

Participation by the Public**DIVERSITY EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE****I. Purpose**

The purpose of the Diversity, Equity and Excellence Advisory Committee (“DEEAC”) is to review issues and make recommendations to The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida (“School Board”) and Superintendent of Schools with the goal of eliminating disparities and educational barriers and continue progressing toward racial parity and diversity. The core purpose and objective of the DEEAC is to assist the District with creating and maintaining a multicultural school system.

Pursuant to the United States District Court order, issued by Judge William Dimitrouleas issued on June 21, 2001, and modified on August 16, 2001, which declared the Miami-Dade Public School System unitary, the Diversity Equity and Excellence Advisory Committee was established.

Nationally known experts consulted by the School Board during the desegregation process concluded that disparities remained in Black, White, and Hispanic student participation in the areas of special education, advanced academics, and in the frequency these students encountered educational barriers such as suspension, expulsion and retention.

**II. Responsibilities**

A. The DEEAC’s responsibilities include reviewing and making recommendations regarding the:

- 1) implementation of School Board Rules which relate to the Miami-Dade Public School System’s (“District”) unitary status and diversity;
- 2) student enrollment;
- 3) attendance boundary zones;
- 4) regional administrative centers;
- 5) recruitment and diversity of personnel;
- 6) transportation of students;
- 7) selection of school sites;

- 8) equitable distribution of educational resources and services;
  - 9) annual District diversity compliance reports; and
  - 10) other matters as may be assigned by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida and/or the Superintendent of Schools.
- B. DEEAC reviews and recommendations shall be reported on an annual basis to The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida by November 30<sup>th</sup> of each school year. This annual report shall assess the implementation of School Board policies to ensure that the District maintains its commitment to provide a high-quality education to all students -- a commitment that was made to the Court and the community upon receiving unitary status.
- C. DEEAC members shall also:
- 1) facilitate and/or attend public meetings and School Board conference sessions and meetings related to DEEAC's purpose; and
  - 2) serve on other District advisory committees to represent DEEAC's purpose.

### III. Membership

- A. Membership shall be comprised of eleven members, one to be appointed by each School Board Member and two to be appointed by the Superintendent of Schools.
- B. The term of service for each member shall be four years and shall run concurrently with the term of service of the respective School Board Member or Superintendent of Schools. If a vacancy occurs, the respective School Board Member or Superintendent of Schools shall appoint or reappoint a member to the committee.
- C. Newly elected or appointed School Board Members and/or Superintendent of Schools shall have the discretion to reappoint the former School Board Member's or Superintendent of School's appointee or to appoint a new member. An incumbent member may remain on the DEEAC until a new member is appointed.

- D. The DEEAC shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair. The term of office is two years.

IV. Meetings

- A. The DEEAC shall meet at least six (6) times throughout the school year and shall meet all of the requirements of the Sunshine and Public Records laws, Chapter 119 and 286.011, Florida Statutes.
- B. Meeting dates and times shall be determined by the DEEAC at the first meeting of every school year.
- C. Six (6) members shall constitute a quorum for the DEEAC to conduct business.
- D. The DEEAC shall conduct its meetings pursuant to *Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure*.
- E. District staff, as assigned by the Superintendent of Schools, shall provide administrative support to the DEEAC, including arranging and scheduling meetings per DEEAC direction, publishing meeting notices, establishing the agenda in collaboration with the Chair, keeping the minutes, and gathering relevant documentation for distribution to members.

Specific Authority: 1001.41(1)(2); 1001.42(26); 1001.43(10) F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: Pate v. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, Case No. 69-1020-CIV-Dimitrouleas, Order of June 21, 2001 as modified by order of August 16, 2001.

**History: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

New: 12-12-01

Amended: 5-19-04; 8-4-10