



Nevertheless, with additional responsibilities related to the implementation of enhanced safety and security measures in the schools, the implementation of mental health initiatives, the continuous development of choice programs, parental engagement, and appropriate review of school improvement plans, among others, it is appropriate for a fourth Region Center to be considered and possibly established in M-DCPS at this time.

It is important to note that while Miami-Dade County Public Schools continues to accomplish outstanding student achievement gains, the human and business elements involved in the operation of region centers must be considered. For example:

- ✓ A Region Center may cover over 260 square miles.
- ✓ Working parents may have to drive long distances to access region personnel.
- ✓ Traffic distress within the County presents a great concern for region staff driving around to assigned schools.
- ✓ Each region supports an average of 110 schools including specialized centers.
- ✓ Feeder patterns assigned to each region may vary from nine to 13.
- ✓ Budget conferences are held three times a year. With the number of schools per region, these conferences may take up to two weeks for each budget session.
- ✓ It is a challenge, with all the different responsibilities a region director may be assigned, for him or her to be able to visit schools on a regular basis and provide adequate support and supervision.

Furthermore, a review of some of the largest school districts decentralization efforts in Florida show that regions/areas/learning communities range anywhere from three to seven supporting less schools and smaller student populations. Nationally, the decentralization efforts of large urban school districts have organized their schools reporting to local districts, boroughs, neighborhood networks, areas, or community zones, ranging anywhere from seven to 17.

This agenda item authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to develop an updated report for consideration of the possibility of establishing a fourth Region Center or any other recommended region models to include staffing patterns, assignments of feeder patterns, responsibilities, location, financial, impact and supplementary data as appropriate, and present it to the Board by September 4, 2019.

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 develop an updated report for consideration of the possibility of establishing a fourth Region Center or any other recommended region models to include staffing patterns, assignments of feeder patterns, responsibilities, location, financial impact, and supplementary data as appropriate, and present it to the Board by September 4, 2019.