

January 15, 2002

Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

SUBJECT: DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REVIEW BOARD RULE 6Gx13-5D-1.08 – MAINTENANCE OF APPROPRIATE STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND THE SECONDARY LEVEL – CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT, AND REVISE THE RULE TO ALLOW FOR THE POSSESSION & USE OF CELLULAR PHONES IN SELECTED AREAS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Revised

Over the course of the past decade, cellular phones have migrated from being a commodity exclusive to only a select, eccentric minority, to becoming the virtual societal need that we know today. In the past, the use of cellular phones was a luxury. Today, a vast number of parents and their children depend on cellular phones to communicate for:

Revised

- a) transportation arrangements of active students who are involved in extracurricular school activities and have inconsistent schedules,
- b) emergency situations where a student has car trouble while on school property and may not have a reliable, alternative method of transportation, and
- c) making arrangements for transportation with siblings attending other schools.

Furthermore, the convenience of a cellular phone offers parents a sense of security, by knowing that their children are always within reach.

Currently, Board Rule 6Gx13-5D-1.08 - Maintenance of Appropriate Student Behavior and the Secondary Level, defines the 'possession of objects such as...cellular phones', to be an act of Disruptive Conduct. The use of a cellular phone, at any capacity, inside any and all school buildings, should still be considered 'Disruptive Behavior'. However, given the overwhelming increase of dependency on cellular phones, this Board Member believes that a revision allowing for 1) possession of cellular phones, and 2) use of cellular phones outside of school buildings during non-school hours is appropriate and in order. Proposal for actual phrasing of rule will be presented at the February 13, 2002 Board Meeting.

Revised

Deleted

REVISED
REPLACEMENT

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PEREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to review the cellular phone use policy as defined in Board Rule 6Gx13-5D-1.08 – Maintenance of Appropriate Student Behavior and the ‘Secondary Level – Code of Student Conduct’, and revise it to allow for there possession and use in select areas outside of school buildings.

Revised