

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
Ms. Monica Colucci
Ms. Luisa Santos

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SUBJECT: EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING AND OFFERING A HEIMLICH MANEUVER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT FOR INTERESTED EMPLOYEES AND PARENTS

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS

Choking happens when an object lodges in the throat or windpipe blocking the flow of air. In adults, a piece of food is usually to blame. Young children often choke on small objects. Choking is life-threatening. It cuts off oxygen to the brain. First aid should be administered as quickly as possible if an individual is choking. There is a simple technique that can be used to help expel a trapped object from another person's airways. This is the Heimlich maneuver, first invented in 1974 by Dr. Henry Heimlich.

The Heimlich maneuver is performed by wrapping your arms around a person, making a fist with one hand, and clasping it with the other. You place your fists between the person's ribcage and belly button and thrust your hands into their abdomen until the object is freed. The Heimlich maneuver can be a life-saving rescue technique, but it should only be used if the person cannot breathe and is conscious.

This item seeks to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to explore the feasibility of developing and offering a Heimlich maneuver professional development component for interested employees and parents through the Office of Professional Learning and Career Development and the Parent Academy and report back to the School Board by February 5, 2024. The offering of this professional development component can save a life of a student, a teacher, a parent, or any member of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools family.

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, authorize the Superintendent of Schools to explore the feasibility of developing and offering a Heimlich Maneuver professional development component for interested employees and parents through the Office of Professional Learning and Career Development and the Parent Academy and report back to the School Board by February 5, 2024.

**Revised
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