March 24, 2011

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT:

DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REVIEW AND

EVALUATE BEST PRACTICES IN TRAVEL PURCHASES

COMMITTEE:

INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL

RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

FRAMEWORK:

STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Rapidly evolving technology has revolutionized the manner in which consumers approach purchasing goods, including travel. Many specialized companies offer excellent fares for clients directly purchasing travel online and travelers are able to comparison shop for the best available fares and best terms for their benefit.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools continues to face challenging financial times and as a result we have reduced our costs and created efficiencies to protect the classroom. Further cost savings efficiencies could include the possibility of taking advantage of the evolving technology in the travel industry to increase our ability to seek out the best fares available for any business travel we may have to engage in.

This appears to be the appropriate time to have the Superintendent explore, review and evaluate best practices in travel purchases.

ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to review and evaluate best practices in travel purchases and submit a report at the June 15, 2011 School Board Meeting.