

Ms. Mary Blanco, Board Member

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Dr. Steve Gallon III  
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**SUBJECT: MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT (MTSS) FOCUS GROUP**

**COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION, AND TECHNOLOGY**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS, & INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS**

A Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a term used to describe an evidence-based model of schooling that uses data-based problem-solving to integrate academic and behavior instruction and intervention. It represents an umbrella of academic, behavioral, and social-emotional support for improving learning outcomes for every student.

The MTSS framework, which is now part of educational law, is a system of support that uses instruction and interventions, progress monitoring, and evaluation to make informed decisions about student's educational, behavioral, and social-emotional needs. This framework provides students who do not respond to instruction (Tier 1) with increasingly intensive levels of intervention (Tier 2 and Tier 3).

The school district has a robust MTSS Implementation Guide providing detailed information which outlines the essential components of MTSS and defines tiers of instruction. Despite this clear and comprehensive guide, implementation at the school level has its challenges. These challenges can inadvertently lead to frustration for stakeholders and delays in properly identifying and supporting students. This item therefore directs the Superintendent to explore the feasibility of creating a focus group comprised of several relevant stakeholders representing each district. The focus group's purpose would be to identify challenges and consider possible solutions; involve parent academy for parents whose students are in MTSS; provide Professional Learning to all affected stakeholders; consider having veteran MTSS coordinators mentor new MTSS coordinators; and explore the feasibility of creating a database and dashboard that allows for tracking and auditing of students that have participated in MTSS.

The item has been reviewed and approved by the Office of the General Counsel as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. MARY BLANCO:**

That the School Board of Miami-Dade County authorize the Superintendent to:

1. Create a focus group, consisting of MTSS coordinators, Assistant Principals, counselors, interventionists, teachers, and school psychologists representing all 9 districts; a region superintendent, and any others as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent of Schools.
2. The purpose of the proposed group is to consider the following but not be limited to the following:
  - a. Identify challenges and consider possible solutions.
  - b. Involve parent academy for parents whose students are in MTSS.
  - c. Provide Professional Learning to all affected stakeholders.
  - d. Consider having veteran MTSS coordinators mentor new MTSS coordinators.
  - e. Explore the feasibility and possibility of creating a database and dashboard that allows for tracking and auditing of students that have participated in MTSS.
3. Provide an update of the MTSS Focus Group at the Academics, Innovation, Evaluation, and Technology Committee Meeting of December 2023.