

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF POTENTIAL LIABILITY IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced school districts to put many of the teaching and learning activities on a different path. While students and their parents may have made peace with online learning for the remainder of this school year and perhaps beyond, many still feel unprepared and continue to be concerned about the health and safety of their children. Additionally, the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) workforce has taken on this challenge with a sense of urgency, positivity, and professionalism, but still, many questions and health concerns remain.

As we contemplate the possibility of reopening schools in the near future, many questions still linger. This is normal as we continue to navigate uncharted waters. However, the School Board must have all the information available to ensure that any liability issues that may arise as we open schools, are not only addressed, but the Board is fully protected.

Therefore, this agenda item direct the Superintendent of Schools and the School Board Attorney to review the potential liability impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Miami-Dade County Public Schools, including active liability insurance policies in the District; state-specific laws, executive orders, and provisions to determine if additional protections have been made available to school districts, and any other information presented that protects the School Board from future liability claims; and report to the Board by July 15, 2020.

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, direct the Superintendent of Schools and the School Board Attorney to review the potential liability impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Miami-Dade County Public Schools, including active liability insurance policies in the District; state-specific laws, executive orders, and provisions to determine if additional protections have been made available to school districts, and any other information presented that protects the School Board from future liability claims; and report to the Board by July 15, 2020.