

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO INTEGRATE THE “BIKESAFE” BICYCLE SAFETY PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI KIDz NEUROSCIENCE CENTER, INTO THE EXISTING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL’S PEDESTRIAN/BUS SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM, GRADES K-8 DISTRICTWIDE

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

On April 9, 2003, the Miami-Dade County School Board approved a request for the Superintendent to mandate the integration of the “WalkSafe” Pedestrian Safety Program, developed by the University of Miami, Ryder Trauma Center, into the existing Miami-Dade County Public Schools Pedestrian/Bus Safety Education Program, grades K-5 districtwide. The program curriculum is implemented annually, early in the school year, and coincides with the International Walk to School Day in the beginning of October.

The University of Miami KIDz Neuroscience Center developed the “BikeSafe” Bicycle Safety Program as the sister program to the “WalkSafe” Program. The objectives of the “BikeSafe” Program are to:

- Reduce the incidence of Pediatric Cyclist Trauma;
- Implement a formal educational, school-based program, for school aged children grades K-8;
- Create a comprehensive community oriented interagency program involving education, engineering, and enforcement to decrease the number of pediatric cyclist injuries; and
- Implement the “BikeSafe” program on an annual basis.

It is recommended that the “BikeSafe” curriculum be implemented in late October, to coincide with both International Walk Day (Walk Safety Month) and International Teen Driver Safety Month. The “BikeSafe” Curriculum currently supports K-8 objectives for safety education in the Competency-Based Curriculum of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools. According to the researched gathered by the University of Miami, during the 2017-2018 academic year, 83 schools participated in the “BikeSafe” Curriculum. Participation decreased during the 2018-2019 academic year, where only 75 schools participated in the “BikeSafe” Curriculum.

No local funds are required.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, request the Superintendent integrate the “BikeSafe” Bicycle Safety Program, developed by the University of Miami KIDz Neuroscience Center, into the existing Miami-Dade County Public Schools Pedestrian/Bus Safety Education Program, grades K-8 districtwide.