

MIAMI BEACH

COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee Members
FROM: Rickelle Williams, Interim City Manager
DATE: July 26, 2024
TITLE: DISCUSS STRATEGIES IN BRIDGING MIAMI BEACH FIENBERG FISHER K-8 FUNDING GAP IN LIGHT OF THEIR TITLE I FUNDING LOSS.

RECOMMENDATION

Administration recommends the exploration of potential partnerships with M-DCPS to supplement educational programs impacted by the loss of Title I funding to Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 for the 2024-25 school year. Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 will be reconsidered during the 2024-25 school year for 2025-26 Title I eligibility based on Florida Department of Education Public School Eligibility Survey 3 Report.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

At the May 15, 2024 Commission meeting, item C4Y was referred by Commissioner Rosen Gonzalez to the Finance and Economic Resiliency Committee to discuss strategies in bridging Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 funding gap in light of their Title I funding loss for the 2024-25 school year (attachment A). Title I is the major component of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), passed in 1965 as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty. Congress has reauthorized the Act numerous times since its enactment, making changes in focus each time. The current reauthorization of ESEA is the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed into law by President Barack Obama on December 10, 2015.

Title I funding flows from the U.S. Department of Education (as appropriated by Congress) to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), which then allocates funds to Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS). The District adheres to Federal ESSA law mandates to ensure that Title I School-wide Program funding is provided directly to eligible schools above the 75 percent poverty threshold. Eligible schools spend the funds allocated based on formalized School Improvement Processes approved by M-DCPS and FDOE.

Title I is part of ESSA that supports programs in schools and school districts to improve the learning of children from low-income families. Title I is the largest federally funded education program designed to provide students with additional help in Reading, Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

The Title I Program is committed to helping schools close the achievement gap between disadvantaged and minority students and their peers. ESEA ensures that federal funds provide the additional educational resources that students and teachers in high-poverty schools need to succeed and that supplement vs supplanting provisions are always observed.

In 2016, the City of Miami Beach passed Resolution No. 2016-29284 (attachment B) allowing the City to partner with M-DCPS to utilize the parking lot at Miami Beach Senior High School for additional parking for events taking place at the Miami Beach Convention Center. M-DCPS approved the City's application for temporary use of school building facilities (attachment C) with the City's Parking Department administering the City's use of the Miami Beach Senior High parking lot by charging the general public the same municipal parking special event

rates approved at that time. Proceeds generated by the City's use of the school parking lot, net of all the City's costs and user fees payable to M-DCPS, were to be applied to support Education Compact related programs at public schools located within the City of Miami Beach, with any such proceeds to be allocated proportionately to each public school based on each school's full-time equivalent student attendance, and used for the benefit of Education Compact programs within the City.

ANALYSIS

Each year, M-DCPS ensures that eligible schools receive Title I funding. Eligible schools spend the Title I School-wide Program funds allocated, based on the School Improvement Process (Title I Plan) as follows:

- Additional teachers and support staff
- Instructional coaches and academic tutoring
- Computers and educational software
- Supplemental instructional materials
- Early childhood services (i.e. full-day pre-kindergarten)
- Parent and family engagement activities and support.

Per Dr. Gilberto Bonce, North Region Director, Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 received Title I funds during the 2023-24 school year (attachment D) and funded paraprofessionals, a prekindergarten class, tutoring (before and after school), and a community involvement specialist at a cost of approximately \$171,000 (attachment E). For the 2024-25 school year, Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 is no longer eligible to receive Title I funds. ESEA requires M-DCPS to determine the eligibility of a school to receive Title I funds by annually ranking eligible schools in which the concentration of children from low-income families exceeds 75 percent from highest to lowest. M-DCPS is required to use the Direct Certified (DC) or Free or Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL) data, based on the lunch program type selected for the school with the Florida Department of Agriculture, from the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Public School Eligibility Survey 3 Report of the current year in order to determine the Title I eligibility of a school for the following year. If a school that is currently implementing the Title I School-wide Program does not meet the Title I eligibility threshold, it will not be designated as a Title I school for the subsequent school year.

Per the district, Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 has been notified of their Title I ineligibility status determination for the 2024-25 school year. The established economic poverty threshold for Title I funding is 75%, as per federal ESSA Section 1113 (A)(i) and as depicted in the Florida Statute, Section 1011.69 of the Equity in School-Level Funding Act. Based on the FDOE Title I Public School Eligibility Survey Data - Survey 3 Report, the % of students deemed eligible for FY 2024-2025 for Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 Location 0761 was 73.72%. Attached (attachment F) is the preliminary list of Miami-Dade County Public Schools that are eligible to receive Title I funds for FY 2024-2025. This information is pending the approval of the Florida Department of Education, as all District in the State of Florida are currently in the process of completing the FY 2024-2025 Federal Programs Consolidated Grant Applications.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Not applicable at this time.

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

The Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on . See BIE at:
<https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notice/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONCLUSION

Administration recommends staff reach out to M-DCPS to understand the district's plan to address Title I funding loss to Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 in the 2024-25 school year and explore potential partnership opportunities to supplement educational programming for students at Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 as a result of this funding loss. Title I eligibility is determined on an annual basis based on Title I eligibility criteria. Miami Beach Fienberg Fisher K-8 will be reconsidered during the 2024-25 school year for 2025-26 Title I eligibility based on Florida Department of Education Public School Eligibility Survey 3 Report.

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

No

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

Department

Education and Performance Initiatives

Sponsor(s)

Commissioner Kristen Rosen Gonzalez

Co-sponsor(s)