

Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: SUPERINTENDENT'S ORAL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL BOARD AND COMMUNITY REGARDING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS' RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY AND STATUS OF DISTRICT OPERATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

The current state of emergency faced by our nation, state, and community is unprecedented in modern history and conditions continue to evolve. Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) began communicating with the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) seeking guidance related to the global pandemic associated with the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), as early as January regarding potential local impacts and health advisories being issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As with any potential public health concern, staff consulted with the Miami-Dade Health Department's Director of Tuberculosis Control and Prevention, Epidemiology, Disease Control, Clinical Laboratory, Immunization Services, and Public Health Preparedness regarding appropriate protocols for prevention, intervention, and surveillance of COVID-19. In response, the District quickly communicated with all school-site/work-site administrators to follow established hygiene protocols, including encouraging children and employees to stay home when sick; and ensuring appropriate cleaning procedures were followed. Protocols and contingency plans were also developed to ensure continuity of academic instruction, student and community feeding, sanitization of equipment and facilities, compensation of all workforce groups, financial implications, and the continuation of other essential operational functions. Further, all available communication platforms have been leveraged to raise awareness among students, parents, and community stakeholders regarding the status of all District operations.

Upon the Declaration of Emergency by Governor Ron DeSantis and subsequent decision regarding the closure of school facilities, plans were deployed and procedures were implemented to continue the operations of M-DCPS in a largely remote environment. We continue to endeavor to conduct district functions in the most effective and efficient way possible in service to our children and community. In order to keep the School Board and community informed regarding the status of these efforts, the Superintendent will provide an oral report regarding M-DCPS' response to the COVID-19 emergency and status of District operations.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive the Superintendent's oral report to the School Board and community regarding Miami-Dade County Public Schools' response to the COVID-19 emergency and status of district operations.

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