

CONNECTION

A Newsletter for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Parents

M-DCPS HONORS OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR



Principal of the Year Maritza D. Jimenez is honored at the awards ceremony. Maritza D. Jimenez, who serves as principal of Hialeah Gardens Middle School, won top honors as the District's Principal of the Year. M-DCPS honored its finest principals and assistant principals at an awards ceremony sponsored by DASA on April 6 at Jungle Island.

Jimenez has served as principal of Hialeah Gardens Middle since 2008. She brings more than 20 years of experience in administration and curricular expertise. She began her career teaching Special Education at Henry H. Filer Middle School in 1997.

Cisely Scott of Lenora B. Smith Elementary School was named Assistant Principal of the Year. Scott, who began her career with M-DCPS as a teacher at Kensington Park Elementary in 2000, has served as an Assistant Principal at Lenora B. Smith since 2012.

Also recognized at the ceremony was Principal of the Year Runner-up Miguel Veloso of Miami Springs Senior Adult and Community Education Center and Assistant Principal of the Year Runner-up Carl Robinson of Winston Park K-8 center.



Cisely Scott of Lenora B. Smith, M-DCPS' Assistant Principal of the Year.

OVER 3,000 TURN OUT TO SUPPORT EDUCATION AT 2nd ANNUAL SUPERINTENDENT'S 5K CHALLENGE



Thousands of teachers, students, parents and community supporters joined Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho on April 1 to run and walk in support of education at the Superintendent's 5K Challenge. The male runner with the fastest time was Leonardo Canete with a winning time of 18:33. The female winner was Lina Adjouadi who ran the five kilometer course in 19:58.

The Superintendent's Challenge 5K Run/Walk was hosted jointly with The Foundation for New Education Initiatives and was created to promote health and wellness in our schools and in our community.

UPCOMING SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

May 24	10:00 a.m.	Instructional Material Public Hearing
	11:00 a.m.	Regular Meeting (Final Reading - Attendance Zones for 2017-2018)
June 21	11:00 a.m.	Regular Meeting

DUAL ENROLLMENT COLLEGE CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE AT M-DCPS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ponce de Leon Middle School became the first middle school in Miami-Dade County to offer a college dual enrollment science course in collaboration with Florida International University (FIU). Twenty 8th-grade Ponce students, who met PERT entrance exam requirements along with high school GPA requirements while in middle school, are the first students to take advantage of this amazing opportunity with FIU.

FIU professor James Jiler teaches the "Introduction to Environmental Science" class twice a week after school at Ponce de Leon Middle. Upon successful completion of this tuition-free course, the students will receive three college credits.

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 18 -	Secondary Early Release Day
May 29 -	Observance of Memorial Day
June 8 -	Last Day of School

M-DCPS HONORS INVOLVED FAMILIES

M-DCPS honored 230 families with the prestigious 2016-2017 Family of the Year Awards. To celebrate the active role that these families play in their children's education at home and at school, each winner received an Ibiley \$50 gift card, a Family of the Year medallion and an all-day park admission to Jungle Island. Three of the families were named as M-DCPS' regional award winners, taking home a fieldtrip, including transportation and 100 admissions to Jungle Island for their school.

The Regional Award winners are the Davis Family from Norland Middle School, the Posada Family from E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary, and the Leal Family from Riviera Middle School.



M-DCPS GOB PROGRAM SURPASSES \$500 MILLION MARK



In the four years since voters approved the General Obligation Bond (GOB), the District has advanced swiftly with a wide range of projects. As of March 31, GOB expenditures and contracted work totaled approximately \$534.2 million (\$91.7 million for technology and \$442.5 million for facilities). Visit <http://bondsforschools.dadeschools.net/> to view the dashboard and the progress of projects across M-DCPS.

THREE MIAMI-DADE SCHOOLS AWARDED ELECTRONIC KEYBOARD LABS FROM THE MUSIC AND THE BRAIN GRANT



Frances S. Tucker Elementary, Miami Springs Elementary, and Earlington Heights Elementary each are the recipients of an Electronic Keyboard Lab awarded by the not-for-profit 42nd Street Development Corporation through the Music and The Brain (MATB) grant. Students in grades 2-5 will learn to read and play music, understand rhythm, and will be exposed to a variety of genres of music and famous composers through this innovative music class.

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