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Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement

**SUBJECT:                    AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO FORM AN  
EDUCATION COMPACT BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE CITY OF  
HIALEAH GARDENS**

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

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

Following the blueprint established by the formation of Education Compacts between Miami-Dade County Public Schools (District) and other local general purpose governments, the District and the City of Hialeah Gardens (City) will partner to bring together each organization's collective resources for the greater benefit of both the students and the citizens of Hialeah Gardens.

The City is located in northwestern Miami-Dade County. Established in 1948 as the Town of Hialeah Gardens, it encompasses approximately 3 square miles and is home to four District facilities: Hialeah Gardens Elementary; West Hialeah Gardens Elementary; Hialeah Gardens Middle School; and Hialeah Gardens Senior High School. These schools are all part of the Hialeah Gardens Senior High Feeder Pattern. Per the 2010 United States Census, the City has 21,744 residents. The City is located in an active urban area between the City of Hialeah and the Town of Medley and is adjacent to major roadways, factors which have contributed to the City's rapid growth in the past decade.

Through this Education Compact, the District and the City will strive to meet the educational needs of youth in the City and enhance the learning opportunities for all. The Education Compact will encompass programs and/or projects that can be enriched, expedited, or better realized through collaborative efforts.

The areas of focus in this collaboration include, but are not limited to, student achievement, community and parent engagement, teacher recruitment and retention, communications, facilities, safety issues, health and well-being, as well as technology. The initial activities, intended outcomes, and measures associated with each of these focus areas are as follows:

## **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

1. The District will ensure that schools within the City strive to achieve an accountability grade of a "B" or better within three years, according to new State Standards.
2. The City will establish an honor roll recognition program for students attending City schools.
3. The City will provide financial support in the form of a one-time payment of \$50,000 to support the implementation of the Cambridge Academy Program at Hialeah Gardens Senior High School during the 2012-2013 school year. The financial support by the City will allow approximately 75 students to participate in the Cambridge Academy Program at Hialeah Gardens Senior High.
4. The City and District will jointly seek opportunities and resources from business and community partners to be used toward instructional enhancements for City schools.
5. The District will identify and pursue implementation of best practice strategies to increase the graduation rate at Hialeah Gardens Senior High School.
6. The City will work with the District to expand opportunities for grant writing partnerships to provide innovative education programs for City youth.

### **Key Intended Outcomes:**

- Increased student achievement
- Increased academic enrichment programs
- Increased number of partnerships established with the City's business community
- Increased graduation rates at Hialeah Gardens Senior High School
- Increased collaboration and advocacy on legislative issues pertaining to public education
- Increased number of partnership grants submitted

### **Measures:**

- Number of schools with an accountability grade of "B" or better
- Number of students participating in the Cambridge Academy Program
- Number of business partnerships that enhance opportunities for the Compact schools
- Number of collaborative grants submitted

## **COMMUNITY AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

1. When possible, the District will regularly make available to the City all parent satisfaction survey data per school.
2. The City will work with the District to foster local business support for education, including the implementation of employee programs encouraging parent participation in schools. As an example, the City will encourage local businesses to model the City's commitment to parental involvement.
3. The District will collaborate with the City to support its mentoring program through the creation of internship opportunities for students served by City schools. The City will encourage local businesses to model the City's commitment to community involvement by encouraging City employees to engage in mentoring activities.
4. Through the District's Parent Academy, interested City personnel will be provided training on how to use the District's Parent Portal and other electronic resources available.
5. The City and the District will collaborate to connect adults who are not in the workforce with M-DCPS' adult education/vocational training programs.
6. The District will develop and offer coursework to parents through The Parent Academy tailored to meet specific needs of the City at community sites.

### Key Intended Outcomes:

- Ensure community access to educational information
- Increased accessibility to family/individual support services
- Provision of parent workshops throughout the City

### Measures:

- Parent satisfaction rates for each City school
- Number of City parents attending The Parent Academy programs

## **TEACHER RECRUITMENT/RETENTION**

1. The District and the City will collaborate to develop a supplemental incentive program for teacher retention in the City. The City will encourage City business partners to support incentives that may include discounts, mentoring, training, and tickets to events for teachers employed in City schools.
2. The District will make available to the City public information related to instructional staff recruitment and retention statistics and data for the City Schools.

3. When possible, the District will regularly make available to the City all survey data pertaining to teacher satisfaction levels in each respective school.
4. The City will support the District's efforts, as well as those of other stakeholder groups and district-wide initiatives that address the housing needs of teachers and non-instructional staff. In the event the City approves future land use for residential developments, it will strive to adhere to a minimum of 12 percent occupancy for designated workforces. The inclusion of public school teachers and/or other public educational personnel will be explored.

**Key Intended Outcomes:**

- Maintain teacher recruitment and retention at or above district-wide levels.
- Increase teacher satisfaction rates for city schools
- Enhanced access of workforce to affordable housing, especially for teachers and non-instructional staff

**Measures:**

- Number and percent of City school staff participating in various incentive programs provided by the City
- Number and percent of City school staff participating in mentoring and training opportunities by the City
- Percent of City and District school personnel who agree or strongly agree that they like working at their schools
- The City's school instructional personnel retention rate will be compared to the district-wide retention rate
- Number of local affordable housing options for government employees, especially those options available to M-DCPS employees working within the City

**COMMUNICATIONS**

1. The City and the District will collaborate on legislative agendas in support of public education.
2. District staff will provide a joint briefing with City staff to the City Council for the purpose of providing an annual update on the status of the Education Compact and other issues of interest.

**Key Intended Outcomes:**

- Increased community access to City and District information
- Increased collaboration and advocacy on legislative issues pertaining to public education

**Measures:**

- Number of District legislative priorities supported by the City
- Joint briefing provided to the City Council

## **FACILITIES**

1. The City will work with the District to explore joint use of such public facilities as schools, parks, libraries, and recreational centers.
2. The City and the District will collaborate to streamline the process to receive donations of services for the maintenance and repair of school facilities.

### Key Intended Outcomes:

- Increased opportunities for joint planning

### Measures:

- Number of joint-use projects identified

## **SAFETY ISSUES**

1. The District and City will designate a police department liaison to coordinate security and safety-related activities for City schools.

### Key Intended Outcomes:

- Improved safety/perceptions of safety at schools

### Measures:

- Parent, student, and District perception ratings for school safety

## **HEALTH & WELL-BEING**

1. The District and the City will collaborate to deliver information regarding health and wellness prevention as well as intervention strategies related to nutrition, physical activity levels, and health maintenance in accordance with the District's Wellness Initiative.
2. Collaborate on joint events that encourage health and wellness for students in schools serving the City.

### Key Intended Outcomes:

- Increased health and well-being of students in City schools

### Measures:

- Number of partnerships and events that promote health and wellness initiatives

## **TECHNOLOGY**

1. The District and the City will collaborate to explore opportunities to reduce the digital divide in the City.
2. The District and City will collaborate to identify new avenues for student access to technology.
3. The District will provide opportunities for technology training at school sites for parent(s)/guardians(s).

### **Key Intended Outcomes:**

- Improved youth and parent access to technology

### **Measures:**

- Number of City of Hialeah Gardens Schools with technology enabling youths to access Wi-Fi
- Number of opportunities for technology training at school sites for parent(s)/guardians(s)

### **RECOMMENDED:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to form an Education Compact between the City of Hialeah Gardens and Miami-Dade County Public Schools.