Office of School Board Members
Board Meeting of November 18, 2026

October 20, 2026

Ms. Mary Blanco, Board Member

SUBJECT: **EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING A DISTRICT-OWNED SPORTS COMPLEX TO ADDRESS SOUTH REGION ATHLETIC FACILITY NEEDS**

COMMITTEE: **FACILITIES & CONSTRUCTION**

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: **SAFE, HEALTHY & SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

As Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) continues to face enrollment and financial challenges, it is important to identify revenue-generating opportunities that can also serve the needs of our students. One such opportunity is the potential development of a dedicated sports complex on the District-owned property located at 14950 SW 160th Street, Miami, FL 33187.

For decades, Traz Powell Stadium, named in honor of legendary M-DCPS football coach and educator Nathaniel “Traz” Powell, has served as a premier venue for M-DCPS athletics and has become an important part of our community. Its longstanding impact demonstrates the value of centralized, high-quality athletic facilities and highlights the potential benefit of expanding access to similar facilities in the South Region.

The South Region has a demonstrated need for additional athletic facilities, with many schools currently traveling significant distances or relying on rented venues to accommodate athletic competitions and events. Currently, 14 District schools utilize rented facilities at Harris Field, Tropical Park, and Sam Burley Stadium, with anticipated rental costs totaling $75,000 for the 2026–2027 school year. Developing a District-owned sports complex could reduce these recurring rental expenses while providing schools with a centralized venue for athletic competitions.

In addition to serving M-DCPS schools, the proposed sports complex could be made available for rental to outside sports organizations and community partners for athletic tournaments, competitions, and other sports-related events. Such use could generate an additional revenue stream for the District while increasing the utilization and value of the property.

This item seeks authorization from the Board for the Superintendent of Schools to explore the feasibility of developing the District-owned property at 14950 SW 160th Street into a dedicated sports complex. The proposed facility could provide a high-quality athletic venue for M-DCPS school teams while maximizing the use of District property and creating opportunities to bring students, families, and school communities together.

At a time when the District faces an increasingly challenging fiscal environment, exploring opportunities to generate additional revenue while reducing existing expenditures is essential. Repurposing this undeveloped District-owned property into a vibrant athletic destination could provide long-term value for M-DCPS, its students, and the communities it serves.

This item has been approved by the General Counsel's Office for legal sufficiency.

ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. MARY BLANCO:

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

1. Explore the feasibility of constructing a sports complex and assess the need for such a facility to serve the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' students, schools, and community.

2. Determine the estimated costs of constructing and maintaining the proposed sports complex and identify available funding sources to make this investment, if feasible; and

3. Provide a report to the Board at the Facilities and Construction Committee Meeting of January 2027.