

Ms. Maria Teresa Rojas, Chair

Co-Sponsors: Mr. Daniel Espino, Vice Chair
Mr. Roberto J. Alonso
Ms. Lucia Baez-Geller
Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall
Ms. Mary Blanco } REVISED AT DAIS BY BOARD ACTION
Ms. Monica Colucci
Dr. Steve Gallon III
Ms. Luisa Santos

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF THE FLORIDA SEAL OF BILITERACY PROGRAM IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (M-DCPS)

COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, INNOVATION, EVALUATION & TECHNOLOGY

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: RELEVANT, RIGOROUS, & INNOVATIVE ACADEMICS

At the School Board Meeting of September 9, 2015, the Board unanimously approved agenda item H-14, proffered by former School Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman, approving the creation of the Seal of Biliteracy in Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) for those high school students who achieve a high level of competency in one or more World Languages. Starting with the class of 2015-2016, graduating students with demonstrated mastery in a second language became eligible for this recognition.

In 2016, the Florida State Legislature enacted the Florida Seal of Biliteracy Program for high school students (State Statute 1003.432), which was “established to recognize a high school graduate who has attained a high level of competency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more foreign languages in addition to English.” The statute further states that “the seal must differentiate between two levels of competency, designated as Gold and Silver, which must be as rigorous as is recommended in the biliteracy seal guidelines established by national organizations supporting foreign language instruction.” Furthermore, specific language, including the awarding criteria for the Florida Gold Seal and Silver Seal of Biliteracy, is included in M-DCPS *Student Progression Plan 2022-2023*.

The following chart provides information regarding the number of graduating high school students who have received the Silver Seal designation and the Gold Seal designation for the past five school years:

2017-2018		2018-2019		2019-2020		2020-2021		2021-2022	
Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold	Silver	Gold
758	3,568	799	3,657	774	4,184	671	4,289	759	3,785

This item has been reviewed and approved by the General Counsel's Office as to form and legal sufficiency.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
MS. MARIA TERESA ROJAS**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize the Florida Gold and Silver Seal of Biliteracy Program in Miami-Dade County Public Schools for honoring graduating high school students who achieve a high level of competency in one or more World Languages.