Dr. Robert B. Ingram, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FLORIDA, DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REVIEW WLRN OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

WLRN Radio signed on the air in 1948 as a non-profit, non-commercial broadcast station licensed to the School Board of Dade County. WLRN-TV (previously /WTHS) signed on in August 1955. Since then, WLRN has grown steadily to become an integral part of the community which it serves and one of the most sophisticated broadcasting station in the country.

Today, WLRN continues to provide quality public radio and television programming and services to a combined average weekly audience of nearly 500,000 households in South Florida from Palm Beach to Key West. WLRN also provides media support to Miami-Dade County Public Schools comprised of 320 schools and with an enrollment of over 360,000 students.

The license for operation of WLRN was issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to the Miami-Dade School Board; therefore, the School Board is ultimately responsible for the proper operation and management of the station. Moreover, the Board is responsible for establishing programmatic guidelines that provide the South Florida community with a wide range of educational and informative programming while adhering to all applicable laws.

ACTION PROPOSED BY ROBERT B. INGRAM:

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

- 1. conduct a thorough review and analysis of all relevant laws, Board rules, regulation, polices and procedures pertinent to the operation and management of WLRN.
- 2. develop a set of recommendations that will promote sound organization, fiscal and management practices that will further expand WLRN's role as a communicative partner.
- 3. submit the analysis and recommendations to the Board for review and consideration no later that January 30, 2005.