

Learning for Success, Inc.

5532 SW 114th Ave. Cooper City, FL 33330

March 24, 2014

To: County Administrator
Broward County Commission
Government Center
115 S. Andrews Ave.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

RE: Delegation Request

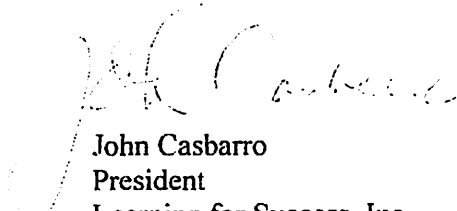
This is a Delegation Request to appear at the April 8, 2014 Broward County Commission meeting. We would like the Commission to know about our current initiative to reduce juvenile crime in the county by working directly with classroom teachers, and to get Commissioners' ideas about how to expand and garner support for these efforts.

Appearing with me on April 8 will be Dr. Cal Crow, from the Center for Efficacy and Resiliency, our partner in this endeavor. The accompanying back-up materials were developed to help Commissioners get a clear picture of how we want to serve Broward County.

We would like to be notified via email addressed to john.casbarro@gmail.com.

Thank you for considering this request.

Yours truly,



John Casbarro
President
Learning for Success, Inc.
5532 SW 114th Ave.
Cooper City, FL 33330
954-680-3916
john.casbarro@gmail.com

***My Future is Now: How Schools Can Reduce
Juvenile Crime in Broward County***
**Back-Up Information for April 8 presentation to Commissioners
John Casbarro, Learning for Success, Inc.**

1. Most efforts to divert juveniles from criminal behavior occur after they have committed an offense.
2. Virtually every young person who becomes involved with the juvenile justice system either is or was in school.
3. Teachers in our schools are evaluated on their ability to teach the curriculum, and on how well their students perform on tests. They are seldom thought of as major players in crime prevention.
4. Many students don't care about either the curriculum or the tests. They are not motivated to engage in school. Some students believe the tasks they are given are not doable. ("It's too hard. I'll never be able to do it.") Others believe the tasks are not worthwhile. ("Why do we have to learn this stuff? We'll never use it.")
5. We know how to address these beliefs, while increasing motivation, engagement and achievement, but are not using what we know.
6. Using what we know could significantly reduce suspension and dropout rates, both precursors to juvenile crime.
7. Learning for Success, Inc., in partnership with the Center for Efficacy and Resiliency, is currently using what we know, to provide professional development for a middle school dropout prevention project at Dillard High School 6-12 Center. The Dillard principal wants to increase the number of students and teachers in the project next year. She also wants all school administrators to be trained in "using what we know" in order to reduce the number of student suspensions at Dillard.
8. We recently submitted a LETF proposal to the Broward County Sheriff's Office requesting funding to expand the Dillard program as well as to provide professional development at the Pine Ridge Education Center, which manages a diversion project to prevent students from entering the criminal justice system.
9. We would like to get the Commission's perspective on how we might help the community understand the important role that educators can play in reducing juvenile crime in Broward County. (We noticed that schools are not included in the list of service providers for the Broward Civil Citation program.)
10. We also welcome Commissioners' suggestions about how we might generate the interest, support and resources necessary to expand these efforts throughout the county.