

Dr. Martin Karp, Board Member

SUBJECT: ADDRESS SCAPEGOATING, STEREOTYPING, ANTISEMITISM AND ALL FORMS OF HATRED

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC

BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

A letter just released by the Florida School Boards Association states “the purpose of education is to reach others, teach others to create, and inspire others to build, question, and improve our world. Together we can propose solutions to ensure equal justice for all students, employees, and communities.”

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Antisemitism is unique in that it is a form of hatred which includes genocidal goals and that it always simmers just below the surface rearing its ugly head when anything goes wrong in the world.

Currently, the use of antisemitic tropes are rising and Jews and Israel are being targeted. Recent acts of antisemitism in online platforms, and during Zoom conferences, nationwide protests and pandemic-related closures where Jews are blamed for all of societal ills make clear the need to include additional measures that combat scapegoating, stereotyping, antisemitism, and acts of hatred. With last week’s acts of vandalism at synagogues and Jewish schools, along with acts of verbal abuse and violence during the past year and a half, including the bloody rampage at a kosher market and the killings at synagogues, and the assaults on college campuses and around the country, it is evident that there remains a great need to teach our students how to reject scapegoating, stereotyping, and antisemitism.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) developed a “Hate Spaces” curriculum, which if fully implemented, could greatly benefit students and teachers by getting to the source of why people hate, and how people are incited to hate others, while providing discourse on how to discern truth from fiction.

This item has been reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney for legal sufficiency.

**Revised³ Good Cause
H-11**

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTIN KARP**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, direct the Superintendent to include the topics of stereotyping, scapegoating, antisemitism and all forms of hatred in the manner explained herein below:

1. during the review of currently available curriculum-based options that address racism and cultural understanding;
2. if approved, for discussion by the student-led taskforce established to meet monthly to discuss institutional systemic racism in our society;
3. if approved, in quarterly reports to the School Board issued by the student-led taskforce addressing racism;
4. in consultation with relevant departments of M-DCPS more fully implement the District-created "Hate Spaces" curriculum and report back with recommendations prior to the opening of the 2020-21 school year; and
5. during the review and exploration of ways that additional resources and strategies may be adopted and implemented to teach and promote racial and social justice, unity, and harmony among students in M-DCPS.

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