

Roger C. Cuevas, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF BOARD RULE: INITIAL READING 6Gx13-  
5B-1.04, PROMOTION, PLACEMENT, AND GRADUATION -- GRADES K-  
12 AND ADULT**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS: II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/PREPARATION  
FOR POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCES  
III - READING/LANGUAGE ARTS  
IV - BILINGUALISM**

Proposed amendments of Board Rule 6Gx13- 5B-1.04, Promotion, Placement, and Graduation--Grades K-12 and Adult, will be submitted to the School Board for initial reading on June 23, 1999. The proposed amendments are related to the Pupil Progression Plan for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, which is incorporated by reference and is a part of Board Rule 6Gx13- 5B-1.04. Board Rule 6Gx13- 5B-1.04 is included in Part Three, Appendices, of the Pupil Progression Plan for Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

The Pupil Progression Plan for Miami-Dade County Public Schools contains the requirements and procedures for pupils to progress from one grade to the next, kindergarten through grade 12 and adult education. The Introduction highlights statutory requirements and the district's implementation plan for ensuring student proficiency. In Part One, the K-12 and Adult Education section of the plan, and Part Two, the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) section, changes or additions are submitted as a result of actions during the legislative session or interpretations or clarifications by the Florida Department of Education of statutes or State Board of Education Administrative Rules related to pupil progression. In addition, recommendations from various stakeholder groups have been incorporated into this document.

Major changes in the 1999 edition of the Pupil Progression Plan, K-12 and Adult are summarized on pages xiv-xvii of the Plan.

Attached are the Notice of Intended Action and the rule proposed for amendment. Changes from the current rule are indicated by underscoring words to be added and ~~striking through~~ words to be deleted.

Copies of the Pupil Progression Plan for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, 1999 have been forwarded to the School Board Members under separate cover prior to the School Board Meeting of June 23, 1999, and will be available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

Authorization of the Board is requested for the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act for the amendment of Board Rule 6Gx13- 5B-1.04, Promotion, Placement, and Graduation -- Grade K-12 and Adult.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to amend Board Rule 6Gx13- 5B-1.04, Promotion, Placement, and Graduation--Grades K-12 and Adult.

JHM:bcf

## **NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA announced on June 23, 1999, its intention to amend Board Rule 6Gx13- 5B-1.04, Promotion, Placement, and Graduation--Grades K-12 and Adult, at its meeting of August 25, 1999.

**PURPOSE AND EFFECT:** The purpose of these amendments is to establish requirements and procedures for pupil progression within Miami-Dade County Public Schools. These procedures are related to pupil progression, retention, and special placement, grades K-12 and adult, and for Exceptional Student Education. Furthermore, these procedures establish requirements for graduation, and provide standards for implementation which reflect that promotion in Miami-Dade County Public Schools is based on student achievement.

**SUMMARY:** In Part 1, the K-12 and Adult Education section of the plan, and Part II, the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) section, changes or additions are a result of actions during the legislative session or interpretations or clarifications by the Florida Department of Education of statutes or State Board of Education rules related to pupil progression. In addition, recommendations from various stakeholder groups have been incorporated into this document.

**SPECIFIC LEGAL AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH RULEMAKING IS AUTHORIZED:**  
230.22(2);230.23(17) F.S.

**LAW IMPLEMENTED, INTERPRETED, OR MADE SPECIFIC:** 230.22(3); 230.23(6)(a)  
and (11)(c); 232.245;  
232.2454; 232.246 F.S.

IF REQUESTED, A HEARING WILL BE HELD DURING THE BOARD MEETING OF August 25, 1999, which begins at 1:00 p.m., in the School Board Auditorium, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33132. Persons requesting such a hearing or who wish to provide information regarding the statement of estimated regulatory costs, or to provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), F.S., must do so in writing by July 19, 1999, to the Superintendent of Schools, Room 912, at the same address.

ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL THE DECISION made by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, with respect to this action will need to ensure the preparation of a verbatim record of the proceedings, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes)

A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AMENDED RULE is available for inspection and copying at cost by the public in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33132.

Originator: Joseph H. Mathos  
Supervisor: Roger C. Cuevas  
Date: June 9, 1999



Progress**PROMOTION, PLACEMENT, AND GRADUATION--GRADES K-12 AND ADULT**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida is dedicated to the total and continuous development of each student. The professional staff of the school system has the responsibility to develop administrative procedures to ensure the placement of each student in the subjects, in the grade level, or in the special program(s) best suited to meet the student's academic needs, with consideration given to the student's social, emotional, and physical development.

Decisions regarding student promotion, retention, and special placement are primarily the responsibilities of the individual school's professional staff; however, the final decision in regard to grade placement is the responsibility of the principal. The districtwide standards, in accordance with which placement decisions must be made, are entitled **Pupil Progression Plan for Miami-Dade County Public Schools**, which is incorporated by reference herein and made a part of this Board rule. Also, the purpose of this plan is to establish requirements and procedures for pupil progression with Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Copies of this plan are on file in the Office of the Board Recording Secretary of the School Board and in the Citizen Information Center. The standards and the procedures for their implementation that are contained in the plan reflect clearly that promotion in Miami-Dade County Public Schools is based primarily on student achievement and is not an automatic process.

The measures which are employed to implement the standards must clearly reflect the multicultural composition of this community. Students must be provided placements which are appropriate for their English language competency and cultural background. Limited English proficient students must be provided instruction which is understandable, as well as equal and comparable in amount, scope, sequence, and quality to that provided to English proficient students. The acquisition of English language skills is the highest instructional priority for speakers of other languages. Grade placement and promotion, however, are to be based on the student's performance in the dominant language while the student is in the process of becoming independent in English.

The purpose of the instructional program in the district's schools is to provide appropriate instruction and selected services to enable students to perform academically at their grade level or higher. However, in recognition of the wide range of students' abilities, motivation, interests, and development, the **Pupil Progression Plan** establishes objectives and competencies for language arts/reading, writing, mathematics, science, computer literacy, social studies sciences, and for electives, which may include foreign languages, art, music,

physical education, and applied technology (vocational) courses, which all students must meet as one condition for graduation within the school district. These objectives and competencies assure that all students who earn a diploma from a senior high school or adult education center have sufficient basic skills to function effectively in post-secondary education, the world of work, and the community. The **Pupil Progression Plan** provides assurance that all students within Miami-Dade County Public Schools who receive a diploma have met and/or exceeded all of the requirements mandated by the State of Florida and by the School Board.

The accompanying manuals for the **Pupil Progression Plan for Miami-Dade County Public Schools** shall be the **Florida Course Code Directory**, published annually by the Florida Department of Education, **Course Descriptions, Student Performance Standards/Sunshine State Standards, Curriculum Bulletin-I**, and the **Competency-Based Curriculum, K-12**, which shall be a part of the **Pupil Progression Plan**. Copies of the manuals are on file in the Office of the Board Recording Secretary of the School Board and in the Citizen Information Center, Room 158. Principals shall distribute copies of the **Competency-Based Curriculum** for the grade levels or courses to classroom teachers, as appropriate, in accordance with specific courses being taught.

As part of the **Pupil Progression Plan**, procedures are established to achieve parental understanding, cooperation, and acceptance of the student's promotion or placement with the knowledge that, within ~~d~~District and ~~s~~State regulations, the final decision regarding grade placement remains the prerogative of the principal. The student, the parent, and other interested patrons must have ample opportunity to understand fully the promotion and placement requirements of the ~~d~~District. When students are from homes where a language other than English is spoken, communications (written or oral) with parents are undertaken in the parents' primary language or other mode of communication commonly used by the parents unless clearly not possible. When it becomes evident that the standards or requirements for promotion may not be met, parents of students in grades K-12 and adult students must be informed of the possibility of retention or special placement. Student grades, unsatisfactory work notices, parent reports on state assessment and/or standardized testing, parent conferences, and adult student conferences should serve as the primary means of communicating student progress and achievement of the standards.

Specific Authority: 230.22(2);230.23(17) F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 230.22(3); 230.23(6)(a) and (11)(c);  
232.245; 232.2454; 232.246 F.S.

#### History

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Repromulgated: 12-11-74

Amended: 4-14-77, 4-22-81; 6-8-83; 7-6-83; 9-21-83; 2-8-84; 8-22-84;  
8-21-85; 9-17-86; 10-15-86; 9-30-87; 9-28-88; 6-28-89; 9-26-90;  
9-4-91; 9-23-92; 9-22-93; 6-7-95; 5-8-96; 10-8-97; 8-26-98