

Mr. Roberto J. Alonso, Board Member

SUBJECT: HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS & TRAINING

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

School Board Policy 8462.01, *Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence* delineates the District's official policy regarding human trafficking in our schools and community. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida has a long history of joining in the fight against human trafficking in our schools among our students, employees, faculty and staff. This support is reflected in the numerous items proffered by Board members throughout the years, including but not limited to:

January 12, 2022: H-4 *The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Recognize and Observe January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month At All Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS)*, by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall;

March 17, 2021: H-12 *The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Support Human Trafficking Education In Schools Senate Bill 554 In The Florida Legislature*, by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall;

January 13, 2021: H-12 *That the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida Recognize And Observe January As Human Trafficking Awareness Month At All Miami-Dade County Public Schools*, by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall;

January 15, 2020: H-3 *January 2020 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools and support the related efforts of the Division of Student Services and Police Department*, by Dr. Lawrence Feldman;

March 13, 2019: H-12 *Human Trafficking Education*, by Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall. Following this item, the School Board adopted Policy 8462.01, *Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence*, which requires, among other things, that the Superintendent educate employees and students about the risks associated with human trafficking and domestic violence.

December 14, 2016: H-4 *January 2017 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month throughout Miami-Dade County Public Schools*, by Dr. Lawrence Feldman;

January 14, 2015: H-4 *January 2015 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools*, by Dr. Lawrence Feldman;

January 16, 2013: H-23 *January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month in Miami-Dade County Public Schools*, by Dr. Lawrence Feldman;

May 16, 2012: H-20 *Endorse a Miami-Dade County Public Schools Human Trafficking Awareness Campaign to be implemented during May and June 2012*, by Dr. Lawrence Feldman.

Further, on September 30, 2019, the State Board of Education unanimously approved a new rule requiring instruction in child trafficking prevention for students in grades K-12. With this approval, Florida became the first state in the nation to address the need for instruction in child trafficking prevention. The new rule also required districts to document the delivery of this instruction.

Several changes resulting from the pandemic, including unforeseen growth in the County's population, may serve to heighten human trafficking in our County. Accordingly, this item seeks to direct the Superintendent of Schools to explore the feasibility of developing and implementing a plan of action to work in conjunction with the office of the State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle to analyze, develop, revise and/or enhance training content and curriculum directed to principals, teachers, and support staff at all our schools to continue to raise awareness about human trafficking in our school and in our community in light of recent developments and events. To this end, administration would coordinate meetings with the State Attorney's Office to discuss current initiatives and training material and develop in conjunction with the Attorney General, law enforcement and Human Resources training content. Additionally, implement training schedule to include availability to content throughout the year to staff as part of professional development as well as during other trainings.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the General Counsel's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

MR. ROBERTO J. ALONSO:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent of Schools to explore the feasibility of developing and implementing a plan of action to work in conjunction with the office of the State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle to develop training content directed to principals, teachers, and support staff at all our schools to raise awareness about human trafficking in our school and in our community. To this end, the plan of action would include:

1. coordinating meetings with the State Attorney's Office to review, discuss and analyze current policies, initiatives, curriculum, resources, and training materials;
2. developing in conjunction with the State Attorney's Office and Human Resources training content to deliver to district personnel;
3. creating a training schedule to include availability to content throughout the year to staff as well as during professional development as well as during other trainings; and
4. provide a report to the School Board regarding the plan of action described in this item on or before April 12, 2023.