

Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SUPPORT FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
RESEARCH STUDENT GROWTH MEASURE MODELS**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL SERVICES AND STUDENT AND SCHOOL
SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF**

The implementation of Florida's Value Added Model (VAM), one model of a student growth measure, is a result of legislative changes that were elements of Florida's participation in the Race to the Top grant and enacted through the 2011 Student Success Act. The model was recommended to the Commissioner of Education by the Student Growth Implementation Committee (SGIC) and accepted by the July 1, 2011 statutory deadline.

Currently, the calculation and results of the Florida VAM are not transparent to teachers, school administrators, and districts eroding trust in its outcomes. A complicated statistical formula sets performance expectations after students have taken the test, preventing a district, school, or teacher from establishing clear, assessment aligned targets for students. The Florida VAM model pertains to less than half of the state's teachers causing inequalities across teaching assignments. The results of the Florida VAM are relative to performance of other 'like students' and not an established standard. In addition, these results do not provide information relevant to individual teacher improvement. Finally, Florida's VAM model is incongruent with the State's school accountability system causing confusion and failing to align efforts to promote the greatest levels of student achievement.

It is recommended that Miami-Dade County Public Schools research a variety of global student performance growth measures. The intent of this research is to provide the District with student growth measure model options that are congruent with established accountability measures and ensure an increase in student performance. The District will share the research with the Florida Consortium and include the findings of the research and recommendations in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools legislative platform.

RECOMMENDED: That the School Board of Miami-Dade County provide support for the Superintendent to:

- 1) research student performance growth measure models from across the nation;
- 2) share research outcomes with the Greater Florida Consortium of School Boards and seek joint agreement on best approach; and
- 3) Provide recommended legislative solutions that modify or replace the current Florida VAM model.