

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF NATIONAL TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK, OCTOBER 16-22, 2011, AND ENCOURAGEMENT YEAR-ROUND OF TEEN DRIVER SAFETY SKILLS AT ALL DISTRICT SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has reported that 3,000 teen drivers between the ages of 15 and 19 were involved in fatal crashes in 2009, and more than 350,000 were treated at emergency departments for injuries suffered in motor-vehicle crashes throughout the United States. Authorities cited common risk factors such as nighttime driving, text messaging, alcohol-impaired driving, and driving with multiple passengers in the vehicle as common risky driving behaviors. As a way of promoting safe teen driver skills and to help reduce crashes involving teen drivers in communities throughout the nation, the United States Congress designated the third week of each October as National Teen Driver Safety Week. This year, the event will run from October 16 to October 22, 2011. This safety initiative encourages parents, young drivers, lawmakers and educators to work together to change risky driving behaviors at the high school age level and help save lives across the country.

To advance this important teen driver safety initiative at Miami-Dade County Public Schools, it is recommended that the School Board endorse the week of October 16 to October 22, 2011, as National Teen Driver Safety Week. During this week, the winning Public Service Announcements and Posters developed by senior high school students for the 2010 Senior High School Student Safety Campaign contest will be reproduced and distributed to all District senior high school campuses, along with promotional safety material. Funding for this initiative will be facilitated by the Miami-Dade Metropolitan Planning Organization.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR

MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse National Teen Driver Safety Week, October 16-22, 2011, and encourage year-round teen driver safety skills at all District senior high schools.