

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS &
COMMUNITY ENGAEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: ENSURE ALL STUDENTS GRADUATE COLLEGE AND
CAREER READY**

Each year thousands of bright students graduate from Miami-Dade County Public high schools. Many of these students earn scholarships to continue their education, while many others will struggle to find the resources they need to support their dream of continuing their education. As a result, many very deserving graduates may be unable to continue on to college.

Annually, School Board Members become aware of students who may need financial assistance and often work to help connect them to those who may be willing to assist them; but to my knowledge, School Board Members have not had the opportunity to grant scholarships.

As Board Members it is important that we have the opportunity to support student success by recognizing and rewarding achievements in the areas of academics, character, community service, or simply a student's determination to overcome life's obstacles.

As such, this item requests the Superintendent work together with the School Board Attorney to research and provide recommendations on the appropriate mechanism to create a School Board of Miami-Dade Scholarship program. Such a program should be designed to allow the Board Members directly, or in collaboration with the awarding institution – such as The Foundation for New Education Initiatives, the ability to designate at least one student scholarship recipient annually. It is also requested that this program become available in time to award scholarships to deserving students of the Class of 2017.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, request the Superintendent to work with the School Board Attorney to research and provide recommendations regarding the creation of a School Board of Miami-Dade County Scholarship program and report back to the Board no later than September 2016, as a mechanism to further support student success.