

Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: EXPLORE THE EXPANSION OF CPR TRAINING THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: STUDENT, PARENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Recently, an incident which occurred along a Miami-Dade expressway in which a baby was saved by a quick thinking family member through the use of the lifesaving technique known as cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), grabbed national headlines. This incident served as a reminder of how important it is that as many people as possible know how to perform CPR.

Currently, the Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) Office of Physical Education and Health Literacy is a CPR Training Center aligned with the American Heart Association (AHA). Through this office, instructor training in CPR is provided to secondary school physical education teachers; and annually Food and Nutrition cafeteria managers receive training in both CPR and the use of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) devices. In addition, our training center also conducts CPR-AED certification classes for M-DCPS school volunteers through the Office of Community Engagement.

Finally, CPR training opportunities are offered to secondary students. The AHA recently donated 800 "Hands-Only" CPR tool-kits and staff has trained 400 students at Homestead Senior High School, and over 100 students at Charles Drew Middle School and William Turner Technical Senior High School, respectively.

Clearly, CPR is a simple, yet critical lifesaving skill that if performed properly, can prevent many unnecessary tragedies by providing valuable time until emergency personnel can arrive. As a school system, M-DCPS serves as a hub for the community, with facilities throughout the county. With over 53,000 employees and 340,000 students, a majority of the Miami-Dade's citizens have some relationship with our District and therefore it is logical that we explore the possibility of expanding CPR training opportunities, either through our own resources or in partnership with others. Through our efforts, we may be able to save lives.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida endorse the exploration of expanding training in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) to the community.