

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-092 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF SUPPORT AND ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUESTING THAT AN APPROVAL OF THE INTERVENE SCHOOLS APPEAL BE GRANTED AND THAT THE DISTRICT BE ENABLED TO CONTINUE IMPLEMENTING ITS IMPROVEMENT PROCESS WITHOUT THE CLOSURE OF THESE SCHOOLS OR INTERRUPTION OF SERVICES TO THESE COMMUNITIES

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

Miami-Dade County Public Schools recently submitted appeal letters to the Florida Department of Education for three Intervene schools: Holmes Elementary, Miami Edison Senior High, and Miami Central Senior High schools. Under guidelines set forth by Florida's Differentiated Accountability Plan and State Statutes, these schools are now facing dire consequences as they have not exited Intervene status despite documented steady improvement and achieving an accountability grade of "C" in 2010.

Both Miami Edison and Miami Central Senior High Schools are currently projected to receive a performance accountability grade of "D" in 2011 and face possible consequences from the State Board of Education (SBE) for failing to exit intervene status to include: 1) closure of the school; 2) conversion to a charter school; 3) the hiring of a private management company; or 4) approval of the appeal and enabling of the district to continue implementation of its current improvement process.

The SBE will meet to consider appeals regarding the implementation of the state's established consequences for failing to exit Intervene status for each of the above referenced schools on Tuesday, July 19, 2011. As the Board entrusted with these schools, the well-being of its students, and the responsibility to serve these communities who face documented and unique challenges, we must consider a course of action that serves the best interest of the students and communities of these schools. This item seeks to authorize the Chair to submit a letter of support and the accompanying resolution on behalf of the Miami-Dade School Board to the SBE requesting that an approval of the appeal be granted and that the District be enabled to continue implementing its improvement process without the closure of these schools or interruption of services to these communities.

**Good Cause
H-16**

The item does not appear on the published agenda. Circumstances arose after publication of agenda and the issue came to the attention of the board member after publication of the agenda. There exists good cause to vary from the published agenda as the State Board of Education meets to address this matter on Tuesday, July 19, 2011.

ACTION PROPOSED BY VICE CHAIR

DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-092 of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorizing the Chair to submit a letter of support and the accompanying resolution on behalf of the Miami-Dade County Public School Board to the State Board of Education requesting that an approval of the appeal be granted and that the District be enabled to continue implementing its improvement process without the closure of these schools or interruption of services to these communities.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-092
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF SUPPORT AND
ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REQUESTING
THAT AN APPROVAL OF THE INTERVENE SCHOOLS APPEAL BE GRANTED
AND THAT THE DISTRICT BE ENABLED TO CONTINUE IMPLEMENTING ITS
IMPROVEMENT PROCESS WITHOUT THE CLOSURE OF THESE SCHOOLS OR
INTERRUPTION OF SERVICES TO THESE COMMUNITIES**

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools recently submitted appeal letters to the Florida Department of Education for three Intervene schools: Holmes Elementary, Miami Edison Senior High, and Miami Central Senior High schools. Under guidelines set forth by Florida's Differentiated Accountability Plan and State Statutes, these schools are now facing dire consequences as they have not exited Intervene status despite documented steady improvement and achieving an accountability grade of "C" in 2010.

WHEREAS, both Miami Edison and Miami Central Senior High Schools are currently projected to receive a performance accountability grade of "D" in 2011 and face possible consequences from the State Board of Education (SBE) for failing to exit intervene status to include: 1) closure of the school; 2) conversion to a charter school; 3) the hiring of a private management company; or 4) approval of the appeal and enabling of the district to continue implementation of its current improvement process.

WHEREAS, at Miami Edison Senior, the graduation rate is projected to increase to 72%, which is a 23 point increase from only two years ago. Since 2003, reading proficiency has improved 10 points from 5% to 15%; mathematics proficiency has improved 28 points from 13% to 41%; and science proficiency has improved percentage points from 10% to 22% since 2006-2007. In addition, the percentage of students participating in accelerated courses has increased by 26 percentage points in two years from 19% to 45%. In two years, the percentage of students who are considered college ready in reading has increased by 32 percentage points from 38% to 70%.

WHEREAS, at Miami Central Senior, since being identified as an Intervene school in 2008, reading proficiency has improved 3% and mathematics proficiency has improved by 9%. Since 2003, mathematics proficiency has improved 24 points from 23% to 47%. Not only are more students participating in accelerated courses at Miami Central Senior but they are succeeding at higher rates. In 2008-09, only 11% of students who were enrolled in accelerated courses passed. In 2010-11, 69% of students in these courses are expected to pass. College readiness in reading is also projected to increase from 56% in 2009-10 to 77% in 2010-11.

WHEREAS, as the Board entrusted with these schools, the well-being of its students, and the responsibility to serve these communities who face documented and unique challenges, we must consider a course of action that serves the best interest of the students and communities of these schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-092 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorizing the Chair to submit a letter of support and the accompanying resolution on behalf of the Miami-Dade County Public School Board to the State Board of Education requesting that an approval of the appeal be granted and that the District be enabled to continue implementing its improvement process without the closure of these schools or interruption of services to these communities.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this thirteenth day of July, A.D. 2011

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary