Office of Superintendent of Schools Board Meeting of January 16, 2013

Valtena G. Brown, Chief Operating Officer School Operations

SUBJECT:

REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE

COUNTY, FLORIDA, CERTIFY THE 2013-2014 CLASS SIZE

COMPLIANCE PLAN

COMMITTEE:

INSTRUCTIONAL

EXCELLENCE

AND

COMMUNITY

ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

FRAMEWORK:

EDUCATION

In 2002, Florida voters approved a Class Size Amendment to the Florida Constitution, which imposed restrictions on the number of students that may be assigned to each public school classroom, in specific subject areas.

As stipulated in F.S. 1003.03(1)., the Legislature was required to make adequate provisions to ensure that, by the beginning of the 2010 school year, the maximum number of students assigned to each teacher who is teaching core-curricular courses in public schools, not to exceed:

- 18 in prekindergarten through 3rd grade;
- 22 in grades 4 through 8; and
- 25 in grades 9 through 12.

Compliance with fiscal year 2012-2013 class size reduction maximums was calculated at the class level as required by state law for the October 2012 full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrollment survey through November 29, 2012.

State law also requires each school not in compliance to submit a plan, certified by the School Board, to the Commissioner of Education by February 1, 2013, that describes the specific actions to be taken to fully comply with class size reduction requirements by October 2013.

It is requested that the School Board certify the following actions to be implemented during the 2013-2014 school year to comply with the requirement by October of the following school year as prescribed by law:

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- Promote dual enrollment opportunities to qualified students in high schools.
- Deploy Florida Virtual School on-line courses to qualified students in secondary schools.
- Implement methods to maximize the use of instructional staff such as assigning traditional non-classroom instructional staff to a classroom.
- Identify under-enrolled electives and accommodate students' alternate requests prior to finalizing secondary schools' master schedules.
- Consolidate core course offerings in secondary schools implementing career academies.
- Monitor class size status district-wide and provide feedback to schools, regions and district offices that identify strategies for full compliance.
- Provide district-led technical assistance to schools, on a case-by-case basis, to identify classrooms not in compliance with class size and provide possible options to adjust the master schedule to mitigate class size.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, certify the 2013-2014 Class Size Compliance Plan.

VGB:cg