

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (M-DCPS) IMPLEMENTING *THE CONSEQUENCES AREN'T MINOR* PROGRAM DESIGNED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER CARLOS J. MARTINEZ

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL, & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

The Consequences Aren't Minor is a program/presentation designed by Miami-Dade Public Defender Carlos J. Martinez to educate students and parents about the life altering consequences of getting involved with the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Through an interactive presentation and discussion, Mr. Martinez teaches students and parents about current laws and how they relate to "childhood indiscretions". The presentation also contains a lively discussion about the far-reaching consequences of an arrest, plea, conviction, and adjudication.

The goals of "*The Consequences Aren't Minor*" program are to:

- Reduce delinquent and criminal behavior.
- Educate young people to keep them from engaging in delinquent behavior.
- Educate parents so they can prevent their children from engaging in delinquent behavior.
- Dispel myths about juvenile court being a slap on the wrist.
- Educate elected officials and legislators so they can fix the draconian and ineffective laws that make it easier for kids to get a job from a drug dealer than a car dealer.

Mr. Martinez has expressed his desire and commitment to conducting *The Consequences Aren't Minor* presentations at all Miami-Dade County Public High Schools in the upcoming 2018-2019 school year, at no cost to the district. Therefore, this agenda item seeks authorization for the Superintendent of Schools to explore the feasibility of M-DCPS implementing "*The Consequences Aren't Minor* program/presentation during the 2018-2019 school year.

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 of Schools to explore the feasibility of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) implementing *The Consequences Aren't Minor* program/presentation during the 2018-2019 school year , at no cost to the district, and report back to the Board by October 10, 2018.