

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

Co-Sponsors: Dr. Martin Karp, Vice Chair
 Ms. Susie V. Castillo
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**SUBJECT: SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF THE 2019 WELCOME
 BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY FLYER FOR DISTRIBUTION
 DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL**

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

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

The Miami-Dade County Public Schools Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) has, for the past thirteen years, partnered with the School District to promote student pedestrian/bicycle safety in our neighborhoods. The CTST is a locally based team of multi-jurisdictional agencies under the auspices of the Florida Department of Transportation.

The CTST recognizes that student pedestrian safety initiatives are an important component of overall traffic safety in our schools and surrounding communities, and is a strong advocate of community-based involvement to ensure pedestrian awareness and safe driving skills. To that end, the CTST encourages parents and student drivers to follow posted school speed zone signs, crosswalk signs, and parking laws.

With this in mind, and for the past several years, the CTST has developed a school flyer containing safety messages that promote student traffic safety at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. The 2019 safety flyer (see attached, also translated into Spanish and Creole) will be distributed to all District schools via the District Weekly Briefing format, and postings on school websites. The messages are short and simple, but the potential of saving lives and avoiding costly police enforcement violations is high.

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

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse the 2019 Welcome Back to School Safety Flyer for distribution during the first week of school.

**Revised
H-7**

BACK TO SCHOOL



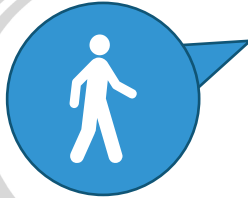
Be SMART. Be SAFE.

This safety message is brought to you by the School Board of Miami-Dade County in collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, your Local Community Traffic Safety Team and its Partners.



BICYCLING SAFELY:

- **Be ready!** Put on a properly-fitted helmet and do a pre-ride ABC Quick check (air, brakes, chain and quick release) of the bike to make sure it is safe to ride.
- **Be predictable!** Follow the rules of the road at all times.
- **Be visible!** When cycling (or walking) in the daytime wear bright colors. During dawn, dusk and at night, use reflective gear (even on backpacks). Your bike should include front white headlights and rear red taillights in order to be more visible to drivers.



WALKING SAFELY:

- Walking to school promotes health, saves gas and time, and reduces traffic congestion around schools.
- **STOP** at the curb/edge of pavement, and look **LEFT-RIGHT-LEFT** before crossing a street. Always use designated crosswalks and pedestrian signals. Do not cross in front of a vehicle unless you know for sure the driver clearly sees you, and has come to a complete stop.
- Carry a flashlight at night.
- Be familiar with your surroundings, and **NEVER** accept rides from strangers.
- Always obey the directions of the Crossing Guard.



DRIVING SAFELY:

- Obey all posted speed signs and school flashers.
- When stopping, standing, or parking your vehicle, please use the designated areas only.
- Look for Pedestrians and Cyclists.
- Buckle Up - and Don't Text and Drive!



RIDING BUSES SAFELY:

School Bus Safety Tips - for children:

- When walking to a bus stop, use sidewalks if available. If there is no sidewalk, walk on the left facing traffic.
- Never speak to strangers at the bus stop or get into a stranger's car.
- Wait for the bus to arrive. Watch for the red flashing lights and the Stop arm to extend.
- When riding in a bus, always wear your seatbelt, obey the driver, and - when exiting the bus to cross the street - cross in front of the bus so the bus driver can see you. Do not dart into the next lane of traffic without checking!

School Bus Safety Tips - for drivers:

- Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm signal indicate the bus is stopped and that children are getting on or off. All cars must stop a safe distance away and not proceed until the red lights stop flashing.