

Office of School Board Members
Special Board Meeting of July 28, 2022

July 28, 2022

Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman, Chairman

SUBJECT: MATTERS RELATED TO COMPLIANCE WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S REQUIREMENTS TO ADOPT INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

LINK TO STRATEGIC

PLAN: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

Pursuant to Florida Statute 1006.283, school boards must implement a process for the adoption and purchase of instructional materials, inclusive of public review and input, before School Board approval of the recommended instructional materials. On April 13, 2022, the School Board approved agenda item C-2, adopting various instructional materials and resources, among them Comprehensive Health Skills for Middle School, Sanderson, C. A., et. al., Goodheart Willcox, 2023, 3rd Edition, (Chapters 12,15,16,17,18,20) and Comprehensive Health Skills for High School, Sanderson, C. A., et. al., Goodheart Willcox, 2023, 4th Edition, (Chapters 18,19,20,21,22,24) for the 2022-2023 school year. Pursuant to Florida law and School Board policy, a parent of a public school student or resident of the County, may file an objection to the adoption of any specific instructional materials. In accordance with this process, objections were filed by members of the public regarding the aforementioned instructional materials that were adopted by the School Board on April 13, 2022. On June 8, 2022, a hearing on these objections was held at Booker T. Washington High School before a presiding hearing officer. On June 22, 2022, the hearing officer issued his recommendation that the School Board deny the petitions objecting to the instructional materials. At the Board Meeting of July 20, 2022, the School Board took action on agenda item C-5, denying the hearing officer's recommendation.

In order to ensure compliance with all curriculum requirements and academic standards adopted by the Florida Department of Education, it is vitally important for the School Board to assess the potential impact to the School District of denying the hearing officer's recommendation for the adoption of instructional materials via agenda item C-5 at Regular School Board Meeting of July 20, 2022; and based on this assessment, design a plan of action to remediate any adverse effect.

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

**REVISED
SP-1**

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIRMAN
MS. PERLA TABARES HANTMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. rescind the previous Board action taken regarding agenda item C-5 at the July 20, 2022, Regular School Board meeting, and thereby place item C-5 back on the floor for the Board to take further action on recommendation on item C-5 as it deems appropriate.

2. Direct the Superintendent of School to enact a robust, outreach plan to increase parental awareness about the opt-out option in compliance with the Parents' Bill of Rights.
 - a. This outreach action plan must be enacted at the onset of the school year and must continue throughout the year. Parents must be made aware of the opt-out option at the school's open house events. The district must make every effort to reach out to parents or inform them about the opt-out via email, phone calls, letters or any other means of communication that are available to the district.
 - b. Information provided to parents regarding relevant instructional materials need to be specific to every school grade, particularly at the middle school level.
 - c. A report on the specifics of this action plan must be presented to the Board at the

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Academics, Innovation, Evaluation, & Technology committee meeting of August 10, 2022.

3. Direct the Superintendent to maintain the requirements from the state standards and benchmarks for comprehensive health education with assurances from the administration that students would not have direct digital access to those chapters of the textbooks that have been determined not to be age appropriate for the units of study for each individual middle school, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, and for the high school, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade. Any topics that are not comprehensively age appropriate and developmentally appropriate have been removed from the digital textbooks.

4. Direct the Superintendent that age-appropriate supplemental materials if available, be reviewed by staff in the Office of Academics and Transformation and ensure that these supplemental materials are appropriate and aligned to state standards and benchmarks. The process for these amendments must be completed no later than 60 calendar days prior to the scheduled delivery of

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instruction for middle school and high school students.

5. Provide the Board by September 16, 2022, a comprehensive detailed process for parents to be informed of the comprehensive education program units of study pursuant to state standards and benchmarks in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole.

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