

# Broward County Public Schools New Waiver Application



*Broward County Schools is the largest fully accredited school district in the United States*

School Improvement Waivers are designed to remove barriers to school improvement that have been found in state statute, school board policy, or collective bargaining contract (see School Board Policy #1403). Waivers must be based on sound educational research and evaluation, must be budget neutral to the district, must be supported by stakeholders in the local school community, and must be approved by 66.67% of the faculty. Waivers may be approved for up to five years by the School Board, but the faculty must approve the waiver each year. Waivers must be equitable for all students in a particular student group.

Waiver #	2
School Name:	Miramar High
Board Policy/Contract Article:	6000.1
Board Approved:	TBA
Years Approved:	5
Target Area:	Exam Exemption
Waiver Status:	New
Initial Year of Implementation:	2020
District's Strategic Alignment Plan:	Instruction/Teaching & Assessing for Learning
Accreditation Standard Alignment:	Teaching and Assessing for Learning

- Miramar High** is requesting a waiver for **Exam Exemption** for a period of 5 years. **Miramar High** will analyze the data and present them to SAC.
- This waiver proposal was presented, reviewed, and endorsed by all stakeholders of the local school community at meetings on:
 

Community Meeting 1:	09/17/2019
Community Meeting 2:	10/02/2019
Community Meeting 3:	11/19/2019
- The School Advisory Council voted on the **Exam Exemption** Waiver by 100% (minimum of 51%) on 11/19/2019.
- The Faculty voted on the implementation of **Exam Exemption** by 73% (minimum of 66 2/3%) on 01/06/2020, according to the voting guidelines in the Broward Teachers Union Contract, Article 15.
- Write the exact language of the school board policy or contract article that the proposed waiver will supersede.

Per School Board Policy 6000.1, students who have earned a grade of "B" or better in each marking period during the semester of a high school course may be exempt from up to 3 midterm and/or final exams. Advanced Placement classes, AICE classes, FLVS/BVS, and/or Dual Enrollment course midterm exams may not be exempt. Students may exempt midterm exams for EOC courses. All exam exemptions require parent permission.

6. State the waiver: change, delete, or add to the policy or contract so as to fulfill the requirements of the proposed waiver.

The purpose of the Exam Exemption Waiver is to NOT allow students that take FSA and/OR EOC courses to exempt their midterm exams.

7. State the rationale for the proposed waiver. How will the proposed waiver support school improvement? Give background information, history of barrier, etc.

Midterm examinations serve as opportunity for students to practice taking high stake assessments. By exempting the midterm students are missing an opportunity to prepare for their state assessments. In requiring students to take their midterm examinations in FSA and EOC course students are afforded an additional opportunity to prepare for high stake assessments.

8. Recognizing that one strategy alone does not affect school-wide achievement, identify and explain the baseline data for the proposed waiver.

As of 2019, student proficiency on the FSA ELA was at 41%. On the algebra and geometry EOCs, student proficiency was at 29%. On the Biology EOC, student proficiency was at 50%. On the American History EOC, student proficiency was at 66%. While students might not show proficiency on state assessments, many of them earn an A or B for the nine weeks in their FSA and EOC courses. As a result, they are able to exempt their midterm examinations. These students are missing out on an assessment opportunity that would further prepare them for required high state testing.

9. What reliable research studies, proven strategies, best practices, or similar programs support the probable success of the proposed waiver?

Repeated student exposure to items on high stake tests such is provided through common formative assessments, midterm and final examinations increases the likelihood that students will be prepared for the rigor, length and challenge of high stakes state assessments.

10. **Miramar High** will evaluate the effectiveness of the waiver each year. Include current data in alignment to the baseline data to measure the impact of the waiver.

11. We confirm that the **Exam Exemption** was implemented as described above:

Principal: Maria Formoso Date: 02/04/2020 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

SAC Chairperson: Jason Fernandez and Nicole Mangone Date: 02/04/2020 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

12. This waiver has been reviewed by:

Broward Teacher's Union Rep: John Overn Date: 02/04/2020 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

13. This waiver has been reviewed by the Office of Strategic Achievement:

OSA Rep: Date: Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

This waiver application, with original signatures, is to be kept on file at the school and made available to District personnel upon request.

A scanned version of the completed Exam Exemption Waiver Process, with signatures, and all other required documents are to be uploaded to [http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/schoolimprove/school\\_staff\\_login.asp](http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/schoolimprove/school_staff_login.asp) by February 8, 2013.

The filename to upload is to be: SchoolName\_GradeLevel\_WaiverNumber\_Date.pdf,  
ex. *Abc\_ES\_1\_02082013.pdf*

**Last updated on: Tuesday, May 12, 2020**