

Mrs. Manty Sabatés Morse, Member

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION OF ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Research shows that students involved in daily physical education tend to be healthier both mentally and physically. Potential benefits include improvements in cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and power, flexibility, bone development and posture.

The State Legislature has recognized the positive results of a strong physical education program by mandating an additional ½ credit in physical education.

While this mandate enhances the well-being of our students, it should be noted that it also presents an undue physical hardship to some students enrolled in magnet dance programs throughout our system. They are already engaged in additional physical activities throughout their dance instruction curriculum.

Therefore, as provided in Florida Statutes 229.592, a school board may submit a request to the Florida Commissioner of Education for a waiver of the additional ½ credit in physical education as required by the State Legislature only as it affects students in magnet dance programs.

Such an exemption is fair and just considering the many hours that these students must engage in physical activities in order to excel in their school assignments.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MRS. MORSE:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to submit a request for a waiver exempting students in magnet dance programs from the extra ½ credit in physical education mandated by the State Legislature.