

Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO RESCHEDULE THE DECEMBER 9, 2009 REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING TO WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2009

At the November 18, 2008, Organization Meeting, the Board adopted its 2009 meeting schedule as mandated by Section 1001.371, Florida Statutes. The final meeting of the 2009 calendar year is currently scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2009.

As you are aware Miami-Dade is a culturally diverse community and Miami-Dade County Public Schools is perhaps one of the most diverse public school systems anywhere in the world. We provide a high quality education to students from over 174 countries, from Afghanistan to Zaire; who speak over 65 different home languages. Our community has emerged as the gateway to South America, while simultaneously remaining an important population center for many ethnic groups from around the world.

As a result of the unique experiences serving our diverse community, successfully blending cultures and beliefs together, while respecting and educating all children, I have been invited, as a representative of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, to travel to Israel to participate in the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) *Hispanic/Latino Leadership Mission*, from December 6 – 13, 2009. The goal of this mission is to share our knowledge as a way to inform the immigration, strategic and social challenges facing Israel today such as language learning for new immigrants. While in Israel, the group assembled by the ADL, including selected members of law enforcement, media, community leaders, and legislators representing San Diego, Chicago, Miami, Houston and Boston will meet with decision-makers; government officials; journalists, both Israeli and Palestinian; as well as members and staff of the Knesset.

In order to participate in this important international exchange of ideas, it is requested that the Wednesday, December 9, 2009 Regular Public Meeting and Public Hearing be rescheduled to Wednesday, December 2, 2009, commencing at 12:00 p.m. There is no cost to the District associated with my participation in this activity. School Board Rule 6Gx13-8C1.101, Types of Meetings – Notification Requirements and Procedures for Publication, states in part, "Any change in the date or time for these meetings shall be by an action of the Board."

This item does not appear in the published Agenda. There is good cause to vary from the Agenda because the ADL's *Hispanic/Latino Leadership Mission* commences prior to the next regularly scheduled School Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, reschedule the December 9, 2009 Regular Public Meeting and Public Hearing to Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at 12:00 p.m.

**Good Cause
E-106**