

Ms. Christi Fraga, Board Member

SUBJECT: TRANSITION OF NEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

School Board members make decisions that have a significant and long-term impact on the students and communities whom they serve. The onboarding process of a new Board member has a significant learning curve as they adapt to their new roles. An efficient transition onto the School Board requires assisting new Board members to understand their responsibilities and duties, their unique role on the board, and the general work of the Board. To equip new School Board members with the necessary knowledge to successfully fulfill their responsibilities, new Board members and their staffs should undergo focused and structured training as they assume their new positions.

Examples of areas of training may include, but not be limited to:

- Organizational structure (i.e., Superintendent’s Cabinet, senior staff, organizational charts, etc.)
- School Board Policies
- School Board member operating budgets
- Orientation meetings with departments such as, Payroll, Human Resources, and Accounts Payable
- Transition of School Board member office operating budget, office equipment and office supplies to newly elected School Board member
- Strategic Plan
- Employment and evaluation of the Superintendent, School Board Attorney and Chief Auditor
- School budgets and finance
- Advisory Committees

As provided by School Board Policy 0142.3, Orientation, “Each new member of the School Board shall be encouraged to learn and understand the functions and responsibilities of the Board, acquire knowledge related to the operation of schools, and learn Board procedures. Policy 0142.3 also states that; “...(T)he Superintendent and administrative staff shall assist each new member to understand the Board’s functions, policies, procedures, and operation...”

This agenda item seeks the Board’s approval to direct the Superintendent to explore the feasibility of developing or expanding upon any existing orientation program for new School Board members, which may include but not be limited to the above recommended topics, and a timeline for providing the orientation and training program to newly elected School Board members and their assistants.

The launch of a new or expanded orientation program for newly elected Board members and their staffs should commence as soon as possible after newly elected School Board members are sworn in at the Tuesday, November 22, 2022, School Board Organization Meeting.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. CHRISTI FRAGA:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to:

1. explore the feasibility of developing or expanding upon any existing orientation program for new School Board members and their staffs, which may include but not be limited to, the recommended topics listed in this Board item, and a timeline for delivering the orientation program;
2. launch a new or expanded orientation program for newly elected School Board members and their staffs, to initiate as soon as possible after newly elected School Board members are sworn in at the Tuesday, November 22, 2022, School Board Organization Meeting; and
3. Provide an update of specific recommendations at the Personnel, Student, School & Community Support Committee meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2022.