

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Board Member

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**SUBJECT: NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH  
ENDORSEMENT**

**COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY**

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

In a collaborative effort to address growing threats to cybersecurity, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance launched National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM) in 2004. Since then, this joint effort between government and industry has been celebrated every October to raise awareness about the importance of staying safe and secure while online. This campaign ensures citizens, businesses and educational institutions have access to online resources that educate and strengthen cybersecurity at home, school, and work.

This year, NCSAM's message, 'Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.', will emphasize personal accountability and stress the importance of taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity. The message focuses on citizen privacy, consumer devices, and e-commerce security. Resources and a comprehensive guide are made available to citizens and organizations to promote the message, engage stakeholders and help develop cybersecurity habits. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA), under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, seeks to further encourage proactive behaviors in digital privacy, security best practices, common cyber threats, and cybersecurity careers.

In an effort to further support the development of our students as responsible and informed digital citizens, this agenda item seeks to endorse October as NCSAM and stand in support of governmental and industry efforts to educate citizens and elevate cybersecurity.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, endorse October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM) throughout Miami-Dade County Public Schools and authorize the Superintendent to encourage schools to avail themselves of resources and guides to promote the NCSAM message, engage stakeholders, and help develop cybersecurity habits.