

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Board Member

**SUBJECT:               REQUEST TO ADOPT AN EMERGENCY POLICY TO AUTHORIZE PARTICIPATION BY BOARD MEMBERS VIA TELEPHONIC OR VIRTUAL MEANS DURING COMMITTEE AND/OR SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO COVID-19**

**COMMITTEE:           FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT:           INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

As COVID-19 cases continue to rise and an elected official may have to quarantine up to 14 days, it may be in the best interest of the School Board for Board members to be given the opportunity to address the business of the Board during Committee and School Board meetings virtually or through teleconferencing when a quorum is physically present.

Therefore, this item seeks to request the Board's approval that an agenda item be presented by the School Board Attorney, for the Board's consideration, to adopt a new emergency policy that authorizes Board member participation in public meetings via telephonic or virtual means during Committee and/or School Board meetings when extraordinary circumstances exist related to COVID-19 that prevent Board Members from being physically present at the meeting. If approved by the Board, this emergency policy would be effective upon adoption and will remain in effect for 90 days.

This item does not appear in the published Agenda. There is good cause to vary from the published agenda as the number of COVID-19 cases have recently risen in Miami-Dade County, and the Board should have an opportunity to address how to effectively facilitate the business of the School Board in the event a Board member may have to quarantine for up to 14 days during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This item has been reviewed by the School Board Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY**

**MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the School Board Attorney to present, for the Board's consideration, an agenda item that would seek the adoption of a new emergency policy that would authorize Board member participation in public meetings via telephonic or virtual means, when a physical quorum is otherwise present, during any Committee and/or School Board meetings, under extraordinary circumstances related to COVID-19, effective upon adoption and to remain in effect for 90 days, unless extended, superseded, or modified by the Board.

**Good Cause  
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