

MEMORANDUM

March 6, 2017

TO: The Honorable Chair and Members of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

FROM: Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools *AMC*

SUBJECT: STAFF FOLLOW-UP: SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2016, AGENDA ITEM H-9, IMPLEMENTATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAW AS IT PERTAINS TO STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

At the School Board meeting of December 14, 2016, the Board approved Agenda Item H-9, proffered by School Board Member Dr. Martin Karp. This item requested the Superintendent to collaborate with the Florida Association of District School Superintendents to create a task force that includes professionals from the medical field to develop recommendations, and added protections related to Amendment 2. The item also requested that the Board amend its 2017 State Legislative Platform to include language specific to children and school districts.

On February 7, 2017, I attended the Florida Department of Health's rulemaking public hearing on Amendment 2 and urged the state to consider zoning restrictions for dispensaries in proximity of schools, packaging specifications that do not appeal to children, and flexibility for school districts on the administration of medical marijuana to children in schools. Board Member Dr. Martin Karp and Dr. Judy Schechter, a pediatrician from the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, were also in attendance.

In addition, staff from the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement completed the following actions:

- The District's 2017 State Legislative Platform was revised to include language that provides safety measures for schools in the development of state legislation for the implementation of Amendment 2.
- The Florida Association of District School Superintendents was contacted to coordinate advocacy efforts based on the District's revised legislative platform on Amendment 2, during the state's legislative session that begins on March 7, 2017.

School Board Member Susie Castillo, the Board's appointee to the Miami-Dade County League of Cities, presented a resolution on the Board's position related to Amendment 2 during their Board of Directors' meeting on February 2, 2017. Ms. Castillo urged the league's 34 municipalities to adopt zoning regulations and develop proximity standards for the placement of dispensaries to protect the children throughout the various communities. Correspondence was sent to all 34 municipalities requesting their support for the District's advocacy efforts to ensure that safeguards exist to protect our children.

communities. Correspondence was sent to all 34 municipalities requesting their support for the District's advocacy efforts to ensure that safeguards exist to protect our children. Lastly, staff has communicated with the sponsors of the implementation legislation from the Senate and House, Senator Rob Bradley and Representative Ray Rodrigues. Advocacy on behalf of the Board's position will continue throughout the legislative session.

For additional information regarding this issue, please contact Ms. Iraida Mendez-Cartaya, Associate Superintendent, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Engagement, at 305 995-1497.

AMC:mlp
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cc: School Board Attorney
Superintendent's Cabinet