

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum, Instruction, and School Improvement

SUBJECT: REQUEST THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ACKNOWLEDGE THE DESIGNATION OF HOMESTEAD, MIAMI EDISON, AND BOOKER T. WASHINGTON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS AS *RISE TO RIGOR* SCHOOLS

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Working in collaboration with the College Board, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has been able to secure from the Florida Partnership the designation of three Miami-Dade County senior high schools as *Rise to Rigor* schools. Homestead, Miami Edison, and Booker T. Washington Senior High Schools will be provided a College Board consultant who will support the following objectives, strategies, and indicators:

Objectives

- Increase access/enrollment in rigorous courses;
- Increase access to College Board resources for schools;
- Prepare all students for the next level after graduation;
- Strengthen individual institutions with a personalized state outreach; and
- Change the mindset towards education overall and make rigor a state of mind.

Strategies

- Change registration processes so that students are registered for rigor unless parents request otherwise;
- Provide on the ground technical assistance and professional development by College Board consultant;
- Offer more rigorous courses to students;
- Offer open communication between College Board and District; and
- Provide all students access to a rigorous course schedule and market the image of rigor in a positive light.

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Indicators

- Enrollment in rigorous courses will increase from prior year;
- Positive feedback from faculty in response to College Board consultation;
- More students applying and attending postsecondary institutions and an increased completion rate;
- Ease of transition into initiative; and
- Students perform better, are more prepared, and the demand for rigorous classes increases among students.

In addition, the College Board will provide:

- Vertical Team workshops for cohorts of language arts and mathematics teachers from the senior high schools and the feeder middle schools;
- College Ed™ six-week, web-based, 12-lesson course designed to inspire students and their families to prepare for college;
- My Road™ four-year high school experience which provides career and college research/counseling;
- Kaplan-taught SAT Prep Course for 25 students per school;
- Training for administrators; and
- Support materials.

There are only 19 schools in the state of Florida with the *Rise to Rigor* designation of which these three would be the only such schools in the District.

There is no cost to the District.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, acknowledge the designation of Homestead, Miami Edison, and Booker T. Washington Senior High Schools as *Rise to Rigor* schools.

There is no cost to the District.

LCR/MB/BZ:lv