

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Board Member

**SUBJECT: SUPPORTING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS FOR STUDENTS  
VICTIMIZED BY BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND OTHER  
TRAUMA**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), being one of the most diverse school districts in the nation, has a long record of advocating and supporting policies that foster safer schools in an effort to create an atmosphere where students can focus on educational opportunities and feel safe during the school day.

Violence fosters a climate of fear and disrespect that can lead to the impairment of a student's physical and psychological health. Further, the conduct negatively affects the learning environment and the students' ability to achieve their full potential. These situations can lead to increased dropout rates, absenteeism, and academic underachievement.

Currently, the District maintains processes and procedures that directly apply to situations involving bullying, harassment, and other types of trauma that negatively affect a student's environment. M-DCPS takes allegations of violence, both on and off school campuses, very seriously and ensures that all options are evaluated and exhausted in an effort maintain a suitable situation for the student(s).

As the District has been proactive in creating programs to educate and prevent these types of behaviors, it is equally important to provide easy access to necessary information for parents and students whom find themselves in these types of situations.

This Agenda Item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorneys' Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorizes the Superintendent to create an awareness campaign that provides easy access to the necessary information parents and students need in situations involving bullying, harassment, and all other types of trauma.