

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL, LEGAL, AND OPERATIONAL FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY COVID-19 TESTING SITES FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (M-DCPS) EMPLOYEES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

As the coronavirus continues to surge in Miami-Dade County, community leaders remain committed to mobilize in a united effort to confront, delay, and eventually stop the spread of the virus. The upcoming opening of the school year, regardless of whether it will be a schoolhouse model or an online model will bring new challenges, worries, and concerns to our workforce.

Most health professionals have agreed that testing is vital in monitoring and controlling the spread of the pandemic. Testing can determine if you are infected, regardless of whether you are asymptomatic or not. Testing positive usually makes you quarantine yourself to protect others, and allows contact tracers to find the people you may have exposed and isolate them as well. Testing can also define where new infections may be popping up and health specialists and authorities can limit the possibility of the outbreak and warn neighboring school communities that might be exposed next.

COVID-19 testing is also producing a lot of anxieties and extensive waiting periods to receive results. Many of our employees are experiencing these anxieties and it is of utmost importance for our workforce to continue to feel supported and for the School Board to do everything possible, as feasible, to try to facilitate the testing process and the timely and expeditious attainment of test results for them and their immediate families. Therefore, this agenda item seeks to direct the Superintendent of Schools in collaboration with the School Board Attorney to research and analyze the financial, legal, and operational feasibility of establishing temporary COVID-19 testing sites for Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) employees and their immediate families, within the current M-DCPS insurance program and any other private, state, or federal health insurance programs available to the insured.

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, direct the Superintendent of Schools in collaboration with the School Board Attorney to research and analyze the financial, legal, and operational feasibility of establishing temporary COVID-19 testing sites for M-DCPS employees and their immediate families, within the current M-DCPS insurance program and any other private, state, or federal health insurance programs available to the insured, and report back to the Board by September 9, 2020.