiple colleges, as well as the newly founded Colleges of Law and Medicine. This will provide a unique opportunity for our students to explore career paths and interact with University students and faculty on a daily basis. Additionally, students enrolled at the Academy will also be able to benefit from access to a myriad of educational resources available on-campus.

This item does not appear in the published Agenda. There is good cause to vary from the Agenda in order to notify the Board of the opening of this new Academy prior to the beginning of the new school year on August 24, 2009.

ACTION PROPOSED BY
MR. RENIER DIAZ DE LA PORTILLA: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse the first Academy for Advanced Academics at Florida International University.

GOOD CAUSE
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