

Mr. Danny Espino, Board Member

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Ms. Monica Colucci, Vice Chair  
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Ms. Lucia Baez-Geller  
Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall  
Ms. Mary Blanco  
Dr. Steve Gallon, III  
Ms. Luisa Santos

REVISED  
AT DAIS  
BY  
BOARD  
ACTION

**SUBJECT: EXPLORING THE FEASIBILITY OF A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND INTER MIAMI CF**

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

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

As Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) continues its commitment to providing innovative and engaging educational opportunities, the District must explore new avenues to support student success through real-world experiences. SB 240, the Reimagining Education and Career Help (REACH) 2.0 Act, which became effective on July 1, 2023, emphasizes the importance of career education for middle and high school students. It requires students in grades 6, 7, or 8 to complete a career and education planning course before progressing to high school. Additionally, the law allows students who complete a career and technical education course or earn an industry certification in middle school to continue in a related career and technical education program in high school, as long as the program is available in their district.

As a District, it is essential to continually seek community partners to cultivate meaningful relationships and provide real-world educational opportunities. For instance, Agenda Item H-10, proposed by then Vice Chair School Board Member Espino on September 6, 2023, introduced *BRIDGING MOTORSPORTS & EDUCATION: A STEAM INFUSED INITIATIVE TO ACCELERATE READING AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION*. In line with the District's goal of fostering holistic student development, this initiative aims to explore the potential benefits of forming a partnership with Inter Miami CF, a prominent Major League Soccer team.

The world of professional sports offers unique opportunities to captivate and engage students, particularly in the areas of physical wellness, teamwork, and career and technical education. As one of the most popular sports globally, soccer can serve as a dynamic tool to enhance student interest in health, fitness, and academic achievement while introducing students to various potential career pathways within the sports industry. This partnership with Inter Miami CF could open up exciting new career possibilities for our students, sparking their interest and enthusiasm for their future professional lives.

**Revised<sup>2</sup>  
H-8**

By exploring a partnership with Inter Miami CF, M-DCPS aims to create a transformative learning experience incorporating physical education and various aspects of the sports industry, including, but not limited to, business, sports medicine, design, marketing and advertising, facilities management, and broader community engagement opportunities. This initiative would leverage the excitement of professional soccer to foster a love of learning and help students develop critical life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and perseverance. The collaboration would focus on creating engaging programs promoting physical activity and introducing students to diverse sports and entertainment careers.

Central to this initiative could be a series of clinics, after-school programs, and community events where students have the opportunity to interact with professional athletes, coaches, and personnel from Inter Miami's extensive operation. These hands-on experiences would provide students with practical insights into areas such as sports science, management, and marketing and foster a deeper understanding of the physical and mental aspects of athletic performance. Through this partnership, students could also gain exposure to the business side of sports, learning about event management, media relations, and sports marketing, thus enhancing their career and technical education with practical, real-world skills.

Furthermore, this partnership could extend to facility usage, where M-DCPS students may have the opportunity to visit and utilize Inter Miami CF's professional facilities for physical education programs, soccer matches, and other school-related activities. Such interactions would provide students with real-world experiences that bridge the gap between classroom learning and the exciting and fast-paced world of professional sports, sparking their interest and excitement about their education.

This item seeks to ask the Superintendent of Schools to provide a comprehensive report on any current programs or initiatives M-DCPS has in collaboration with sports organizations and to explore the feasibility of initiating the development of a partnership with Inter Miami CF. Once this review is completed, that the Superintendent and the appropriate District staff present recommendations on how this partnership could enhance student engagement, physical wellness, and career readiness through real-world, experiential learning opportunities tied to soccer and the broader sports industry at the following Academics, Innovation, Evaluation, and Technology Committee meeting scheduled for January 2025.

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

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MR. DANNY ESPINO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, request that the Superintendent of Schools ...

1. Explore the feasibility of initiating the development of a partnership between M-DCPS Inter Miami CF; and
2. Present recommendations on how this partnership could enhance student engagement, physical wellness, and career readiness through real-world, experiential learning opportunities tied to soccer and the broader sports industry at the Academics, Innovation, Evaluation, and Technology Committee meeting scheduled for January 2025.