

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO EXPLORE MIAMI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL'S OFFER OF ELECTRO CARDIO GRAM (ECG) SCREENINGS AT NO COST FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT ATHLETES

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

Recently, we have seen an increase in the reported incidence of sudden cardiac death in high school athletes. Studies documenting voluntary reporting of deaths among high school athletes suggest that the incidence of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest ranges from 0.28 - 1.0 deaths per 100,000 high school athletes annually nationwide. It is currently estimated that in the United States alone, one young athlete dies almost every three days.

Some of these sudden cardiac events are predictable and preventable with the right screening tools. Evidence suggests that adding an Electro Cardio Gram (ECG) to routine pre-participation sports screening can markedly reduce the incidence of sudden cardiac death in young athletes. This item serves to direct the superintendent to explore the possibility of partnering with Miami Children's Hospital to offer this service to all student athletes in the Miami-Dade Public School system at no cost to the system or to the student.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY VICE CHAIR
DR. LAWRENCE FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to explore Miami Children's Hospital's offer of Electro Cardio Gram screenings at no cost for Miami-Dade County Public Schools student athletes and report back to the Board by its July 2012 meeting.