

Dr. Steve Gallon III, Board Member

SUBJECT: SUPPORT RECOVERY EFFORTS FOR HURRICANE IDALIA

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED, & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

On August 30, 2023, Hurricane Idalia made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane in the Big Bend region of Florida and remained a hurricane as it crossed into Southeast Georgia and continued to impact the Carolinas as a tropical storm. The storm resulted in the placement of 33 counties in Florida under a State of Emergency and closure of several school districts, colleges, and universities in and around the impacted area.

Damage occurred to buildings and infrastructure in Keaton Beach as Idalia made landfall. The storm has resulted in three confirmed storm related deaths as officials continue to assess the damage and any future casualties. Also, at least 278,000 customers lost power and more than 200 flights were cancelled across several airlines in Florida.

As has been the case with previous natural disasters, many in our District have inquired how they may offer assistance or provide donations to those impacted by this disaster. Therefore, it is appropriate to vary from School Board Policy and allow schools and work locations to post information and/or collect funds or supplies in support of Hurricane Idalia recovery relief efforts. In authorizing fundraising and other charitable activities related to Hurricane Idalia recovery relief, the Board must waive any prohibitions set forth in School Board Policy, including limitations on fundraising and solicitation of donations set forth in School Board Policy 5830, *Student Fundraising* and School Board Policy 9700, *Relations with Special Interest Groups*.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools has developed a proven track record in the provision of support and technical assistance and expertise in responding to natural and related disasters.

Thus, it is appropriate to vary from School Board Policy and allow schools and work locations to post information and/or collect funds or supplies in support of recovery relief efforts related to Hurricane Idalia.

Further, with respect to Miami-Dade County Public Schools' expertise in disaster response, recovery, and support, the School Board should authorize the deployment of District staff by the Superintendent to assist disaster-impacted school districts in Florida and/or the Florida Department of Education if requested and appropriate.

GOOD CAUSE
H-13

This item does not appear in the published agenda. There exists good cause to vary from the published agenda as Hurricane Idalia occurred after its regular publication and time is of the essence to provide relief to impacted victims.

The item has been reviewed and approved by the Office of the General Counsel as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. STEVE GALLON III:**

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

1. waive and suspend prohibitions outlined in Board Policies 5830, *Student Fundraising* and 9700, *Relations with Special Interest Groups* in order to allow fundraising and/or other charitable activities in support of relief efforts in response to Hurricane Idalia Recovery Efforts; and
2. Authorize the Superintendent to deploy District staff and provide resources as may be requested and appropriate, to assist and support the Florida Department of Education and public schools in the state of Florida.