

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: EXPLORE THE EXPANSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DISTRICT'S PARTNERSHIP WITH DREAM IN GREEN

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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

Dream in Green (DIG) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop and implement programs that promote energy conservation and efficiency, environmental sustainability, and the use of renewable energy. Dream in Green believes that schools and youth play a critical role in transitioning towards a more sustainable society. Beginning with just 3 schools in 2006, the Green Schools Challenge (GSC) sponsored by DIG has grown to 165 schools in Miami-Dade. In the first seven years of the program, students saved substantial amounts of money in energy costs and kilowatt hours of electricity through simple low and no-cost solutions like turning off lights and unplugging electronics.

This year, DIG will also focus on reducing water consumption at participating schools. In addition, the GSC will help reinforce the water conservation message in designated impaired water areas by incorporating water conservation modules into their GSC curriculum, and hosting workshops for students' parents. In as much as DIG activities have proven to be effective in engaging students in the science of sustainability and conservation, it is logical to seek to identify opportunities to expand this partnership. Therefore, this item requests that the Superintendent explore the expansion of the District's successful partnership with DIG to bring even more environmental education opportunities to students throughout the schools in our District.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida encourage the Superintendent to explore the expansion of environmental educational opportunities through the District's partnership with Dream in Green.