

Dr. Lawrence Feldman, Board Member } Revised

**SUBJECT: COUNCIL OF GREAT CITY SCHOOLS 61<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE**

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

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED, AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

The Council of Great City Schools (CGCS) was founded in 1956 and supports the mission of America's urban public schools to "educate the nation's most diverse student body to the highest academic standards and prepare them to contribute to our democracy and the global community." The CGCS advocates for the needs of urban school districts and inner city students through legislation, research, and by building capacity in urban education leaders dedicated to narrowing the achievement gap, improving academic performance and strengthening leadership, governance and finance.

This year, The CGCS held their 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Fall Conference in Cleveland, Ohio from October 18-22. The conference provided urban school district participants an opportunity to learn about reform work, model programs, and best practices throughout the country. Over 1,000 members consisting of urban school superintendents, School Board Members, Deans of Colleges of Education and Senior School District Administrators representing over 7.3 Million students in 68 urban school districts engaged in this year's fall conference. With a robust agenda featuring relevant topics and breakout sessions on districtwide reform and improvement, urban school achievement, best fiscal practices, successful recruiting and hiring practices, professional development, and early literacy, as well as nationally acclaimed speakers, this year's annual conference was a well-received success.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is to be commended for their participation in breakout sessions and panel discussions facilitated by Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho, Mr. Jose Dotres, Ms. Marie Izquierdo, Ms. Carmen Concepcion, Mr. Eugenio Gant, Mr. Arnaldo Gonzalez, Ms. Isela Rodriguez, and Mr. Rouben Yaghdjian. As the CGCS Chair-Elect, I also participated in presentations and meetings with executive leadership. After dutifully serving as a member, treasurer, and Chair-Elect, I will assume the CGCS Chair position next year.

The CGCS made the following reports and manuals available to all member districts:

- Council of Great City Schools Annual Report 2016-17
- Academic Key Performance Indicators Pilot Report October 2017
- Managing for Results in America's Great City Schools 2017
- Excellence for All: Creating Environments for Success for Males of Color in the Great City Schools
- How We Help America's Urban Public Schools
- Internal Auditing in the Great City Schools
- Cyber-Security in Today's K-12 Environment

Relevant materials will be made available to Board Member Offices and the Board Clerk.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**  
**DR. LAWRENCE FELDMAN:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, accept the Council of Great City Schools 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Fall Conference update.