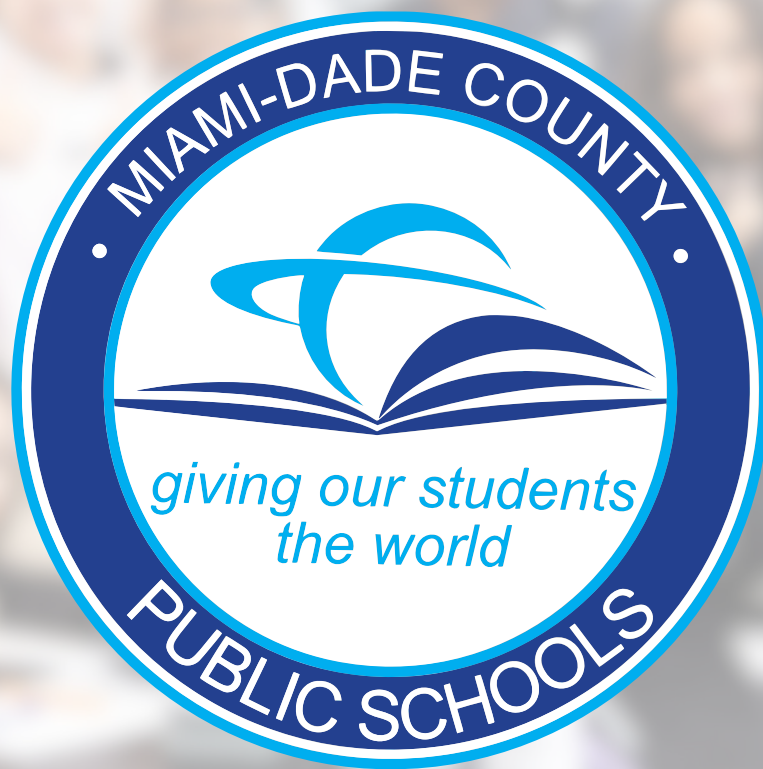


Miami-Dade County Public Schools
2025-2026 End-of-Year
New Initiatives Showcase



#YourBestChoiceMDCPS

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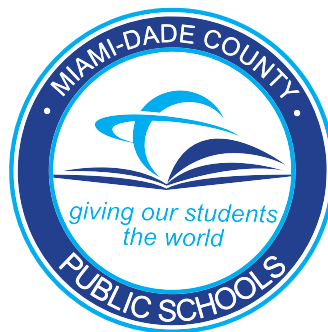
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Introduction

At Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), we continuously strive to foster an environment where Excellence, Choice, Innovation, and Safety are everyday realities. Through visionary initiatives designed to enhance educational outcomes, expand opportunities, and empower communities, we are reshaping the educational landscape to better serve students, families, and educators alike. The 2025-2026 End-of-Year New Initiatives Showcase exemplifies our steadfast commitment to these guiding anchors, spotlighting groundbreaking programs that ensure safe environments, drive innovation in teaching and leadership, achieve excellence in student experiences, and offer meaningful choices for students' futures.



Excellence: Our relentless pursuit of excellence ensures our students, educators, and staff are equipped to reach their highest potential, continuously setting new standards for educational achievement.



Choice: We honor the individuality of every learner, providing multiple, meaningful pathways that empower students and families to shape their own unique futures and fully realize their dreams.



Innovation: We boldly embrace change, harnessing the power of cutting-edge technology and creative partnerships to transform education and prepare future-ready learners and leaders.



Safety: We champion a nurturing, secure environment where students' physical, mental, and emotional well-being are safeguarded, empowering them to learn, grow, and thrive without limits.

The icons above will appear next to each New Initiative to indicate its alignment with one of the District's four anchors.



New Initiatives Showcase

Launch of K-3 Sprouts



Understanding that a strong foundation is the cornerstone of lifelong academic success, M-DCPS is proudly advancing the development of PK-3 Sprouts, a high-quality early learning opportunity for three-year-old students.

Designed to strengthen school readiness and nurture critical foundational skills, this district-operated, fee-supported program will expand educational access across our communities prior to Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK).

Through a full-day, play-based instructional model, PK-3 Sprouts focuses on early literacy, numeracy, and essential social-emotional development utilizing the Florida Early Learning Developmental Standards. During the 2025-2026 school year, M-DCPS carefully worked on the planning and development phases of the K-3 Sprouts program to launch in the next school year.

Starting in the 2026–2027 school year, this dynamic program will launch at seven school sites, with a maximum of 17 students per class, selected through data-driven enrollment metrics, facility capacity, and localized community early learning needs. This initiative reflects the District's core values of Excellence and Choice by extending high-quality learning opportunities to our youngest students, helping them grow, thrive, and reach their full potential from day one.



New Initiatives Showcase

Expanding Early Childhood Partnerships



Fostering a seamless educational pipeline that nurtures our youngest learners from birth, M-DCPS expanded high-impact strategic partnerships with external early childhood providers during the 2025–2026 school year.

This visionary initiative began with the release of an Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) on November 18, 2024, culminating in the School Board's landmark approval of Agenda Item E-147 on May 14, 2025, which authorized direct negotiations with select community providers. Deeply committed to transparency and community voice, M-DCPS hosted three regional town halls in September 2025 at Hialeah Middle, Miami Southridge Senior High, and Miami Coral Park Senior High Schools, gathering vital insights from families, early learning advocates, and prospective partners. By solidifying these public-private pathways and ensuring robust readiness before students enter VPK and kindergarten, this initiative stands as a proud testament to our core guiding anchors of Innovation and Excellence, proactively closing achievement gaps before they ever begin. Backed by a cross-functional task force and structured process, M-DCPS is currently managing a range of early childhood provider partnerships at various developmental milestones to expand early education opportunities for children from birth through age three.



New Initiatives Showcase

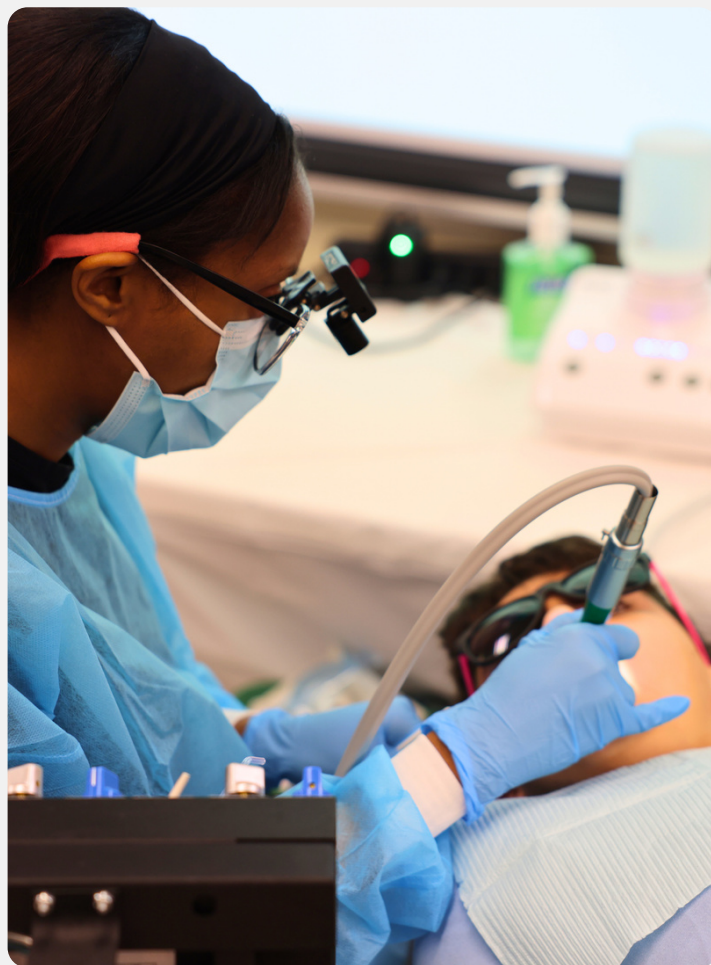
Big Smiles



Recognizing that student health and well-being are directly linked to academic performance and consistent attendance, Miami-Dade County Public Schools launched a new partnership with Big Smiles in March 2026 to expand access to preventive dental care for students. This high-impact initiative removes common barriers to care—such as transportation challenges, out-of-pocket costs, and limited provider access—by delivering comprehensive, on-site preventive dental services directly to selected school campuses.

In its first year, the program served 1,215 students, providing critical access to care that might otherwise have been delayed or unavailable. Early feedback underscores its strong community impact, with families expressing deep appreciation for the convenience and quality of services.

By meeting students where they are, the District proactively addresses one of the leading preventable causes of absenteeism while minimizing disruptions to instructional time. This initiative reflects the District's guiding anchors of Safety and Excellence by expanding access to preventive dental care and ensuring students return to class healthier, more confident, and ready to learn.



New Initiatives Showcase

Expansion of HealthConnect in Our Schools



Elevating the health and holistic well-being of our students as a foundational prerequisite for academic success, the District achieved a historic milestone through the expansion of HealthConnect in Our Schools (HCIOS) during the 2025–2026 school year. Thanks to the support of The Children's Trust and dedicated funding partners, this initiative nearly doubled its reach, expanding from 141 campuses to 283 school sites while growing from a \$16 million to a \$24 million investment in student health services.

Operating through a sophisticated, tiered delivery model, HCIOS provides students with seamless, on-site nursing services, physical and mental healthcare, mobile health units, and advanced telehealth solutions. By integrating these cutting-edge digital care platforms, the District successfully eliminates health-related barriers, directly addressing chronic health conditions and youth mental health needs. This expansion stands as a reflection of our fundamental anchors of Safety and Excellence, nurturing the whole child, protecting our classrooms, and ensuring every student returns to their studies healthy, supported, and fully prepared to learn.



New Initiatives Showcase

Miami Loves Teachers - Celebrating and Supporting Educators



Recognizing educators as the foundation of student success, M-DCPS launched the Miami Loves Teachers initiative, a collaboration among the College Football Playoff (CFP) Foundation, the Orange Bowl Committee, and The Education Fund.

Designed to support, recognize, and retain exceptional educators, this initiative has grown into a centralized platform that connects teachers with essential classroom resources, targeted professional learning opportunities, and meaningful community recognition. Throughout the 2025–2026 school year, Miami Loves Teachers elevated teacher morale through high-impact engagement points, including Teacher of the Week classroom grants, large-scale distributions of free instructional supplies, and exclusive appreciation experiences in partnership with local professional sports organizations.

Beyond recognition, the initiative strengthens recruitment and retention by investing in aspiring educators, promoting the value of the teaching profession, and fostering a culture where educators feel supported, celebrated, and inspired to remain in M-DCPS.

By enhancing the overall employee experience and cultivating strategic community partnerships, Miami Loves Teachers reinforces the District's commitment to Excellence and Innovation, strengthening M-DCPS's ability to recruit and retain outstanding educators.



New Initiatives Showcase

Expanding CTE Dual Enrollment for High School Students through M-DCPS Technical Colleges



Catalyzing a new era of workforce readiness and economic empowerment, M-DCPS expanded its Career and Technical Education (CTE) Dual Enrollment opportunities across six technical colleges during the 2025–2026 school year. This expansion grants high school students fully tuition-free access to rigorous industry certifications in critical, high-demand, and high-wage sectors, including automotive technology, medical assisting, dental assisting, avionics systems, and aviation mechanics.

Funded entirely through strategic competitive grants and industry performance incentives, this high-impact initiative enhances workforce alignment and accelerates career trajectories while engineering a robust local talent pipeline. By bridging secondary education with immediate economic utility, this program stands as a powerful reflection of our core guiding anchors of Excellence, Choice, and Innovation, fueling sustainable growth for both our students and the broader Miami-Dade economy.



New Initiatives Showcase



Expansion of Aerospace and Aviation Workforce Education

Propelling our workforce development into the area of global economic innovation, M-DCPS successfully secured \$3,249,247 in state funding during the 2025–2026 school year to scale Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways aligned with high-demand aerospace and aviation careers.

This investment supports the launch of the District's second SpaceHUB Magnet program at Booker T. Washington Senior High School. Developed in partnership with Space Florida, the program offers specialized pathways in Aerospace Applied Engineering, Aerospace Applied Robotics, and Aerospace Electrical Systems.

Building on the success of the initial SpaceHUB at Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High School, this expansion strengthens the District's talent pipeline to meet the growing demands of Florida's aerospace and defense sectors. An additional \$350,000 in targeted funding supports the expansion of postsecondary aviation maintenance programs and increases access to advanced certifications for adult learners and recent graduates.

By bridging elite industry collaboration with classroom instruction, these combined initiatives champion our guiding anchors of Excellence, Choice, and Innovation, equipping our students and adult learners with the competitive credentials necessary to lead and thrive in tomorrow's high-demand, high-wage technical economies.



New Initiatives Showcase

Elevating High School Athletics through adidas® Collaboration



Elevating our athletic programs to a position of premier distinction, Miami-Dade County Public Schools proudly launched a districtwide, multi-year partnership with adidas in August 2025, making the global brand the official athletic apparel and equipment partner for all Greater Miami Athletic Conference schools. Unveiled at the historic Traz Powell Stadium, this partnership provides high-performance adidas® uniforms for 41 high schools across the county, including the renowned "Super 7" athletic programs.

This collaboration enhances the student-athlete experience and strengthens M-DCPS athletics. Through official licensed adidas® apparel, including the custom "305" and "Made in Dade" collections, families and supporters can show their school spirit while directly supporting their school's athletic programs. This initiative reflects the District's guiding anchors of Excellence, Choice, and Innovation by strengthening school pride, community engagement, and opportunities for student-athletes.



New Initiatives Showcase

The Portrait of an M-DCPS Graduate



Serving as the definitive "North Star" for the District's future, the Portrait of an M-DCPS Graduate was officially approved at the May 2026 School Board Meeting as the foundational component for the new 2026-2031 Strategic Plan. This comprehensive, community-driven initiative spanned from May 2024 through early 2026, engaging a broad cross-section of stakeholders to define the attributes necessary for student success. The development process gathered responses from over 65 targeted focus groups and utilized a districtwide survey that included more than 70,000 voices from students, parents, employees, and community & industry partners. By synthesizing the largest qualitative community input thus far through the cross-functional CANVAS Miami™ Working Group, the District successfully aligned its long-term vision with the collective aspirations of the Miami-Dade community.

This cornerstone framework will now act as our guiding blueprint, reflecting our core anchors of Excellence and Innovation by ensuring every District priority directly prepares M-DCPS graduates to lead, compete, and thrive.



COLLABORATOR

I share my ideas clearly, listen to others, and engage respectfully with all people, including those who speak different languages or have different backgrounds.



PROBLEM SOLVER

I think carefully about information, look at things in different ways, and use my curiosity to solve problems and learn new things.



RESILIENT LEARNER

I keep trying even when things are hard, adjust when things change, and stay motivated to do my best.



COMMUNITY CHAMPION

I uplift my school and community by caring about others and taking action to make our world a better place.



ADAPTIVE GRADUATE

I learn important life skills, use new and evolving technology with confidence and care, and learn how to make good choices with money, time, and responsibilities so I'm ready for the future.



New Initiatives Showcase

M-DCPS' 2026-2031 Strategic Plan



Marking a historic milestone for the future of our entire educational ecosystem, the District's forward-looking 2026–2031 Strategic Plan was officially approved at the May 2026 School Board Meeting.

Rather than a traditional strategic roadmap, this innovative plan represents a dynamic framework connecting insight to action, built upon a deliberate and phased engagement process spanning from August 2025 through May 2026. The foundation of this plan is deeply rooted in community voice, capturing the unique perspectives of more than 190,000 students, parents, employees, and community & industry partners.

Through cross-functional Cabinet retreats and collaborative School Board workshops, the framework successfully shifts focus toward a united educational enterprise where educators, families, and community & industry partners work together toward shared goals. This data-informed blueprint grounds us in our “why” and exemplifies our fundamental anchors of Excellence, Choice, Innovation, and Safety, establishing a cohesive and transparent path that defines success as one connected community.



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