

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 19, 2022

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting the
2022 state and federal legislative
priorities of the Miami-Dade
County Public Schools

Resolution No. R-67-22

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator René García.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/smm



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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County Attorney

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Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____ to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)
1-19-22

RESOLUTION NO. R-67-22

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE 2022 STATE AND
FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES OF THE MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, despite Florida’s economic challenges during the last several years, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (the “District”) has delivered compelling, nationally recognized student achievement gains; and

WHEREAS, the District is the fourth largest school district in the United States, comprised of 392 schools, 345,000 students, and over 40,000 employees; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County School Board (the “School Board”) has adopted a legislative platform (the “Platform”) that reflects its legislative priorities for the 2022 state and federal legislative sessions, copies of which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference; and

WHEREAS, said legislative priorities were identified by the School Board and District Staff, as well as interested citizens, parent-teacher groups, employee groups, administrators, and other community stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Platform includes items related to state funding, accountability and assessment reform, governance, capital funding, school security, teacher and personnel shortage, and school readiness; and

WHEREAS, the Platform includes, among other requests, that the Florida Legislature:

- (1) increase the Base Student Allocation by at least five percent and maintain the full calculation of the Required Local Effort;
- (2) continue to invest in teacher salaries by continuing to fund the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation;

- (3) expand funding for the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program sufficient to cover the cost of a full-day;
- (4) increase funding significantly for mental health services for students to facilitate the hiring of additional school counselors, social workers, psychologists, school nurses, and/or emergency medical personnel;
- (5) support the state fully funding charter school capital outlay and ensure that sharing school board's Local Discretionary Capital Outlay levy revenue with charter schools is permissible and not required for school districts; and
- (6) oppose any legislation that reduces school board authority over charter schools, such as alternate authorizers or establishment of charter school systems to serve as Local Education Agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Platform includes items related to increasing federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the Platform includes, among other requests, that the United States Congress:

- (1) support legislation that appropriates supplemental funding for school safety and social-emotional learning;
- (2) support school infrastructure and campus hardening needs that improve school health and safety;
- (3) provide funding for school districts to strengthen cybersecurity;
- (4) implement and fund strategies such as teacher fellowship and loan forgiveness programs; and
- (5) support federal funding to develop, expand, and enhance voluntary preschool programs while ensuring the adoption of developmentally appropriate early education standards that are aligned with state K-12 academic standards; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports the District's Platform, as the requested actions are a necessary investment in the education, safety and security of Miami-Dade County Public Schools' students,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Approves the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. Supports the 2022 state legislative priorities of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools as reflected in the attached.

Section 3. Supports the 2022 federal legislative priorities of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools as reflected in the attached.

Section 4. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Governor, Senate President, and House Speaker of the State of Florida, the Chair and members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation, and the Superintendent and board members of the Miami-Dade County School Board.

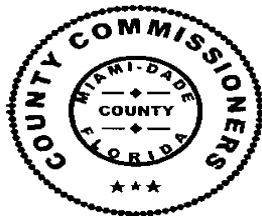
Section 5. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the legislative actions set forth in section 2 above and the attached and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2022 State Legislative Package to include this item.

Section 6. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the actions set forth in section 3 above and the attached, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2022 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator René García. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman	aye
Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	aye
Sen. René García	aye
Sally A. Heyman	aye
Eileen Higgins	aye
Kionne L. McGhee	aye
Raquel A. Regalado	aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye
Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	aye
Joe A. Martinez	aye
Jean Monestime	aye
Rebeca Sosa	aye

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of January, 2022. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: **Melissa Adames**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

mjs

Melanie J. Spencer



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2022 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



FUNDING

Increase the state's investment in K-12 education by increasing the Base Student Allocation (BSA) by at least five percent and maintain the full calculation of the Required Local Effort (RLE).

Ensure that any changes to the District Cost Differential include cost differences integral to educational institutions' operations reflecting such costs as average teacher salaries, health insurance for employees, property insurance per FTE, housing, and transportation costs per FTE.

Ensure PK-12/school districts are included in the allocation of new revenue from sources such as the Seminole Gaming Compact and tax on internet sales.

Extend the authorization of the locally voted levy for operating purposes from four years to up to 10 years.

Provide maximize flexibility with all federal stimulus monies

Support additional flexible funding to offer an extended school day and year beyond 180 days for all students to address learning loss due to COVID-19.

GOVERNANCE

Support constitutionally elected local school boards and elected or appointed superintendents' authority to supervise all public schools.

Oppose any legislation that reduces school board authority over charter schools, such as alternate authorizers or the establishment of charter school systems to serve as Local Educational Agencies.

TEACHERS/PERSONNEL

Continue to invest in teacher salaries by continuing to fund the Teacher Salary Increase Allocation as a separate categorical as well as implement and fund strategies such as teacher fellowships and loan forgiveness programs to encourage and attract talented students to enter the field of education.

Amend F.S. 1012.21 (2) to include Pre-K staff in the definition of "Instructional Personnel."

Ensure that Pre-K teachers are included in all funding opportunities and benefits afforded to K-12 teachers such as the extension of the Deferred Retirement Option Program to 96 months.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT REFORM

Use State Assessments in the 2020-2021 school year as a baseline for accountability measures for FY22 and to be used by each district as deemed helpful for school and student purposes.

CAPITAL FUNDING

Support the state fully funding charter school capital outlay and ensure that sharing school board's Local Discretionary Capital Outlay levy revenue with charter schools is permissible and not required for school districts.

SCHOOL READINESS

Expand funding for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program sufficient to cover the cost of a full-day Pre-Kindergarten Program.

SCHOOL SECURITY/STUDENT SAFETY

Increase funding significantly for mental health services for students to facilitate the hiring additional school counselors, social workers, psychologists, school nurses, and/or emergency medical personnel.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2022 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



FUNDING

Support federal Maintenance of Equity requirements, increase funding and flexibility to meet increased costs due to COVID-19 impacts, inflation, and critical unmet needs, and exempt K-12 and workforce education from any budget cuts.

Support legislation that appropriates supplemental funding for school safety and social-emotional learning to provide for:

- school district and local law enforcement partnerships that ensure schools have well trained and equipped police personnel to protect children while in schools;
- school infrastructure and campus hardening needs that improve school health and safety; and
- mental health services for students with training of teachers and support personnel such as psychologists, school social workers, counselors, school nurses, and/or emergency medical personnel.

Oppose formula changes or the creation of newly funded programs that dilute or divert funding from high-need public schools, including public portability or any other private school choice programs that lack the same level of academic and fiscal accountability by which local school districts are governed.

Protect the authority of local educational agencies (LEAs) under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) to exercise local control over the use of allocated entitlement funding, including Title I, without further federal or state restrictions.

TECHNOLOGY

Provide funding to school districts to strengthen cybersecurity.

Support increased resources with local flexibility and expand eligible expenditures to include educational linkage beyond the school campus, including student homes, for the Universal Service Fund Program (E-Rate) to provide schools, libraries, and students with affordable access to state-of-the-art networking and telecommunications technology.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Support funding for safety infrastructure inclusive of school hardening, lightning detection and alert systems, cameras in school buses and on bus stop-arms.

Support equitable and flexible funding for public school construction and modernization, including capital costs to improve accessibility, ventilation, school safety, energy efficiency, and digital connectivity within any national approach to public infrastructure investment.

PERSONNEL

Implement and fund strategies such as teacher fellowships and loan forgiveness programs with simplified eligibility and compliance requirements to encourage and attract talented students to enter into the field of education.

Enhance resources to recruit, develop, and retain highly qualified teachers in fragile or high-need schools.

STUDENT SERVICES

Support federal funding to develop, expand, and enhance quality voluntary preschool programs while ensuring the adoption of developmentally appropriate early education standards that are aligned with state K-12 academic standards.

Increase funding for programs that foster safe, healthy, and supportive environments to reduce disruptive behaviors, redress stresses of isolation and depression, and strengthen students' social, emotional, and behavioral competencies.

Oppose formula changes that would dilute Targeted Assistance for counties with large refugee populations or limit funding allocations by excluding any legal refugees who have arrived in the U.S.

Oppose policy revisions to Medicaid that would cap federal support without regard to the actual number of eligible children or would limit the increase of health service costs below the medical inflation rate.