

May 3, 2001

Dr. Michael M. Krop, Vice Chair

**SUBJECT: REQUEST SUPERINTENDENT TO SUGGEST AMENDMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD RULE 6Gx13-5C-1.031: DRESS CODE**

School Board Rule 6Gx13-5C-1.031 allows individual schools to participate in a "mandatory" uniform program upon majority vote of the parents. However, the rule stipulates that in order for the vote to be valid, ballots must be received from a majority of eligible parents.

This requirement effectively invalidates the vote of thousands of interested parents. Their votes, whether for or against uniforms, are not even counted because at their schools, less than 50% of eligible parents participated in the voting. The result is that parents who take the time to consider the issue and return their ballots are overruled by those who don't care to participate. Their votes are rendered null and void by those who simply abstain. According to the rule, new votes will not be taken for three years.

Regardless of our opinion on any issue, we should endorse rules and procedures that encourage parental participation in our schools.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. MICHAEL M. KROP:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to bring to the Board meeting of June 20, 2001, suggested changes to Board Rule 6Gx13-5C-1.031 that would:

1. delete the requirement that ballots must be received from a majority of eligible parents, and
2. authorize a new vote to be conducted at schools which did not meet the majority requirement, at a time to be set by the Superintendent after the rule amendment becomes final.

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