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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 OPA-  
LOCKA**

**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 Opa-locka (City) will partner to bring together each organization's collective resources for the greater benefit of both the students and the citizens of Opa-locka.

The City is located in northwestern Miami-Dade County. The City, established more than 85 years ago, encompasses 4.2 square miles and is home to two District facilities, Dr. Robert B. Ingram Elementary and Nathan B. Young Elementary. Both schools are part of the Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High School Feeder Pattern, with North Dade Middle School being the assigned middle school. Therefore, the following schools will be included in the City of Opa-locka Education Compact: Dr. Robert B. Ingram Elementary; Nathan B. Young Elementary; North Dade Middle; and Hialeah Miami-Lakes Senior High.

As per the 2010 United States Census, the City has 15,219 residents. The City of Opa-locka was the vision of aviation pioneer Glenn Curtiss, who designed the city with a Moorish revival feel. The City is home to the historic airport from which Amelia Earhart departed on her world flight attempt in 1937. The Opa-locka Executive Airport houses the nation's busiest United States Coast Guard Air Station as well as other businesses that provide a wide range of aircraft repair and maintenance services. United States Customs Services is also based at the airport along with a thriving Aviation & Commerce Center that will soon include banks, shops, restaurants, office/flex warehouse distribution facilities, and corporate jet hangars.

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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. Due to the City's rich aviation history, the District will work very closely with the identified partners to provide students with unique aviation-related educational opportunities.

The areas of focus in this collaboration include, but are not limited to, student achievement, community and parent engagement, facilities, and safety issues. The initial activities, intended outcomes, and measures associated with each of these focus areas are listed below.

### **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

1. The District will ensure that schools within the City strive to achieve an accountability grade of "B" or better within three years, according to new state standards.
2. The City and District will seek opportunities and resources from business for community school programs and will facilitate stakeholder meetings to enhance community partnerships.
3. The City will support students by working with the District to develop internship/mentorship opportunities, especially in high schools serving the City in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics-related (STEM) fields.
4. The City will work to establish a volunteer mentor program composed of City employees and local residents to work with the Youth Crime Prevention Division within the City's Department of Parks and Recreation.
5. The District will explore the feasibility of enhanced adult and technical education offerings.
6. The City will work with the District to expand opportunities for grant writing partnerships to provide innovative education programs for City youth.
7. The City and District will collaborate on public/private partnership opportunities that benefit schools serving the City.
8. The City and the District will explore the feasibility of expanding internship and mentoring opportunities at the Opa-locka Airport and will partner with the County and Florida Memorial University to provide high school students with internships within the aviation field.

**Key Intended Outcomes:**

- Increased student achievement
- Increased community partnerships and community access to educational information and services
- Increased academic enrichment opportunities in STEM
- Increased number M-DCPS students exposed to mentorship and/or internship opportunities, especially in STEM-related fields
- Increased number of local businesses participating in mentoring and internship programs
- Increased adult and technical education offerings for students
- Increased number of partnership grants submitted

**Measures:**

- Number of City of Opa-locka compact schools receiving a state accountability grade of "B" within three years
- Number of community partnerships to benefit schools and students
- Number of high school students participating in City-sponsored internship program/mentoring opportunities
- Number of local businesses participating in mentoring and internship programs
- Number of students participating in adult and technical educational offerings
- Number of mentors and/or internships for students in the STEM-related fields
- Number of collaborative grants submitted

**COMMUNITY AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

1. The City will partner with local community groups such as the North Dade Chamber of Commerce to establish an Opa-locka City Commission Education Roundtable and/or Education Business Forum to host regular meetings in order to address local educational issues.
2. The City will collaborate with Florida Memorial University, St. Thomas University, and Miami Dade College (North Campus) in support of the Compact.
3. The District will focus on the specific needs of City parents by informing residents of the services and resources available in the City.
4. The City and District will collaborate to foster local business support for educational programs, including business-based employee programs that encourage parent involvement in schools.
5. The City and District will explore the feasibility of presenting Parent Academy workshops at the City's community center.
6. The City and the District will collaborate on legislative priorities in support of public education.

Key Intended Outcomes:

- Establishment of partnerships with the North Dade Chamber of Commerce and subsequent development of an Opa-locka City Commission Education Roundtable and/or Education Business Forum
- Establishment of partnerships with local neighboring universities
- Provision of parental workshops in the City
- Increased collaboration and advocacy on legislative issues pertaining to public education

Measures:

- Number of partnerships with North Dade Chamber of Commerce that enhance opportunities for the Compact schools
- Number of meetings held by the City Commission Education Roundtable and/or Education Business Forum
- Number of partnerships with local universities and colleges
- Number of parents from the City attending Parent Academy programs
- City support of the District's legislative agenda

**FACILITIES**

1. The City and the District will explore joint-use opportunities for the planning of schools, parks, recreation centers, and future land use.

Key Intended Outcomes:

- Exploration of joint-use opportunities between the City and the District

Measures:

- Number of joint-use opportunities explored

**SAFETY ISSUES**

1. The District will assist the City with its efforts to reduce violence against children through the formation of a local collaborative that works to deliver and strengthen prevention/intervention programs such as the City Alternative to Outdoor Suspension Program in its Youth Crime Prevention Division.
2. The City and the District will collaborate with respective police departments to ensure a coordinated approach on issues related to safety and youth crime prevention for schools served by the Compact.
3. The City and the District will maintain a mutual-aid agreement with the City of Opa-locka Police Department.
4. The City and the District will work together to coordinate safety issues at each school.

5. The District will provide updates to the City on the School Security Plan and establish meaningful recommendations for a consistent approach to safety issues in and around schools in the City.
6. The City and the District will partner with the County's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to pursue greater support for pedestrian and bicycle safety initiatives.

**Key Intended Outcomes:**

- Increased number of truancy prevention and education workshops conducted and an increased number of residents participating in such workshops
- Increased coordination between Miami-Dade Schools Police Department and the City of Opa-locka Police Department on youth crime prevention
- Maintenance of a mutual-aid agreement with the City of Opa-locka Police Department and the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department
- Improved safety and awareness of safety provisions at schools in the City
- Increased support from the MPO to pursue pedestrian and bicycle safety initiatives in the City

**Measures:**

- Number of meetings in which both the City's and the District's police departments participate
- Number of City and District public/private partnerships that address adequate levels of police-related services at Compact schools
- Parent, student and District perception ratings for school safety as measured by a climate survey

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to form an Education Compact between The City of Opa-locka and Miami-Dade County Public Schools.