



# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

*giving our students the world*

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September 20, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student:

Homestead Senior High School continues to strive to provide your child with a foundation of academic excellence. In order to achieve success, it is vital that all stakeholders are aware of the crucial role attendance plays in your child's education. The administrative team wants to ensure that all parents, guardians and students are aware of the policies and procedures implemented by Miami Dade County Public Schools and Homestead Senior High.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools *No Grade Policy* states a "No Grade" to be issued when students surpass the maximum of 5 Unexcused Absences per semester. Additionally, "tardies" are just as detrimental to your child's academic success as absences. Last year, Homestead Senior High School enforced this policy, and will continue to follow through diligently for the 2016-2017 school year. As a result, we will continue to grow as a school and prepare our students to be successful shareholders in society.

School attendance has been shown to have a direct correlation to closing achievement gaps related to lower performance in daily classroom achievement and standardized examinations. Furthermore, demonstrating excellence in daily attendance is parallel to lowering student dropout rates. Being at school and in class on time, by the 7:20 bell, will also ensure that students do not miss out on crucial school information/announcements.

During the 2015-2016 school year, we witnessed a number of our students putting forth a conscientious effort to improve their attendance and tardy rates. Last year the schools' administrative team was able to provide those students, as well as students who maintained superior daily attendance, with various incentives through our Positive Behavior Support (PBS) programs. During the 2016-2017 school year, the staff will continue in their efforts to recognize outstanding attendance achievement by our students.

We know that students can be successful in their endeavors to improve daily attendance. With the help of all stakeholders (administration, school staff, parents, guardian and students) we can achieve our goals. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact the school at 305-245-7000.

Sincerely,

Guillermo A. Muñoz