

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair } Revised

Co-Sponsors: Ms. Susie V. Castillo, Board Member
Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Board Member
Dr. Steve Gallon III, Board Member
Ms. Lubby Navarro, Board Member
Dr. Marta Pérez, Board Member
Ms. Mari Tere Rojas, Board Member } Added

SUBJECT: SUPPORTING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS FOR STUDENTS AND ENCOURAGING POSITIVE INTERACTIONS AND A HARMONIOUS SCHOOL CLIMATE } Revised

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.