

Dr. Lubby Navarro, Board Member

SUBJECT: ACTION PLAN TO IMPROVE AND SUPPORT UNDER-ENROLLED SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: SAFE, HEALTHY, & SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools' enrollment has been declining for the last decade. The department of Assessment Research and Data Analysis (ARDA) compiles and provides a brief summary of information in a publication titled Statistical Highlights which is released every year around spring. Some areas addressed in the Statistical Highlights include student membership by grade level, ethnic composition of students by Board Member District, graduates, enrollment in magnet programs, annual budget, total personnel by classification and total enrollment in our traditional public schools.

Information obtained from ARDA and found in the Statistical Highlights show that in February 2020, right before the pandemic, our enrollment was 346,427 students. In October 2021, our enrollment was 329,337 students. Our latest figures from February 2022 show our enrollment at 332,776 students. There is a small improvement, but we are still not at our pre-pandemic enrollment level. When we look at under-enrolled-schools within District 7, we find an elementary at about 62 percent capacity, a middle school at 82 percent capacity, and a senior high school at 36 percent capacity. There are many other under-enrolled schools throughout the school system. This is despite the fact that Miami-Dade County Public Schools is the fourth largest school district in the nation, with a graduation rate of 93.1 percent, an "A" rated school district, a leader in choice programs for decades, #1 school district for 10 years in a row with more than 448 national magnet awards and continues to develop and implement cutting-edge models for delivery of curriculum. Our enrollment numbers need to reflect that our successful programming and outstanding educational products are effective.

This agenda item seeks to direct the Superintendent of Schools to create a plan to improve and support under-enrolled schools, in order to recruit, retain, and maintain students' enrollment in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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 of Schools to:

1. To create an action plan to improve and support under-enrolled schools;
2. identify ways to recruit, retain and maintain students' enrollment in under-enrolled schools; and
3. report back to the Board no later than July 20, 2022.