

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

**SUBJECT: CREATING A WORKFORCE FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

**COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC**

**BLUEPRINT: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS, AND INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS**

Public debate continues to examine and observe the future of work and whether there will be enough jobs to productively employ everyone. Included in this debate is the growing divergence of labor market opportunities between high and low-skills jobs, unemployment and underemployment, especially among young people, stagnating incomes for a large proportion of households, and income inequality. Adding to this anxiety is the development of automation which enabled by technologies, including robotics and artificial intelligence, brings the possibilities of higher productivity, economic growth, increased efficiencies, safety, and convenience. But these technologies also raise difficult questions about the broader impact of automation on jobs, skills, wages, and the nature of work itself. Likewise, investments in renewable energy, such as wind and solar, energy-efficiency technologies and adaptation and mitigation of climate change may create a new demand for workers in a range of occupations, including manufacturing, construction, and installation. These investments could create thousands of new jobs for future generations. Students and graduates must be readily prepared to assume these new job opportunities.

As this school district reaches the end of its *Vision 2020 – 2015-2020 Miami-Dade County Public Schools Strategic Blueprint*, it is prudent to start the process of developing a comprehensive roadmap to prepare our students for future jobs by reviewing current research and available data, by reaching out to the business and industry communities, parents, institutions of higher learning, governmental agencies, and by encouraging Board discussions, in order to eventually be able to include a clear strategic blueprint to address the needs of our students as they graduate and ultimately enter the world of work.

This agenda 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 reach out to stakeholders in the business and industry communities, parents, institutions of higher learning, governmental agencies, encourage Board discussions, and any other entities to start the process of identifying the employment skills graduates will need to have as they enter the world of work in the next five years to be included in the next strategic blueprint for Miami-Dade County Public Schools and provide an update to the Board by February 1, 2020.