

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

SUBJECT: ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE: FACILITIES AND CONSTRUCTION REFORM

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK: EDUCATION**

Facilities and maintenance operations in Miami-Dade County Public Schools have performed at the highest levels of excellence in recent years. Now, with the implementation of the \$1.2 billion bond program every school in the District is slated to receive upgrades. Many projects have been advanced, cutting time for improvements in some cases by up to 2 years. In fact, 68 projects worth \$180 million have already been launched within the first year. Approximately 200 GOB projects will be underway by the end of 2014.

One area of intense focus is technology. While great emphasis will be placed on purchasing, the District should ensure that these and previous investments in technology are maintained and protected.

For example, in many classrooms and common areas such as media centers, a number of computers collect dust, not necessarily resulting from a lack of use. Over time, this dust negatively impacts the performance of computers by causing the cooling systems to exert more energy to cool down the Central Processing Unit (CPU) and can cause catastrophic system failures. This increased level of energy results in higher electric consumption and heat dissipation.

The difference in energy consumption between a clean computer and a computer that has not been cleaned is measureable. Such a difference can also be measured for interactive boards and other technological instruments frequently used in schools and districts offices.

Energy used to cool down dusty computers and clogged vents along with the wasted heat it causes results in warmer rooms. Also, these issues cause air-conditioning systems to work harder in maintain comfortable temperatures.

Cleaner computers save the school district money in three important ways by reducing energy consumption, diminishing failure rates and increasing shelf life.

With an increased reliance on technology and the addition of technology products throughout the school district, greater attention to provided cleaning and maintenance is essential.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTIN KARP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. review maintenance procedures of technology equipment in Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and,
2. provide a technology proactive maintenance plan on or before the October 7, 2014 Miami-Dade County School Board meeting.