

Dr. Martin Karp, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: 21ST CENTURY CLASSROOM SKILLS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The workshop at TERRA on April 8, 2013 where a model of the 21st Century Classroom was on display made clear that students would spend increased time using keyboards and viewing monitors rather than using standard writing tools and looking at books.

The method by which standardized tests are administered has begun to change towards a greater reliance on technological tools including the computer. Many students throughout all the grade levels, but especially in the primary and intermediate grades interact with computer devices without using the proper technique of keyboarding.

Time management and accuracy will be among the critical components needed in meeting and exceeding proficiency levels. Effective keyboarding is necessary for improving time management and for increasing accuracy in testing and for use in everyday life.

In addition to greater usage of the keyboard, students will view screens and monitors more frequently during standardized testing and time spent in the 21st Century Classroom. Research is needed to determine the impact on students' vision and to formulate guidelines.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. MARTIN KARP:

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. explore developing a curriculum that would provide enjoyable ways to teach and learn keyboarding skills for elementary school students; and,
2. determine whether appropriate levels of time spent viewing monitors and screens requires specific guidelines.