

October 5, 1999

Mr. Demetrio Pérez, Jr., Member

SUBJECT: CLOSING OF HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUSES DURING LUNCH HOURS

At the Board Meeting of April 14, 1999, the Board directed the Superintendent of Schools to close all high school campuses for lunch by fall of 2001.

The problem of juvenile violence is a critical and growing problem. The citizens of our society are being jeopardized by crime and violence for no particular reason.

The parents of this community have entrusted their children to our schools and we, as elected officials, have the responsibility to ensure a safe learning environment. The massive response that we have obtained with the collection of signatures in which we overpassed our initial goal of 20,000 signatures as of October 1st, has inspired me to transmit this appeal to my colleagues on this Board.

Incident reports show that many of the most lamentable acts of crime and violence, such as the recent deaths reported, occur during the lunch period, while students are outside of their school campuses.

I am requesting that the Superintendent finalize this proposal by obtaining the budget to cover the expenses of implementing this safety measure to close high school campuses for lunch.

In order to facilitate the closing of campuses during lunch hour, preferable at no cost to the taxpayers, I recommended to the Superintendent the participation from the private sector.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DEMETRIO PÉREZ, JR.:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida direct the Superintendent to close all high school campuses during lunch hours.

DP:sr