

Roger C. Cuevas, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF PACES TEACHER PROGRAM ASSISTANTS FOR COLLEGIAL EFFORTS

The *Professional Assessment and Comprehensive Evaluation System (PACES)* is the district's initiative for evaluating teachers based on classroom observation of teaching and learning. The *PACES* is a collaborative effort of Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the United Teachers of Dade currently being piloted in all school sites with all classroom teachers.

Whenever an innovation is introduced in a diverse district the size of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, it is critical to have spokespersons and leaders who are recognized by their peers for their expertise and credibility. It is for this reason teachers were identified by region, district, and union personnel to work with colleagues in multiple professional development programs needed before full implementation of the *PACES*. These teachers represent the different school levels within various school communities.

These 31 Teacher Program Assistants (TPAs) participate in intensive development sessions on weekends and summers to advance their knowledge base in preparation for the responsibility of working with colleagues. They work closely with Principal Program Leaders in the *PACES* Summer Academies for Teachers providing professional development programs to colleagues at various school sites throughout the district. Additionally, TPAs are instrumental in developing and reviewing *PACES* support materials for use by teachers and administrators.

It is for this dedication to the tasks and the commitment to improving the teaching and learning in our schools for our children that we recognize the efforts of these teachers today.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognize the Professional Assessment and Comprehensive Evaluation Systems (*PACES*) Teacher Program Assistants for their collegial efforts to advance teaching and learning in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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