

Dr. Martin Karp, School Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO EXPLORE DEVELOPING A TEACHER PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At the August 3, 2011 School Board meeting, the Superintendent brought forward a number of new and exciting initiatives for the 2011-12 school year, which received strong positive feedback from School Board members and community stakeholders. As we enter 2012, it is appropriate to begin looking ahead. An idea the District should consider for the future is opening a teacher preparatory high school.

Today, a number of specialized high schools exist in Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) yet one that prepares M-DCPS students to return to our own District's schools as educators does not exist. A teacher preparatory high school would target and serve students who enjoy helping, teaching, guiding and supporting others who are interested in education-related careers. Specifically, the curriculum at a teacher preparatory high school could develop in each student an understanding that as an adult one can educate others in formal and informal settings, inside and outside classrooms.

A school that provides tomorrow's educational leaders with instruction in teaching pedagogy and real-life applicability of education strategies while preparing students for higher learning opens a new door of possibilities for those considering a career in education. A dual enrollment program with local universities' education schools may also be worth exploring.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTIN KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to explore for future years the possibility of Miami-Dade County Public Schools opening an education preparatory academy.