

Dr. Jose L. Dotres, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE AND WAIVE PROHIBITIONS OUTLINED IN BOARD POLICIES 5830, *STUDENT FUNDRAISING*, AND 9700, *RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS*, IN ORDER TO ALLOW FUNDRAISING AND/OR OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINIAN CRISIS RELIEF EFFORTS

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: SAFE, HEALTHY, AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

On February 24, 2022, Russia initiated an invasion of Ukraine in an escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian War that began in 2014. This marks the largest conventional military attack on a sovereign state in Europe since World War II. As a result, nearly two million Ukrainians have sought refuge in neighboring countries and are in desperate need of relief. With many M-DCPS students, employees, and members of our community having come from conflict-stricken areas or having experienced similar situations in their lives, there is a great desire to participate in relief efforts as and join humanitarian organizations, such as United Way Miami, who will be participating in and/or coordinating relief efforts.

As such, Board approval is requested to allow schools and work locations to post information and/or collect funds in support of Ukrainian crisis relief efforts. In authorizing fundraising and other charitable activities related to crisis relief, the Board waives any prohibitions set forth in School Board Policy for this purpose, including limitations on fundraising and solicitation of donations set forth in 5830, *Student Fundraising*, and 9700, *Relations with Special Interest Groups*.

It is important for students to learn and understand that service extends beyond their local communities to other countries and regions. Participation in this relief effort will teach students the importance of global citizenship and agency-to-agency collaboration in providing support and assistance to those in need worldwide. As such, schools and work locations across the District are encouraged to hold emergency relief drives to raise funds.

This item does not appear in the published Agenda. There is good cause to vary from the Agenda because the Ukrainian crisis has continued to escalate and the need to support relief efforts cannot wait until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the Superintendent's request to allow schools and work locations to post information and/or collect funds in support of Ukrainian crisis relief efforts and waive the limitations on fundraising and solicitation of donations set forth in Board Policies 5830, *Student Fundraising*, and 9700, *Relations with Special Interest Groups*, for this purpose.

**Good Cause
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