

Mr. Carlos L. Curbelo, Board Member

**SUBJECT: LACROSSE**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

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

In recent years lacrosse has been offered as boys and girls club sport at multiple high schools in our school system. These clubs have been self-funded and have been overseen by parents and faculty that received a club supplement provided by the school. The sport is growing in popularity and affords students opportunities to be recruited by colleges and universities that increasingly offer lacrosse programs.

Lacrosse was recognized as a sport by The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) in 2008. This past year the FHSAA announced that all club teams must be part of the FHSAA if they are to continue to exist.

Per Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A1.161, GMAC was formed following the dissolution of the Gold Coast Conference. All Miami-Dade County Public Schools fall under the jurisdiction of the GMAC. As the governing conference, all sports must be sanctioned by the GMAC in order for member schools to offer them to their students.

Under GMAC rule, in order for a sport to be considered for GMAC sponsorship, two-thirds of member schools must participate in the sport with a full team.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MR. CARLOS L. CURBELO:**

That the Superintendent direct staff to allow principals at the school level to decide whether or not to field teams for sports recognized and sanctioned by the FHSAA – making the GMAC a facilitating entity rather than an inhibiting one.