

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: BODY-WORN CAMERAS

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING
ENVIRONMENT**

Police officials whose departments use body-worn cameras have indicated that there is an overall perception that cameras offer a beneficial tool for law enforcement. For these organizations and departments, the perceived benefits that body-worn cameras offer capturing a video recording of critical incidents and encounters with the public, strengthen police accountability, and provide a valuable new type of evidence.

While mounted police cameras cannot pick up on completely everything an officer sees, the video acquired from these cameras can help deliver a much clearer depiction of what happened in an incident. The use of body-worn cameras can make the police departments more open and transparent to the public and help resolve questions following an encounter between an officer and students, or a member of the general public.

There are a number of matters that need to be studied and considered, including legal issues, privacy rights, funding, data storage, retention, and disclosure, among others. Also, the input from our police officers and the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) is of utmost importance.

This item seeks to authorize the Superintendent to conduct a feasibility study for the implementation of body-worn cameras in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney's office as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to conduct a feasibility study to consider the:

1. implementation of police body-worn cameras in Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and
2. implementation of a pilot program for the 2017-2018 school year, providing a report by the April 5, 2017 School Board Meeting.