

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: POSITION OF THE CHIEF AUDITOR

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF

On March 18, 2021, Maria T. Gonzalez, the current Chief Auditor gave written notice of her retirement from her position at the end of her three-year employment agreement, ending on June 21, 2021. In order to ensure an orderly process for the selection of this school district's next Chief Auditor, this item is presented for the Board's consideration to initiate the identification of an Interim Chief Auditor and to commence the process for the selection of a Chief Auditor. In accordance with School Board Policy 6840, – *Audit and Budget Advisory Committee*, the Audit and Budget Advisory Committee (ABAC) serves as the committee to make recommendations to the Board on the person to fill the position of Chief Auditor.

In order to also ensure continuity of leadership in the Office of Management and Compliance Audits, it is prudent to begin the process of transition as soon as possible. Therefore, as in the past, the outgoing Chief Auditor is requested to prepare and provide an Exit Report on matters relative to the role and scope of the Chief Auditor's position, including concerns, if any, with respect to the budget, and any other fiscal issues of the school district to be shared with the ABAC, the Board, and the administration in order to inform the selection process of the next Chief Auditor. It is also appropriate for the Board to request that a special meeting of the ABAC be called as soon as practicable to advise the Board in identifying an Interim Chief Auditor and to formulate recommendations for a search process for the position of Chief Auditor.

Finally, this item is intended as a vehicle to provide the Board with the opportunity to discuss the direction and guidance to be provided to the ABAC, as they formulate their recommendations to the School Board including what mechanisms the District might employ to identify qualified candidates for the position. Hopefully, the proactive nature of these recommended actions will allow the ABAC to provide its advice in identifying an Interim Chief Auditor and its recommendation for a search and selection process and a timeline for the selection of a Chief Auditor that is in time for the School Board meeting scheduled for April 21, 2021.

This Agenda Item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorneys' Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

SP-1

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. direct the Chief Auditor to prepare an Exit Report on matters relative to the role and scope of the Chief Auditor's position, including concerns, if any, with respect to the budget, and any other fiscal issues of the school district to be provided to the School Board;
2. request the Audit and Budget Advisory Committee call a special meeting as soon as practicable to advise in identifying an Interim Chief Auditor and to formulate recommendations for a search process for the position of Chief Auditor to be provided to the Board preferably by the April 14, 2021 School Board committee meetings; and
3. provide guidance to Audit and Budget Advisory Committee related to the selection of the next Chief Auditor as the Board deems appropriate.