

Ms. Raquel Regalado, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST THE SUPERINTENDENT RESEARCH BEST PRACTICES REGARDING THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT, AND REVIEW CURRENT BOARD POLICY TO DETERMINE IF REVISIONS MAY BE REQUIRED TO ADDRESS EMERGING EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES

} Revised

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

} Deleted

Social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, LinkedIn, Skype, Foursquare, Classmates and Google Plus, among others, have become new channels to share knowledge, express creativity and connect with others. In fact, many educational institutions are beginning to explore ways in which such sites may be used to enhance instruction.

As the use of social media is only now emerging as an educational tool, it is in the best interest of our employees, students, and the public to ensure that those educators who may utilize social media to communicate with students understand and acknowledge that the same ethical standards that apply to their activities in the classroom are also applicable in the use of social media and other virtual communication tools.

} Added

Therefore, this item requests that the Superintendent research emerging best practices regarding the use of social media in an educational environment, provide recommendations to the Board regarding appropriate policy revisions to ensure the integrity of the teacher-student relationship is maintained in the virtual environment, as well as in the classroom.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MS. RAQUEL REGALADO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to:

- a. research current practices in M-DCPS, which may include a survey of current social media use by employees and students.
- b. research emerging best practices regarding the use of social media in educational environment.
- c. provide recommendations to the Board regarding current use at M-DCPS and possible revisions to Board Policy, as may be appropriate to address the use of social media in the educational environment.

Revised