

Marta Perez, Ph.D., JD

1208 Aguila Ave. Coral Gables, FL 33134

786-426-8430

Marta774@bellsouth.net

PROFILE

- **Educational/Public Servant, Community Activist/Teacher and Business Management Professional** with thirty-year career in **Public Service** and in the **Private Sector**.
- Experience includes twenty-four years as **Member of the Miami-Dade County School Board**, seven years as an **Elementary School Teacher**, fifteen years as **Co-Owner of an Airline Software Firm** and many years of **active Community Involvement, Attorney**.
- **Instrumental** in leading **Miami-Dade School Board** to adopt **stronger ethics** and **accountability measures** including establishment of **Inspector General position** and **Ethics Commission**, resulting in **nationwide recognition** for the Board and in receiving **National School Board Association Magna Award**.
- **Instrumental** in leading **Miami-Dade County Public Schools** to **become the number one rated urban school district in the United States**.
- **Past-President of South Florida Consortium of School Boards; Past Member, Children's Trust; Member, Current Member Board of Actor's Playhouse at Miracle Theater; and Past-President of the South Florida Regional Planning Council**.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Jurisprudence. 2013, St. Thomas University.

Honors/Achievements: CALI Book Award- Appellate Advocacy; CALI Book Award-Alternative Dispute Resolution; CALI Book Award-Legal Storytelling; CALI Book Award-Environmentally Sustainable Development; Dean's List.

Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership, 1996

University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida

Honors/Achievements: GPA: 4.0; Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society; Academic Merit Award.

Master of Science Degree – Computers in Education, 1985

University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida

Honors/Achievements: GPA: 4.0; Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Bachelor of Science Degree in Education, 1972

Florida Atlantic University, Davie, Florida.

Florida Real Estate Associates License, 2010.

AWARDS

GREEN GARNER AWARD: NATION'S HIGHEST URBAN EDUCATION HONOR RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO URBAN EDUCATION. GIVEN BY COUNCIL OF GREAT CITY SCHOOLS ORGANIZATION, 2021.

United Teachers of Dade: Recognition for Providing Outstanding Leadership on the Accountability of Public School Construction; Christians for Morality Caucus – Integrity on the Miami Dade County School Board and Recognition for Support.

National Association of Cuban American Educators (NACAE): Educator of the Year (International Award).

Teachers for Better Education: School Board Member of the Year.

League of Women Voters: Recognition for Good Ethics in Government and Community Involvement and Integrity in Leadership Award.

Numerous Additional Awards: for Leadership, Public Service and Educational Leadership in support of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

ASSOCIATIONS

Florida Bar Association
Children's Trust
Foundation for New Education Initiatives, Inc.
Florida School Board Association (Certified Board Member)
South Florida Regional Planning Council (Past President)
South Florida Consortium of Schools (Past President)
Greater Miami and Coral Gables Chambers of Commerce
National Association of Cuban American Educators (NACAE)

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

1998 – 2022

Miami Dade County Public Schools District 8
School Board Member

Six times elected to nine-person Board of Miami-Dade County Public School System, 4th largest in the nation with 356 schools, 365,784 pupils, 48,417 full and part-time employees including 20,319 teachers, and an annual budget of \$7 billion. Responsible for creating and setting District policy, and appointing a Superintendent of Schools.

Proposed initiatives to establish independent Office of Inspector General (first in Florida out of sixty-seven Districts) and create Ethics Advisory Commission in response to wave of land and other scandals in 1999, despite much Board reluctance. Office of Inspector General and Ethics Commission were acknowledged by the Grand Jury and the State Attorney's Office for their role in uncovering recent teachers' certification fraud, and Board won National Association of School Boards prestigious nationwide Magna Award.

Proposed other initiatives concerning Ethics and Accountability, as well as Educational Advocacy. These include creation of Whistle Blower's Policy to employees who report wrongdoing, revising and updating the Parental Involvement Policy, creation of a Wellness Policy to address concerns of nutrition and obesity, recommendations to relieve School Overcrowding, and efforts to create District-wide position of Chess Coordinator and to expand Chess Programs to foster Student Achievement.

Serve as Board Representative to Miami-Dade County School Site Selection Committee to review and advise on School District real estate purchases. In addition, serve as Leader, Board Representative and/or Participant on various conferences, workshops and seminars

presented by National and Florida School Board Associations, School Readiness Coalition; Family and Community Involvement Committee and other organizations. First Hispanic member to received Florida School Board Certification.

1996 – 1998

Community Council 10 (Zoning Board), Miami-Dade County
Elected Board Member / Chairperson

First Chairperson of largest of the councils, charged with responsibility for deciding area zoning issues. Initiated and led major anti-graffiti initiative that resulted in Public Service Campaign to stop graffiti.

Additional:

Past President to the **South Florida Regional Planning Council**, charged with responsibility of advising local governments on South Florida land use planning and implementation activities in accordance with values of sustainability and responsibility.

Business Development Manager (83-98) for RPA (Airline Software Firm). Brought on board to help reverse fortunes of the firm during period of aviation industry decline. Helped secure new international client base in Europe, Asia and South America. Business was subsequently sold for significant profit.