

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-139 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENCOURAGING TEEN DRIVERS AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE TO TAKE THE "NO TEXTING WHILE DRIVING" PLEDGE ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2012 AND TO MAKE A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO NEVER TEXT WHILE DRIVING

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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

In an effort to enhance my yearlong safety campaign to bring awareness to the dangers of risky driving behaviors, including text messaging and alcohol-impaired driving, I am encouraging all drivers, particularly our student drivers, in the community to set aside a moment on September 19th, 2012 to take a pledge to "not text while driving". This special national pledge date is sponsored by the wireless provider, AT&T, to bring attention to the dangers of texting while driving.

Although as a nation we have made great strides in reducing distracted driving habits, text messaging remains a national epidemic resulting in thousands of fatalities on our roadways. In fact, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that texting while driving increases a risk of collision by 23%. A driver that sends a text message while driving not only jeopardizes their safety, but also the safety of passengers, pedestrians, and other drivers.

On September 19th drivers are encouraged to visit www.itcanwait.com (also sponsored by AT&T) to take the no-texting-and-driving pledge, and to make a lifelong commitment to never do so again. By sharing this message with families, friends and especially our students, together, we can turn the tide and save lives by simply putting the phone down while driving. No text is so important -- it can wait!

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-139 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, encouraging teen drivers and the community at large to take the national "no texting while driving" pledge on September 19, 2012 and to make a lifelong commitment to never text while driving.

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-139
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
ENCOURAGING TEEN DRIVERS AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE TO TAKE THE “NO
TEXTING WHILE DRIVING” PLEDGE ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2012 AND TO MAKE A
LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO NEVER TEXT WHILE DRIVING**

WHEREAS, all drivers, particularly our student drivers, in the community are encouraged to set aside a moment on September 19th, 2012 to take a pledge to “not text while driving”; and

WHEREAS, this special national pledge date is sponsored by the wireless provider, AT&T, to bring attention to the dangers of texting while driving; and

WHEREAS, text messaging remains a national epidemic resulting in thousands of fatalities on our roadways; and

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that texting while driving increases a risk of collision by 23 percent. A driver that sends a text message while driving not only jeopardizes their safety, but also the safety of passengers, pedestrians, and other drivers; and

WHEREAS, on September 19th drivers are encouraged to visit www.itcanwait.com to take the no-texting-and-driving pledge, and to make a lifelong commitment to never do so again; and

WHEREAS, by sharing this message with families, friends and especially our students, together, we can turn the tide and save lives by simply putting the phone down while driving. No text is so important -- it can wait!;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 12-139 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, encouraging teen drivers and the community at large to take the “no texting while driving” pledge on September 19, 2012 and to make a lifelong commitment to never text while driving.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this fifth day of September, A.D. 2012

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary