Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the Bylaws and Policies of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools were adopted on May 11, 2011 and were in effect beginning July 1, 2011.

2605 - RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

The Superintendent shall develop systematic and specific administrative procedures for conducting research and program evaluations. The design of these studies shall include:

- A. clear statements of expectations and purposes for each program with specifications of how successful achievement will be determined.
- B. provisions for staff, resources, and support necessary to achieve each program's purposes.
- C. evaluation of each program to assess the extent to which each program's purposes and objectives are being achieved.
- D. recommendations for revisions and modifications needed to fulfill expectations and purposes.

The Superintendent shall maintain a schedule of assessment activities and program evaluations and periodically report to the School Board. Findings of the assessment program will be used to evaluate the progress of students and:

- A. the effectiveness of the curriculum;
- B. the effectiveness of the school/delivery system.

The Superintendent shall annually recommend improvements in the educational program based on District evaluation.

The Board may employ experts from outside the School District to serve in the evaluation process.

The Board will annually make student achievement reports publicly available.

The Superintendent shall maintain a systematic accountability plan for all schools. The plan shall annually evaluate each school on performance indicators. These indicators shall include student performance outcomes and other areas designated by the Superintendent.

Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis

A. Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis (ARDA) engages in a variety of specialized activities related to Districtwide student assessment, institutional research and analysis, and evaluative support. ARDA annually develops and implements a local assessment system for students and educational programs as necessary. The implementation of the local

- assessment system will facilitate the evaluation of: 1) students, individually and in groups; 2) the instructional program; and 3) program support services and materials.
- B. ARDA will establish and provide an annual calendar of local, State, and national assessment programs, administration dates, and target populations, as well as establish and implement a schedule of activities and procedures relative to each assessment program.
- C. Assessment and research results will be reported to school, region, and District administrators and others having a need for such information.

School Responsibilities

- A. The principal is responsible for the proper administration and use of assessment activities in his/her school. Certain aspects of this responsibility may be delegated to a staff member who, as test chairperson, will coordinate assessment activities within the school.
- B. The school may elect to engage in assessment activities in addition to those which are part of the required assessment program. ARDA will provide assistance to principals, resources permitting, when additional assessment and analysis activities are implemented by the school.
- C. Schools must adhere to the test administration and security standards, guidelines, and procedures established by ARDA to ensure the integrity of the testing process and the accuracy and validity of all test scores. The standards and procedures are in the document Miami-Dade County Public Schools: Standards, Guidelines, and Procedures for Test Administration and Test Security. These standards apply to all personnel involved with any aspect of the testing process and are in effect for school, District, and State testing programs.

Research Review Committee

All requests to conduct testing or other research from persons or organizations outside the school system shall be submitted for approval to the Research Review Committee (RRC) of the Office of Program Evaluation. The RRC is responsible for determining the acceptability of the request in terms of the proposal's technical competence, lack of duplication of other ongoing research, significance to the District, and compatibility of its use of resources with potential benefits to the District. However, the principal of the individual school may decide if committee-approved outside research will be conducted within his/her school.

The RRC is also responsible for facilitating and monitoring research from within the school system, assuring appropriate placement of projects, encouraging university and school system collaboration on appropriate research activities, and ensuring that no student is denied equal educational opportunity as a result of research activities.

A system of evaluating educational programs shall be established and maintained to accomplish the following three (3) major purposes:

- A. provide the information about program effectiveness and cost that is necessary for determining how effectively resources are being employed to accomplish specific educational purposes.
- B. provide administrators, teachers, counselors, and other appropriate personnel with information enabling them to modify, eliminate, or add programs on the basis of program effectiveness in serving student needs, and that will help them to counsel individual students and parents more effectively.

C. provide an annual assessment for dissemination to the public which shall include achievement data in the basic skills areas of reading and mathematics for each school in the system, a socio-economic profile of the area served by the school, and other information necessary for interpretation of the data presented.

F.S. 1008.34, 1008.345

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the Bylaws and Policies of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools were adopted on May 11, 2011 and were in effect beginning July 1, 2011.

5722 - SCHOOL-SPONSORED STUDENT PUBLICATIONS, PRODUCTIONS, AND PERFORMANCES

Student publications, productions, performances, and speeches are means through which students learn, under adult direction, the rights and responsibilities inherent in the expression of ideas and information in a democratic society.

Definitions

School-sponsored student media shall include student publications, productions, and performances which are print, performance, or web-based.

"Student publications" shall include any written materials, (including, but not limited to, bulletin boards, banners, flyers, posters, pamphlets, notices, newspapers, playbills, yearbooks, literary journals, books, and t-shirts and other school-sponsored clothing), as well as all web-based communications (including, but not limited to, websites, web logs ("blogs"), video or audio clips, and newsletters or announcements transmitted by e-mail, wireless broadcast or other similar distribution/dissemination).

"Publication" shall also include distribution and dissemination of a student publication.

"Student productions "shall include vocal and theatrical performances, impromptu dramatic presentations, exhibits, or any electronic media (including, but not limited to, radio and television programs, podcasts, and other video or audio productions that are recorded for re-broadcast or broadcast in real time using any available broadcast technology).

"Performance" shall include student speeches, cheerleading, dance squads/drill teams, band performances, school-related dance competitions, and cultural performances (formal dance, popular social dance, or recreational dance) presented at school-sponsored events and/or any presentation and broadcast of a student production. Regular and special radio and television programs shall be consistent with the goals approved by the School Board.

All school-sponsored student media, with the exception of those originating from classrooms not otherwise directly associated with student publications and productions, are limited-purpose public forums where students can address matters of concern and/or interest to their readers/viewers. The student journalists and/or performers involved in these publications/productions have the right to determine the content of the student media. The content is open to the public at large at the discretion of the student journalists/performers and may address general matters of public concern.

School sponsors will not review or restrict the content of non-classroom school-sponsored student publications or productions prior to publication/performance, except with respect to unprotected speech. Sponsors are responsible for guiding students in the parameters of unprotected speech and for ensuring that unprotected speech does not appear in student publications or productions. With editorial control

comes responsibility. Student journalists and performers are expected to establish and enforce standards for their publications/productions that are consistent with professional journalism/theatrical/broadcast standards.

Student First Amendment Rights & Responsibilities

The student press and student expression are essential in establishing and maintaining an atmosphere of open discussion, intellectual exchange, and freedom of expression at school-related functions. Student journalists, visual and performing arts students, student performers, and student speakers shall be afforded protection against censorship. However, in the school setting, this protection must be balanced against the responsibility to maintain the safe and orderly operation of schools.

The following speech is unprotected and prohibited in all school-sponsored student publications, productions, performances, and speeches because it infringes upon the rights of others and/or is reasonably likely to cause substantial disruption of or material interference with school activities or the educational process: speech that violates copyright law; speech that is defamatory, libelous, vulgar, lewd, or obscene; speech that encourages illegal drug use and speech that otherwise violates the Code of Student Conduct, Board policy, and/or State or Federal law.

Student publications, productions, performances, and speeches, shall be age appropriate for the students who are delivering the material.

School sponsors may restrict speech that is grammatically incorrect poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced, or unsuitable for immature audiences. All restrictions on school-sponsored speech and expression must be reasonably related to a legitimate educational concern.

If controversial issues are introduced in school-sponsored publications, productions, performances, and speeches, equal opportunity should be given to present opposing viewpoints.

Advertising

Advertising is permitted in school newspapers, yearbooks, programs, etc. which are published by student organizations. Permission should be given by the club sponsor and must comply with Policy <u>9700.01</u>.

Outside Agencies

The staffs and students of the school shall not be used to promote the interests of any non-school agency, individual or organization, except that the:

- A. schools may cooperate in furthering the work of any nonprofit community-wide social service agency, provided that such cooperation does not restrict or impair the educational program of the schools;
- B. schools may use film or other educational materials bearing only simple mention of the producing firm, provided such materials can be justified on the basis of their actual educational values;
- C. Superintendent may, at discretion, announce or authorize to be announced, any lecture, community activity, or film of particular educational merit;
- D. schools may, upon approval of the Superintendent, cooperate with any agency in promoting activities in the general public interest that are nonpartisan, noncommercial and nonsectarian, when such activities promote the educational or other best interests of the students.

Some examples of activities that are prohibited include, but are not limited to,: publications, productions, performances, and speeches which fail to identify the student or organization responsible; soliciting funds for non-school organizations or institutions when such solicitations have not been approved by the Board; promoting favor or opposing any candidate for election to the Board; and the adoption of any bond issue, proposal, or question submitted at any election.

F.S. 1001.43(3)(c) Fla. Const. Art. I, Sec. 4

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the Bylaws and Policies of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools were adopted on May 11, 2011 and were in effect beginning July 1, 2011.

8310 - PUBLIC RECORDS

Public records shall be maintained and made available for inspection and reproduction as required by law.

"Public Records" are defined in State law but do not include student records, medical records, documents containing genetic information, trial preparation records, confidential law enforcement investigatory records, records of release of which is prohibited by State or Federal law, and any other exceptions set forth in Florida Law. Confidential law enforcement investigatory records, medication records, and trial preparation records are as defined in Florida law.

Access to personnel records and records containing exempt or confidential information may be restricted according to F.S. 1012.31, and other applicable laws.

Access to Public Records

The Superintendent has designated the Office of Public Relations to be responsible for handling public records requests and the department shall designate a person or persons to coordinate requests. An individual may inspect and request copies of public records during regular business hours.

Public records requests may be made verbally or in writing. Persons requesting public records shall be encouraged to submit requests in writing to expedite accurate processing of their requests. Verbal requests shall be documented in writing by the person receiving the request and verified by the person making the verbal request in order to expedite accurate processing of requests. Requests should be sufficiently detailed to identify the documents sought to be examined.

A custodian of public records and/or designee must acknowledge requests to inspect or copy records promptly and respond to such requests in good faith. A good faith response includes making reasonable efforts to determine from other officers or employees of the School District whether such a record exists, and, if so, the location at which the record can be accessed. Upon determination that the requested record exists, it must be reviewed to determine whether it contains any information that would be statutorily exempt from public inspection or copying as provided by law. See Policy 8350.

Duplicated copies or certified copies of the District's public records shall be provided upon payment of the fee provided in Florida law. If the nature or volume of the public records requested to be copied or inspected will require extensive use of information technology resources or more than fifteen (15) minutes of clerical or supervisory assistance by District personnel, a special service charge attributable to the extensive use of the information technology resources and/or the labor cost of the personnel providing the service will be collected as permitted by State law.

The actual cost of duplication will also be charged for copies of the District's public records in a form other than a duplicated copy.

If the request for copies or inspection of a public record in any form could result in a special service charge, an estimate of the fee that will be due and payable shall be provided to the requestor. The production/duplication of the requested records will commence upon payment of the estimated fee by the requestor.

Whenever possible the public should be directed to the School District's free website and informed of the availability of public records that may be accessed without charge.

Pursuant to F.S. 119.07(4), charges for copies are as follows:

- A. Up to \$0.15 per one (1) one-sided copy for duplicated copies of not more than 14 inches by 8 ½ inches;
- B. No more than an additional \$0.05 for each two-sided copy; and
- C. For all other copies, the actual cost of duplication of the public record.
- D. A charge of \$1.00 per copy for a certified copy of a public record, if certification is possible.

These charges shall change automatically if the state statutory charges are revised.

Inspector General

The Board's Inspector General shall be entitled to request and receive public records without charge when the Inspector General states that such records are needed for an audit, examination, or investigation. The Inspector General shall maintain the exempt or confidential status of public records. (see also Policy 0157)

No public record may be removed from the office in which it is maintained, except by a Board employee in the course of the performance of his/her duties.

All District records will be maintained according to general records schedules GS1-SL and GS7, as established by the Department of State.

F.S. 119.07, 119.011(11), 257, 257.36(5)(a)
20 U.S.C. 1232g
42 U.S.C. 2000ff et seq., The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act
29 C.F.R. Part 1635
Article I, Section 24, State Constitution
F.A.C. 1B-24.001, 1B-24.003, 1B-26.0021, 1B-26.003
FL Atty. Gen. Opinion 00-11
579 So.2d 267 (1st DCA 1991)
Board of County Commissions of Highlands County v. Colby (FL 2d DCA 2008)

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the Bylaws and Policies of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools were adopted on May 11, 2011 and were in effect beginning July 1, 2011.

7540.01 - TECHNOLOGY PRIVACY

All computers, telephone systems, electronic mail systems, and voice mail systems are the District's property and are to be used primarily for business purposes. The District has the right to access and review all electronic and voice mail, computer files, data bases, and any other electronic transmissions contained in or used in conjunction with the District's computer system, telephone system, electronic mail system, and voice mail system. Staff members should have no expectation that any information on these systems is confidential or private.

Review of such information may be done by the District with or without the staff member's knowledge. Portal passwords should be kept confidential. Passwords other than those that are used for security must be registered with the assigned site administrator and do not guarantee confidentiality, and the District retains the right to access information in spite of a password. A staff member's refusal to permit such access may be grounds for discipline up to and including discharge.

Computers, electronic mail, and voice mail are to be used for business purposes. Personal messages via District-owned technology should be limited according to District regulations. Staff members are encouraged to keep their personal records and personal business at home. In addition, staff members shall be advised that computers, electronic mail, and voice mail are subject to Florida's Sunshine Law.

Staff members are prohibited from sending offensive, discriminatory, or harassing computer, electronic, or voice mail messages.

Review of computer files, electronic mail, and voice mail will only be done in the ordinary course of business. If a staff member's personal information is discovered, the contents of such discovery will not be reviewed by the District, except to the extent necessary to determine whether the District's interests have been compromised. Any information discovered will be limited to those who have a specific need to know that information.

The administrators and supervisory staff members authorized by the Superintendent have the authority to search and access information electronically.

All computers and any information or software on the computers are the property of the District. Staff members shall not remove or communicate any such information in any form for their personal use or for the use of others. In addition, staff members may not copy software on any District computer and may not bring software from outside sources for use on District equipment without the prior approval of the Superintendent. Such pre-approval will include a review of any copyright infringements or virus problems associated with such outside software.

See the District Network Security Standards and Board policies concerning staff and student use of e-mail, and staff and student Network and Internet Acceptable Use for more details.

F.S. 119.011

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the Bylaws and Policies of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools were adopted on May 11, 2011 and were in effect beginning July 1, 2011.

7540.03 - STUDENT NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

This policy establishes responsible and acceptable use of the network as a tool for learning in the District. The District Network is defined as all computer resources, including software, hardware, lines and services that allow connection of District computers to other computers, whether they are within the District or external to the District. This includes connection to the Internet while on school property. In this policy, Users are defined as students. No user may use the Network to take any action and/or communicate any language that the employee or student could not take or communicate in person. Prohibitions in applicable Federal, State, and/or local law or regulation, collective bargaining agreements and School Board policies are included. Additionally, this policy reflects that there is no expectation of privacy in the use of e-mail or network communications when such communications occur over District provided equipment. (See Board policies concerning privacy and e-mail).

Access to the Network

The District Network gives schools the ability to share educational and research resources from around the world with all students. These resources include access to instructional applications, interactive collaboration between teachers, students and other users, document sharing, communications of all forms with people from around the world and libraries, museums and research facilities.

Acceptable Use

Use of the Network must support and be consistent with the educational objectives of the District. All users must comply with this policy and the standards of conduct established in the District Codes of Student Conduct (Elementary, Secondary, and Adult), Code of Conduct for Adult Students, Florida's Code of Ethics of the Education Profession, the District Network Security Standards and School Board policies regarding employee behavior.

A. Transmission of any material in violation of local, State, and Federal law or regulation or Board policies is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to copyrighted or trade secret material which the transmitter does not have the right to transmit, and material that is threatening, bullying, discriminatory, slanderous or obscene material.

Obscene material is material which:

- 1. the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find, taken as a whole, appeals solely to the prurient interest; and
- 2. depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct as defined in State law (F.S. 847.001 (11)); and
- 3. taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

- B. Procedures for protesting instructional materials and educational media as they are accessed through the Internet are governed by Policy <u>2510</u>.
- C. Use of the Internet for political activities is prohibited.
- Use of the Network for product advertisement, commercial activities, political campaigning or solicitation is prohibited.
- E. The District shall use an Internet Content Filter to prevent User access to prohibited material.

Users of the District Network are charged with notice that besides obscene material, there are other potentially objectionable materials available on the Internet, including sites with adult content, nudity, and gambling, as well as sites advocating violence and illegal activities. No content filter will ever be 100% accurate, and on occasion either objectionable material may get through or non-objectionable material may be blocked. It is a User's obligation to immediately report these lapses.

Bypassing the District content filter without authorization is strictly prohibited. The District has procedures in place to evaluate requests from Users to block or unblock sites as necessary.

Students, parents and staff should be aware that connection to any Internet or network provider not under District control may be unfiltered, especially open wireless connections. The District is not responsible for unfiltered content that may be viewed or downloaded on District equipment that has been provided to individuals for use outside District property. The District is also not responsible for issues caused by the connection of personal devices to the District's Network or improper use of the District's Network or equipment.

Privilege

Accessing the Internet using District equipment and/or through the District's Network is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use, including violation of this rule may result in cancellation of the privilege.

- A. School, regional center, and District administrators are authorized to determine appropriate and acceptable use pursuant to this policy.
- B. Any user account may be closed, suspended or revoked at any time a school, regional center, or District administrator determines an account user or holder has used the Network in an inappropriate or unacceptable manner in violation of this or any other applicable Board policy.
- C. Inappropriate or unacceptable use is defined as use that violates this policy or the District's purpose in providing students and employees safe access to the Internet and use that violates the District Codes of Student Conduct (Elementary, Secondary, and Adult), Code of Conduct for Adult Students, Florida's Code of Ethics of the Education Profession, the District Network Security Standards, and Board policies governing employee behavior, or any local, State, or Federal law or regulation.
- D. Access to the Internet from the District Network as a tool for learning will be automatic. Parents must notify the school in writing if they do not want their child to access the Internet.

Monitoring

District Staff has the right to review any material on user accounts to maintain adequate fileserver space and monitor appropriateness of material transmitted through the Network. The District shall respect the privacy rights of user accounts unless there is a violation or suspected violation of this policy.

Network Etiquette

All Users are expected to follow the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These standards of conduct include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. Users should be polite. The use of abusive language is prohibited.
- B. Use appropriate language. The use of profanity, vulgarities or any other inappropriate language is prohibited.
- C. Engaging in activities which are prohibited under local, State or Federal law is prohibited.
- D. Activities which violate the Codes of Student Conduct (Policy <u>5500</u>), the Code of Ethics of the Education Profession in the State of Florida, the District Network Security Standards and Board policies governing employee behavior, are prohibited.
- E. Do not reveal your personal address and/or telephone number or that of other Users unless compelled to by law.
- F. Electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the authorities without notice.
- G. Do not use the Network in such a way that other Users would be unable to get the full benefit of information available. This includes, but is not limited to: running applications that deny the Network's services to others, tying up computers without a legitimate educational or school district or school business purpose while others are waiting, damaging software or hardware so that others are unable to use it, or any conduct that would be prohibited by State law (F.S. 815.06).
- H. Do not use the Network to send or receive messages that discriminate based on sex, race, color, religion, ethnic or national origin, political beliefs, marital status, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, social and family background, linguistic preference, disability or that are inflammatory.

Services

Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the User's own risk. The District will not be responsible for any damages a User may incur. This includes, but is not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by negligence, errors, or omissions.

The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Network. All Users need to consider the source of any information they obtain through the Network, and evaluate the accuracy of the information.

Security

Security on any computer network is a high priority, especially when the system involves many Users.

- A. If a User can identify a security problem on the Network, the User must notify a system administrator. The User must not disclose or demonstrate the problem to others.
- B. Users must not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log into the system as any other user will result in disciplinary action as described in Disciplinary Action.
- C. Any User that has been determined by administrators to have violated this rule may be denied future access to the Internet through the District Network.

- D. A User with a history of using other computer systems in an inappropriate or unacceptable manner may be denied access to the District Network.
- E. Users of the Network will be held responsible for all activity associated with the User's account. Users should not share their passwords with anyone, engage in activities that would reveal anyone's password or allow anyone to use a computer to which they are logged on.
- F. Accessing chat rooms or instant messaging while using the District Network is prohibited.
- G. The use of Internet tools such as blogs and discussion boards are intended for educational purposes only.
- H. Downloading pictures, sounds, video clips, text documents or any material without authorization and without confirmation is prohibited unless the User has the right to use it or has obtained permission from the copyright owner.
- I. Downloading games, video files, audio files or running streaming media without educational value and without authorization by a teacher or a local administrator is prohibited.
- J. Uploading, downloading or installing software applications without authorization is prohibited.
- K. Using the District's wireless equipment while on District property to connect without authorization to any wireless networks other than those provided by the District, is prohibited. External signals will not provide content filtering and access to private networks may be illegal.

Vandalism and Harassment

Vandalism and harassment when utilizing the Internet will result in cancellation of User privileges. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses and the attempt to destroy, harm or modify data of another User.

Procedures for Use

Student users must always get permission from their teachers or facilitators before using the Network or accessing any specific file or application. Student users must also follow written and oral classroom instructions.

- A. All users have the same right to use the computer resources. Users shall not play games without educational value or use the computer resources for non-academic activities when other users require the system for academic purposes.
 - Personal use of the District Network, including e-mail and the Internet, is permitted as long as it does not interfere with an employee's duties and/or system operation and abides by all District policies and standards.
- B. Teachers are responsible for teaching proper techniques and standards for participation, for guiding student access to appropriate sections of the Internet, and for assuring that students understand that if they misuse the Network they will lose their privilege to access the Internet from the classroom environment. Students should not be provided with Network access unless they are properly supervised by an individual trained to provide the guidance students require.
- Pursuant to Federal law, students shall receive education about the following:
 - 1. safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of electronic communications;

- 2. the dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally identifiable information; and
- 3. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking"), cyberbullying, and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online.
- D. In a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) school environment, students will be notified of additional responsibilities within the framework of the District's educational objectives. A "device" is defined as "a laptop computer, a smartphone or cellular phone, or any other electronic device that may access the school's network". Staff and students must accept and comply with the following District requirements and restrictions for participation:
 - Users may only connect their devices to the District's filtered Network wirelessly or through a direct connection for data access during school hours, in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Connecting to broadband services for data access during school hours without approval and direction is prohibited. Use of any electronic device, and the telephone capabilities of those devices, are governed by the Codes of Student Conduct (Elementary, Secondary, and Adult).
 - 2. Users are responsible for ensuring their devices use security applications to protect the devices from infection and prevent spreading infections from the devices.
 - 3. Users connecting to a school's and/or the District's Network shall release the District from any and all liability for any damage to devices that may or is alleged to have resulted from use of the school's and/or District's Network. The District shall not be responsible for a personally owned device becoming infected when connected to the District's Network or for a student's exposure to inappropriate material when using a personally purchased broadband connection.
 - The District is not responsible for personally owned devices that are damaged, lost, or stolen.
 - Pursuant to Board Policy <u>5517.01</u>, cyber bullying is prohibited at all times, on campus or off, whether using District-owned equipment and networks or personally owned equipment and broadband connection plans.
 - 6. Social media like Facebook and similar websites allow Users to "friend" other Users. The District discourages teachers from "friending" students to reduce the possibility of inappropriate communications between them. Students should not try to "friend" teachers. In addition, Users should always be cautious in using social media and, in particular, never reveal personal information about themselves or others.

Inappropriate Material

Inappropriate material is material that is inconsistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the educational mission of the District. It is impossible to control effectively the content of data and an industrious User may discover inappropriate material.

Disciplinary Actions for Improper Use

The act of using the District's Network signifies that the User will comply with this policy.

Disciplinary action for inappropriate use by Users will be based on the tiered actions described in the Codes of Student Conduct (Elementary, Secondary or Adult) (Policy <u>5500</u>) and may include, but is not limited to, loss of privilege, suspension or expulsion.

F.S. 1001.43, 1001.51

H.R. 4577, P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000

47 U.S.C. 254(h),(1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended 20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended 18 U.S.C. 2256 18 U.S.C. 1460 18 U.S.C. 2246 76 F.R. 56295, 56303

Revised 7/18/12

©Miami-Dade, 2010

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the Bylaws and Policies of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools were adopted on May 11, 2011 and were in effect beginning July 1, 2011.

9120 - PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM

The School Board shall inform the public on matters regarding District policies, finances, programs, personnel, and operations. The Superintendent shall implement an information program designed to notify the general public of the achievements and needs of the schools.

Announcements to Parents and the General Public

Upon approval from the Superintendent, materials for countywide distribution will be released and monitored through the District office.

The Principal of each school is responsible for routine school announcements to the parents of the school. A file copy of all routine school announcements will be kept by the Principal for at least two (2) years.

School News Releases

All news releases concerning the school system will be cleared through the Office of Public Relations with the exception of any reports concerning athletic games and information pertaining to the operation of a particular school. The Principal is responsible for the preparation and distribution of news releases concerning the activities within his/her building.

News releases includes newspaper releases, radio and television reports, programs and spot announcements, coordination of press conferences, and similar activities.

This is not to be construed as preventing any school authority from using discretion in responding to queries from news media. A response may be given upon approval by the Office of Public Relations. Administrators, teachers, and other staff members are urged to share their school news with the Office of Public Relations.