

RESOLUTION NO. 2022 – 3972

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD'S 2022 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Springs (the "City") is committed to improving education for its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Public Schools ("MDCPS") School Board (the "Board") has approved 2022 State Legislative Priorities and a 2022 State Legislative Program (the "Priorities"), encouraging the Florida legislature to fund and adopt several key measures related to public schools in the District; and

WHEREAS, the Priorities address key measures such as increasing the Base Student Allocation (BSA); implementing a revised District Cost Differential (DCD) ensuring that the DCD takes into account cost differences integral to educational institutions' operations; extending the authorization of the locally-voted levy for operating purposes; and others as described in composite Exhibit "A" attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that this Resolution is in the best interest and welfare of the residents of the City to support the Priorities attached hereto as composite Exhibit "A."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are confirmed, adopted, and incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference.

Section 2. Approval. The City Council hereby expresses its support of the Board's 2022 State Legislative Priorities and 2022 State Legislative Program attached hereto as composite Exhibit "A."

Section 3. Transmittal. The City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Miami-Dade County Legislative Delegation, the MDCPS School Board, and the Miami-Dade County League of Cities.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilman Best who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fajet and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Vice Mayor Jacky Bravo	<u>YES</u>
Councilman Bob Best	<u>YES</u>
Councilman Dr. Walter Fajet	<u>YES</u>
Councilman Dr. Victor Vazquez	<u>YES</u>
Mayor Maria Puente Mitchell	<u>YES</u>

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of January, 2022.



MARIA PUENTE MITCHELL
MAYOR

ATTEST:



ERIKA GONZALEZ, MMC
CITY CLERK



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY
FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS ONLY:



WEISS SEROTA HELFMAN COLE & BIERMAN, P.L.
CITY ATTORNEY

Composite Exhibit A

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools
2022 State Legislative Program Priorities and
2022 State Legislative Program**



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 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM



MISSION/GOAL STATEMENT

The Florida Legislature should establish a five-year strategic plan to restore, stabilize, and increase funding through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) to achieve at least the national average in per pupil expenditures to provide the highest quality education and to enable all of our students to be empowered to lead productive and fulfilling lives as lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

2022 LEGISLATIVE CRITICAL ISSUES

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 take into account 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*

Timely disburse federal funds with maximum flexibility to school districts.

Oppose any further compression of the Discretionary Millage.

Ensure the Funding Compression established during the 2018 legislative session sunsets on June 30, 2022.

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.*

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.*

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.*

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.*

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 SECURITY/STUDENT SAFETY

Fully fund the cost of the requirement of a School Resource Officer (SRO) or School Safety Officer (SSO) at each public school.

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.

SCHOOL READINESS:

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

Expand VPK to include program options for three-year-old students.

ADDITIONAL ISSUES

FUNDING

Fund programs taken by students beyond the 1.0 FTE cap or 25 hours a week such as virtual classes outside the traditional school day and year.

Implement a moratorium on new programs or requirements without the allocation of new and adequate funding.

Provide flexibility in Class Size Reduction to account for the possibility of classroom teacher and staff shortages due to COVID-19.

Provide funding to establish an annual summer institute for Cuban-American studies.

Provide funding for Dual Enrollment courses taken beyond the school day, above the 1.0 FTE or 25 hours/week.

Maintain funding for New World School of the Arts and secure additional funding for Miami Arts Studio 6-12 at Zelda Glazer.

Provide for an optional summer school program for all students.

TEACHER/PERSONNEL SHORTAGE:

Allow school districts to re-employ teachers, other instructional personnel, and substitute teachers after one month of retirement without penalty to the employee’s pension.

Amend F.S. 1012.22 to stipulate that performance-based salary adjustments are annual and not recurring.

Permit local districts to design a differentiated pay plan for teachers, inclusive of a performance pay measure, based on local needs.

Expand the allowable use of the Teacher Classroom Supply Assistance Program to include classroom equipment and personal protective equipment.

Restore the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) that was suspended from the Florida Retirement System (FRS) defined benefit calculation in 2011.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT REFORM:

Provide flexibility within the State's school accountability system to hold districts harmless for students who chose to attend voucher programs and then return to the district with minimal educational preparation.

Revise the definition of low-performing schools by eliminating the criteria of earning a "B" or higher in the most recent two years.

Require all publicly funded educational delivery methods to adhere to the same regulatory and funding standards.

Establish required credentials and regulations for Education Advocates who charge fees for their service.

Ensure that the General Equivalency Diploma (GED) test is offered in Haitian Creole.

Realign the responsibility to administer the Civic Literacy Assessment Requirement established during the 2020-2021 Legislative Session from school districts to state colleges/universities.

SCHOOL SECURITY/STUDENT SAFETY

Amend F.S. 316.172 to allow local school boards to install cameras on school buses to aid in the enforcement of school bus safety laws and authorize the enforcement of such by local certified law enforcement agencies.

Continue to provide funding for safety infrastructure needs inclusive of school campus hardening, lightning detection and alert systems, cameras in school buses and on bus stop-arms.

Amend the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Safety Act to facilitate the requirement of charter schools reporting their SESIR incident data independently of school districts.

FACILITIES

Modify the utilization factor for K-8 centers as follows: 100% of Florida Inventory of School Houses for elementary school student stations, and 95% for middle school student stations.

Exempt school districts from paying ad valorem tax for leased properties similar to charter schools' exemption.

CYBERSECURITY

Provide funding to school districts to upgrade and strengthen cybersecurity controls.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Amend F.S. 1003.42 (1)b. to require instructional materials related to reproductive health and disease education be approved by the local school board whenever new material is considered for adoption or placed on a five-year adoption cycle, rather than annually.

POLICY STATEMENTS

FUNDING

Fully fund the Florida Education Funding Program components, class size reduction requirement while providing increases to the BSA and other components of the FEFP.

Examine Florida's tax structure and phase out sales tax exemptions for non-essential goods and services; ensure that internet sales remit necessary sales tax to Florida.

Oppose the imposition of unfunded, state-mandated expenditures.

Maintain the integrity of the FEFP and equity of funding among school districts.

Support an FTE bi-annual method of calculating funding for VPK classrooms.

Oppose any prescribed expenditure such as the "65 percent solution" as a mandate in the Florida Constitution and further oppose any such legislation, unless established as a spending goal with the definition of expenditures, to include all instructional support expenditures.

Oppose legislation that increases the sovereign immunity liability limits on governmental agencies.

Commit to long-term funding stability for teacher performance pay and teacher evaluation systems.

Allow school districts to locally establish contract provisions inclusive of cost structures with postsecondary institutions related to the delivery of dual enrollment.

Increase ESE per-pupil funding to account for both student growth and inflationary cost particularly in level 254 and 255 to provide early identification and intervention services for students with autism.

Support grant funding to create new and innovative programs and academies.

Fully fund the extension of the school year by 25 instructional days for the lowest-performing elementary schools in lieu of extending the school day.

Maintain the current required employers' contribution rate to the Florida Retirement System by absorbing any planned increase in local employers' contribution.

Support continued state funding for the administration of college entrance exams, SAT or ACT, during school days.

Oppose any further compression of the Discretionary Millage.

Ensure that required sharing of referenda monies with charter schools remains prospective for any referendum passed after July 1, 2019.

Support funding for Adults with Disabilities.

Fully fund school districts' instructional materials needs.

Support increased funding to meet the demands for workforce skills development programs.

Establish that performance-based salary adjustments are annual and not recurring.

Provide school districts with greater flexibility of its use of Title I funds by separating the indirect cost from the 10 percent allowable administrative set-aside and increasing the allowable educational services set-aside to 10 percent.

Require advertising a tax increase only when the cumulative tax millage is greater than the prior levy and not simply because the ad valorem tax basis generates more proceeds.

Increase the ESE Guarantee Allocation to account for student growth and inflationary costs.

Eliminate the arbitrary cap on the number of gifted high school students funded.

Support supplemental funding to create community-based networks that develop, coordinate and provide quality education, parental training, accessible health care, housing, youth development programs, and employment opportunities to ensure safe neighborhoods for children and their families.

Restore school districts discretionary lottery to pre-recessionary levels.

Preserve funding that allows M-DCPS to assist refugee and immigrant students and their families or that negatively impacts our students' ability to obtain an education in Florida.

Allocate funds directed to provide supplemental services and support to at-risk students.

Restore funding for the Digital Classroom Allocation to address new secondary school computer science requirement and other school technology needs.

Oppose any further expansion of the Family Empowerment Scholarship (FES) or similar voucher programs.

CAPITAL FUNDING

Provide adequate school construction funding to support new and existing facilities, technology, maintenance, land acquisition and class size reduction needs through the establishment of long-term, stable and recurring revenue sources to fulfill the state's educational facility needs.

Fully fund the Public Education Capital Outlay Program that involves construction and maintenance programs for public school districts and ensures that school districts receive their fair share.

Oppose any further reduction in capital millage available to school districts for the purpose of balancing the operating budget.

Oppose any attempt to equalize the capital outlay levy.

Oppose the deletion of impact fees unless replaced with another revenue source.

Expand the allowable use of a locally voted upon sales tax to include operating expenses that maintain, renovate, or repair existing school facilities or maintain, secure, or upgrade school technology equipment.

GOVERNANCE

Oppose legislation that subverts district governance of constitutionally elected local school boards and elected or appointed superintendents.

Oppose legislation that modifies the governance structure of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Oppose legislation that breaks up large school districts.

Oppose term limits for school board members.

Oppose Legislation that negatively impacts the salaries of school board members.

Restore school board authority over travel providing greater flexibility to carry out its duties.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Oppose any changes to current requirements regarding charter conversion of traditional public schools that dilute the role of parents, teachers, and community stakeholders.

Establish a level playing field for traditional public schools by extending the current statutory flexibility such as the exemption from State Education Required Facilities (SREF), categorical funding, accountability, class size reduction compliance and related penalties assessed on charter schools.

Support capital funding for charter schools that:

- Creates neither a reduction of funding to traditional public schools in operating or capital funding nor a requirement for additional taxing mandate on the local school district;
- Requires public input; and
- Protects taxpayers' investment ensuring that capital funding be spent only on assets that can be returned to the public school district.

Require charter schools that receive capital outlay funding to serve as hurricane evacuation shelters.

Support legislation that promotes transparent student recruitment strategies, application processes and enrollment lotteries, and supports enrollment equity of educationally disadvantaged students and underserved/underrepresented students.

Allow school districts with at least 15 percent of total student enrollment in charter schools to analyze the need for additional charter schools and/or require new charters to locate in areas to address overcrowding, provide choice opportunities to students/parents zoned to failing schools, or meet a specific academic need the school district is not addressing.

Support legislation that:

- prohibits applicants with existing charter schools under academic or financial corrective action plans, investigation, or some other kind of sanction to apply for an additional charter schools;
- strengthens accountability, protects taxpayers' investment and ensures compliance with charter school fiduciary responsibilities; and
- requires charter schools that have been in operation for less than five years and/or in financial distress to place funds in an escrow account to cover expenditures associated with closure such as final audits, legal fees, corporate dissolution, asset retrieval, bankruptcy fines, and the value of at least one payroll payment.

Protect taxpayers' interest by attaching a proprietary interest equal to the value of the allocation from the local discretionary capital outlay levy revenue provided to charter schools, and prohibit charter operators from personal enrichment from public funds.

CHOICE

Support increased accountability measures for all publicly-funded school choice options.

Oppose all publicly funded programs that lack equitable and sufficient accountability measures.

Require more accountability from schools receiving Family Empower Scholarship (FES) funding.

Amend the Hope Scholarships to apply only to "substantiated" incidents of harassment, bullying, and battery.

ACADEMICS

Oppose legislation that would limit offering gifted programs to eligible high school students.

Require the state to provide a minimum of one-year lead time on new state requirements for school districts.

Maintain the current dual delivery system of post-secondary programs.

Support adding the attainment of the Advanced Placement Capstone diploma as one of the eligibility requirements for Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

Support restoration of the “text book” supplement to the Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

Ensure charter and private schools receiving public monies adhere to the same teacher certification, student placement, and progression policies to ensure compliance with federal and state accountability requirements.

Reinstate personal finance/financial literacy standards in the 12th grade Economics course.

Support requiring health education to include human trafficking.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT

Revise the current accountability assessment system to:

- Provide a waiver from the passage of the English Language Arts (ELA) requirement for ELL students who have passed all other high school graduation requirements and have been enrolled in school less than two consecutive years;
- Include the performance of ELL students enrolled in school for more than two years for accountability on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA); and
- Define goals for ELL and Exceptional Student Education (ESE) subgroups based on achieving learning gains on state assessments as opposed to achieving proficiency.

STUDENT SAFETY/WELLNESS

Support legislation that Increased penalties for firing a gun within 1,000 feet of a school and that establishes penalties for the unsupervised possession of a firearm by a minor.

Support legislation that prohibits the sale of e-cigarettes in misleading forms such as pens and USBs.

Support legislation and state funding to increase awareness of opioid drug use and its impact.

Support legislation that proposes a “slowing down zone” within an area prior to entering a school zone.

Support funding to provide training for students, parents, teachers, school administrators, counseling staff, and volunteers to learn how to recognize behaviors that lead to bullying and harassment.

Ensure any casino authorized in Florida is at least 1,000 feet from a school or land designated for school purpose.

Ensure that the sale of low-THC edibles is precluded within 1,000 feet of a school.

Support legislation that precludes a child victim or witness to a crime be subjected to a discovery deposition in any criminal court proceeding.

Support telemedicine legislation that facilitates effective and efficient use of technology to provide health services to schools minimizing the length of time students are out of school due to illness.

Support efforts to limit navigation apps from directing traffic to neighborhoods away from major highways or streets.

Support legislation that incorporates the instruction of the dangers and signs of human trafficking as part of health education and funding for the development of an awareness campaign to educate students and parents on the dangers and signs of human trafficking providing information concerning approaches used by traffickers, and behavior that should be reported to authorities.

Support full funding for required water safety and swimming instruction in public schools.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:

Restore performance-based incentive funding for postsecondary CAPE Industry Credentials.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Amend state statutes to clarify that meeting with legislators to advocate for the Board's legislative priorities is not a violation of the Sunshine.