

Mr. Carlos L. Curbelo, Board Member

SUBJECT: OUT OF COUNTRY FIELD TRIPS

**COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Given the continued advancement of globalization and the integration of the world economy, it behooves Miami-Dade County Public Schools to promote international learning experiences. The district should do everything possible to encourage our students to travel abroad on district-sanctioned trips and to facilitate access to these opportunities. However, current policy inhibits teachers' and students' access to these programs.

Out-of-country travel requests can only be presented for approval within the existing school year. This policy forces parents to pay large sums in only five to six installments. Lower income families would benefit from an extended payment period.

Also, parents must submit a paper application to the school. This process is outdated and inefficient. The district should consider offering an online platform for parents to submit required documentation.

Finally, schools only accept payments in the form of cash or money orders. Consequently, parents are denied personal financing options. Credit and debit card payment options would make payments easier to process and increase transparency.

Students, teachers, and parents would benefit from a revamping and updating of Miami-Dade County Public Schools' student travel policy.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
MR. CARLOS CURBELO:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida request that the Superintendent revise and update student travel policies to increase efficiency, transparency, and provide greater access to all families.

**Replacement
H-14**