

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST THE SUPERINTENDENT TO MODIFY THE SCHOOL BOARD POLICY FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENT TO INCLUDE LIMITATIONS PERTAINING TO RESIDENCY, CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND DIVERSITY

} Revised

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: SCHOOL / DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

In these difficult times, wherein our board and our community are grappling with difficult decisions, the members of our community that serve on our Advisory Boards are one of our most valuable resources. As such, we should insure that our Advisory Boards are diverse and provide us with differing perspectives on the issues that come before them. Furthermore, in our ongoing pursuit to establish good governance and accountability, the Miami-Dade County Public School Board sees the necessity to modify current practices concerning our Advisory Committee membership.

We begin by taking this opportunity to recognize the commitment and exemplary volunteer work performed by the outstanding members of our community who serve on our Advisory Boards. However, the time has come to modify our Board policy on Committee Membership to address three important criteria: residency, conflicts of interest and the promotion of diversity in membership.

} Revised

Residency: Members of M-DCPS Advisory Committees shall be permanent residents of Miami-Dade County. Committee Members should have reputations for integrity and community service. In addition, all members should have demonstrated an interest in the field covered by the committee for those committees that do not already have an experience requirement. This requirement can be waived under extraordinary circumstances per term by a two-thirds vote of the Miami-Dade County School Board. Similarly, unless the School Board by two-thirds (2/3) vote of its membership waives the residency requirement for a particular member, a member of any Advisory Committee who ceases to be a resident of Miami-Dade County during the term of his or her office shall immediately advise the Clerk of the School Board. Upon being advised by the Clerk of such circumstances, the School Board shall declare the position to be vacant and shall promptly fill the same pursuant to School Board Bylaws and Policies.

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Conflict of Interest: No person shall be eligible to serve on any Advisory Committee if, at the time of appointment to the Committee, the person has filed a lawsuit against the School Board that is pending and/or a challenge to a policy set by the Miami-Dade County Public School Board without relinquishing his or her seat on the Committee unless the School Board by two-thirds (2/3) vote of its membership waives this requirement. Similarly, Advisory Committee members shall not be appointed to a committee wherein their livelihood depends on the area regulated, and/or administered by the Committee unless the School Board by two-thirds (2/3) vote of its membership waives this requirement. Finally, no member of the Advisory Committee shall become a candidate for elective political office during his or her term. Should a member of the Committee qualify as a candidate for elective political office, such qualification shall be deemed a tender of resignation from the Committee. A person is prohibited from serving on the Advisory Committee where such service would violate federal or state law, and/or the School Board Bylaws and Policies.

Diversity: The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide a broad array of perspectives as to the challenges that affect our district. As such, no person shall serve simultaneously on more than two Advisory Committees of the Miami-Dade County Public School Board, unless the School Board has by a two-thirds (2/3) vote approved the appointment after being advised of all other committees upon which the person sits. This waiver, if granted, shall be afforded per term and must be renewed when the committee member's term expires and he/she is reappointed.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. RAQUEL A. REGALADO: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, request the Superintendent to modify the School Board Policy for the Advisory Committee Membership and Appointment to include limitations pertaining to residency, conflict of interest and diversity.