Office of Superintendent of Schools
Board Meeting of November 18, 2026

November 4, 2026

Office of Academics and Transformation
Ms. Lisette M. Alves, Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: **FINAL READING: PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 5410, STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN**

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

ALIGNMENT: **OPERATIONAL IMPACT**

INDICATOR: **N/A**
(If Strategic Impact)

DECISION MATRIX: **N/A**
(If Strategic Impact)

DECISION MATRIX JUSTIFICATION: **N/A**
(If Strategic Impact)

This item updates School Board Policy 5410, Student Progression Plan, to reflect 2026 legislative changes and current District procedures that fulfill the statutory requirements for student progression.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, announced on October 14, 2026, its intention to amend the document, *Student Progression Plan 2025-2026* and to promulgate the new document, *Student Progression Plan 2026-2027*. Changes in the document implement statutory amendments by the 2026 Florida Legislature. Additional changes have been made to incorporate current District procedures and enter new language, as appropriate.

Changes to the 2025-2026 edition of the *Student Progression Plan* are summarized on pages 1 through 6 of the proposed "2026-2027 Student Progression Plan" and in the 2026-2027 Guide to Understanding the Student Progression Plan District and Legislative Changes At-a-Glance. Highlights of amendments include changes regarding student progression, assessment, graduation and required instruction as follows:

C-100

- Florida Statutes § 1003.42:
  Requires for students in grades 3 through 5, the study of cursive writing and the development of skills necessary for legible cursive writing, including letter formation, proper spacing and alignment, and practice writing complete words and sentences in cursive.

- Requires by the end of grade 5, each student must demonstrate proficiency in cursive writing. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "proficiency in cursive writing" means all of the following:

  a. The ability to write uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet in cursive writing.

  b. Writing words and sentences in cursive legibly and maintaining proper spacing and alignment.

  c. The ability to read and apply cursive writing in a manner that supports literacy development, including writing essays and assignments in cursive writing in accordance with state academic standards.

- Florida Statutes § 1003.4282:
  Allows completion of two years of marching band to satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education and the one-credit requirement in performing arts.

- Allows completion of 1.0 credit with a grade of "C" or better in a dance techniques course, a significant component of which is activities designed to maintain or improve health-related fitness and lifelong fitness, to satisfy the one-credit requirement in physical education or the one-credit requirement in performing arts. This credit may not be used to satisfy the personal fitness requirement or the requirement for adaptive physical education under an IEP or 504 plan.

- Allows students with disabilities to use participation in Special Olympics as a course substitution for the one-credit physical education requirement for graduation requirements. A student who chooses this option must participate in the Special Olympics for 1 school year, as determined by the IEP team.

- Provides that for a student with a disability for whom the IEP team has determined that mastery of academic and employment competencies is the most appropriate way for a student to demonstrate his or her skills, a combination of course substitutions, assessments, industry certifications, other acceleration options or

occupational completion points appropriate to the student's unique skills and abilities that meet the criteria established by State Board of Education rule is an option to satisfy the standard high school diploma requirements, as specified in the student's individual education plan.

- Florida Statutes § 1003.4203, authorizes the offering of CAPE Digital Tool Certificates to all public elementary and middle grades students. Middle grade students may not earn more than two CAPE Digital Tools certificates per school year.

- Florida Statutes § 1003.437:
  Requires the State Board of Education to establish a statewide uniform weighted grading system for honors courses and articulated acceleration mechanisms identified in s. 1007.27, F.S.

- Requires district school boards to use the weighted grading system to calculate weighted high school grade point averages. New State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.09953, F.A.C., specifies that it begins with the 9th grade cohort in the 2026-27 school year. The rule also clarifies how it applies to high school courses taken in middle school.

- Florida Statutes § 1003.5716:
  Requires that if a related service identified in a student's individual educational plan (IEP) is not provided as scheduled, the school district must notify the parent or guardian in writing or by electronic means within 10 school days, explain the reason the service was not provided, and discuss a plan for make-up services.

- Provides a parent or guardian with the right to access, upon request, all service provider logs or progress notes within 15 school days after such service is provided. The school district shall inform parents of this right at each IEP team meeting.

- Florida Statutes § 1007.271:
  Defines the dual enrollment program as the enrollment of an eligible student in this state or home education student in this state in a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a career certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree.

- Florida Statutes § 1008.25:
  Requires that, for a student with a substantial reading deficiency, resources in an individualized progress monitoring plan and at least monthly parental notification of the student's progress in response to intensive interventions must include information about the student's eligibility for the New Worlds Reading Initiative.

- Expands eligibility for the Summer Bridge Program to VPK students that scored below the 25th percentile on PM3 shall be referred to the local school district and is eligible to receive early literacy skill instructional support through a summer bridge program the summer before participating in kindergarten.

The current policy and proposed amended policy may be viewed online at:

- Current Plan: Board Policy 5410, 2025-2026 M-DCPS Student Progression Plan

- Proposed Plan: Board Policy 5410, 2026-2027 M-DCPS Final Reading Student Progression Plan

Any changes that would have an impact on the new *Student Progression Plan 2026-2027* based upon future interpretations or clarification of legislation by the Florida Department of Education will be communicated to appropriate staff through memoranda.

The Notice of Intended Action is attached and was published in the Miami Daily Business Review on October 19, 2026, posted in various places for public information, and mailed to various organizations representing persons affected by the policy and to individuals requesting notification.

The time to request a hearing or protest the adoption of this policy has elapsed.

In accordance with provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, this policy is presented to The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, for adoption and authorization to file the policy in the official records of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

There is no exchange of funds.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to adopt School Board Policy 5410, *Student Progression Plan 2026-2027*, and authorize the Superintendent to file the policy with The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida to be effective November 18, 2026.

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, announced on October 14, 2026, its intention to amend School Board Policy 5410, *Student Progression Plan,* at its meeting of November 18, 2026.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: To amend School Board Policy 5410, *Student Progression Plan*, and the document it incorporates by reference, to implement statutory amendments by the 2026 Florida Legislature and align with Florida Board of Education rules and District practices related to student progression.

SUMMARY: The document establishes the requirements and procedures for student progression within Miami-Dade County Public Schools. These procedures are related to student progression, retention, and special placement, grades PreK-12 and adult. The current policy may be viewed at: Policy 5410, 2025-2026 M-DCPS Student Progression Plan. The proposed amended policy may be viewed at: Policy 5410, 2026-2027 M-DCPS Final Reading Student Progression Plan. Proposed policy amendments are indicated by underscoring words to be added and striking through words to be deleted.

SPECIFIC LEGAL AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH RULEMAKING IS AUTHORIZED: F.S. 1001.41(1) and (2); 1001.42(25); 1001.43(10); 1008.25

LAW IMPLEMENTED, INTERPRETED, OR MADE SPECIFIC: F.S. 1003.42; 1003.4282; 1003.4203; 1003.437; 1003.5716; 1007.271; 1008.25; F.A.C. rr. 6A-1.09953; 6A-1.09422; 6A-1.094124; 6A-6.0530.

IF REQUESTED, A HEARING WILL BE HELD DURING THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF November 18, 2026, which begins at 1:00 p.m., in the School Board Auditorium, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132. Persons requesting such a hearing or who wish to provide information regarding the statement of estimated regulatory costs, or to provide a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided in Section 120.541(1), F.S., must do so in writing by November 10, 2026, to the Superintendent of Schools, Room 912, at the same address.

ANY PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL THE DECISION made by The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, with respect to this action will need to ensure the preparation of a verbatim record of the proceedings, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. (Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes)

A COPY OF THE PROPOSED AMENDED POLICY is available at cost to the public for inspection and copying in the Citizen Information Center, Room 102, 1450 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.