

The Procedures for Promoting and Maintaining a Safe Learning Environment are incorporated by reference and is a part of [School Board Rule 6Gx13- 5D-1.08, Maintenance of Appropriate Student Behavior](#). It has been prepared to assist school administrators in promoting and maintaining a safe learning environment in the public schools of Miami-Dade County, Florida. These procedures and directions are set forth to guide and promote orderly and productive participation of students in school life and support the achievement of Florida's education goal for school safety and environment, Section 229.591(3)(e), F.S.

Student actions and behaviors that can be defined as disruptive and/or threatening must be dealt with according to Florida Statutes, and Florida Board of Education and Miami-Dade County School Board Rules. This manual contains information necessary to assist school administrators in making the most appropriate decisions and taking warranted action in promoting and maintaining a safe learning environment.

Miami-Dade County's public schools are designed to promote opportunities and develop skills to enable students to achieve academic excellence. This purpose is best achieved in a learning climate where the rights and responsibilities of every person are known, respected, and upheld. Continuous opportunities for all students, parents/guardians, staff members, and citizens to examine and discuss school practices and policies will be provided. Each person has the right to dissent and to present concerns in an orderly manner. In conjunction with these rights is the responsibility of refraining from infringing upon the rights of others.

The successful adaptation and implementation of these procedures are directly related to the:

- communication and articulation network developed at the school level;
- quality and consistency of responses from individual school principals; and
- confidence in, and understanding of, promoting and maintaining a safe learning environment.

Administrators, counselors, and appropriate staff are expected to become familiar with this document, to review it periodically, and to utilize it according to its inherent purpose – promoting and maintaining a safe learning environment in the public schools of Miami-Dade County, Florida. As the administration and staff at each school site address the requirements of current Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) guidelines, they should also review modifications of requirements related to school discipline and school safety as established by the Florida Legislature.

Any changes that would have an impact upon these Procedures for [Promoting and Maintaining a Safe Learning Environment](#) based upon future interpretation or clarification of legislation by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) will be communicated to appropriate staff by means of memoranda.