

Instruction - Elementary and Secondary**INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is committed to ensuring that every student in the district is equipped with the essential technological, critical thinking, and communications skills necessary to compete in the 21st century. Preparing students to be contributing citizens and productive members of tomorrow=s workforce requires that schools combine the best of traditional learning with the unprecedented opportunities technology has to offer. Just as technology has made the high-performance workplace possible, when it is effectively integrated into classroom instruction at all levels, it can raise both the quality of teaching and the level of student understanding and achievement.

In order to ensure individual student achievement, technology is utilized to support pedagogical models that address student needs and maximize learning for all students. Additionally, technology is a vehicle for addressing essential school to work competencies.

High-level specialized computer programming courses are taught in middle and senior high schools through the computer education departments. Vocational and technical courses are provided in secondary schools in addition to the adult and vocational centers that prepare students with the training necessary to pursue various computer-related careers.

At its core, the goal of Instructional Technology Education is to assist schools integrate the following four critical components:

- connectivity to the Internet;
- access and availability of hardware;
- appropriate educational software; and
- comprehensive professional development.

Insofar as resources permit, it is the intent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools that technology become pervasive in every school throughout the district. Student and teacher access to the technology is critical to support student learning across all content areas.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools seeks to establish instructional technology as one of its highest priorities, recognizing that to do less would not prepare students to become successful and personally fulfilled individuals.

Specific Authority: 230.22(2) F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 229.8041 F.S.

History: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

New: 7-22-98