

Office of School Facilities  
Jaime G. Torrens, Chief Facilities Officer

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE:**

- 1) AN ACCESS AGREEMENT ALLOWING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO CONDUCT REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES AT HAMMOCKS MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPUS; AND**
- 2) FUTURE ACCESS AGREEMENTS FOR PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES ON BOARD-OWNED PROPERTY**

**COMMITTEE: FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION AND REFORM**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY/STABILITY**

Miami-Dade County ("County"), in the process of testing its parks and recreation areas, sampled soils at Hammocks Community Park ("Park") recreational fields adjacent to Hammocks Middle School campus, and it discovered low levels of arsenic present in the soil at the Hammocks Middle School campus playfield ("Playfield"). No other elevated metals were reported. According to Florida Department of Health, the source of arsenic in the soil may be the result of historical use of an organic arsenical herbicide applied to turf grass. The County, through Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Department and Miami-Dade Regulatory and Economic Resources Department ("RER" formerly known as "DERM") is seeking approval to gain access to the Playfield to conduct soil remediation activities. To that end, County staff and District staff have met to coordinate this task and have memorialized the coordination of the proposed remediation plan ("Access Agreement"). The Florida Department of Health has confirmed that the estimated contamination level in the soil at the Board-owned property site was well below the minimum risk level; nevertheless, in an abundance of caution, Miami-Dade County's RER has presented a plan to the District that will involve the removal of the arsenic contaminated soil, replacement of the soil with clean fill and subsequent restoration of the Playfield ("Work"). All Work will be executed pursuant to plans and specifications approved by all jurisdictional agencies and at no cost to the District. The County will coordinate the Work with District staff in order to minimize any disruption at the Park and at the Playfields.

The Access Agreement will be reviewed and approved by the District's Office of Risk Management and by the Board Attorney's Office prior to execution by the Superintendent or his designee.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize the Superintendent or his designee to execute:

1. an access agreement allowing Miami-Dade County to conduct remediation activities at Hammocks Middle School Campus; and
2. future access agreements for purpose of conducting environmental remediation activities on Board-owned properties.