

The program has at least one police officer who serves as an advisor that is assigned to each post. The officers are responsible for the Police Explorer's weekly meetings while training the explorers on the dynamics of law enforcement. They also conduct field trips with the explorers to related or community events where students serve as volunteers, such as the Advocate Program, food distributions, and Share Your Heart. Most of explorers in this program surpass 100 community hours before graduation. Presently the program has approximately 100 explorers and it is expected this number will continue to grow each year as new posts are opened at other schools.

During the summer, the MDSPD offers a 3-week Explorer Academy where they are also exposed to law enforcement activities and a graduation ceremony is held at the end of the event. Explorers receive recognition through awards and certificates at both events.

Overall, the District's explorer program sponsored by MDCSP offers students of Miami-Dade County Public Schools professional and personal enrichment opportunities in the criminal justice system through training, practical experiences, competition and other activities. Additionally, the program promotes personal growth through character development, respect for the rule of law, physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism.

Because of the significant educational benefits afforded to those students who participate in District's Police Explorer Program, this item is presented for the Board to consider directing the Superintendent to explore the feasibility of expanding the Police Explorer Program in order to provide further enrichment opportunities by adding the program at other high schools within the school district.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. LUBBY NAVARRO:**

That The School Board of Miami Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to explore the feasibility of expanding the Police Explorer Program sponsored by MDSPD to allow for further enrichment opportunities by adding the program at other high schools within the school district.