

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall

**SUBJECT: GIRL-TO-GIRL MENTORING INITIATIVE**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC**

**PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

At the January 16, 2019, School Board Meeting, the School Board of Miami-Dade County approved Agenda Item H-4 (“Girl-to-Girl Mentoring Initiative”), which sought the support of the Board in establishing a districtwide mentoring program for girls. The program would enlist accomplished female adults from local community, civic, educational, and professional organizations to help girls develop their leadership skills in order to improve, among other things, their social skills, academic performance, and self-esteem.

At the February 13, 2019, School Board Meeting, the School Board of Miami-Dade County unanimously co-sponsored and approved Agenda Item H-14 (“Girl-to-Girl Mentoring Initiative – Explore the Women’s Summit”), which requested that the Superintendent explore the feasibility of hosting a Women’s Summit. In laying the groundwork for the establishment of the Girl-to-Girl Mentoring Initiative, the Women’s Summit sought to raise awareness about the need for female mentors, create partnerships with the community organizations, and identify a framework for a girl-to-girl mentoring initiative.

As identified in the Staff Follow-up Memorandum dated April 30, 2019, potential partner organizations include Big Brothers Big Sisters, Take Stock in Children, Women of Tomorrow, and the Junior League of Miami, all of which have strong and long-standing relationships with the District.

This agenda Item requests that the Superintendent explore the feasibility of conducting a pilot program by engaging these existing partner organizations to participate in one-on-one and group mentoring programs for girls within a school site setting. This pilot program would serve as both a test run of future large-scale endeavors and as a way to engage much-needed female mentors. This pilot program would also serve to draw other interested community organizations to become involved in a girl-to-girl mentorship program.

**H-3**

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. DOROTHY BENDROSS-MINDINGALL:**

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

1. request the Superintendent explore the feasibility of initiating a girl-to-girl mentoring pilot program during the 2023-2024 school year;
2. request the Superintendent explore the feasibility of including funding for the pilot program in the 2023-2024 proposed budget; and
3. provide a report that explores the feasibility of the implementation of Girl-to-Girl mentoring at the Personnel, Student, School & Community meeting of March 8, 2023

