

# 2018-2019



# HIGHLIGHTS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) ongoing tradition of achievement has garnered international, national and state recognition. Once again, several of our high schools were ranked among the nation's best - M-DCPS is home to seven of the top 100 high schools in the nation and 13 schools in Florida's Top 20 - according to U.S. News & World Report. For the 35th year, M-DCPS received the Association of School Business Officials International Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for high-quality reporting to the community. Additional highlights have strengthened the educational experience for all at M-DCPS:



## Academic Excellence

### A-RATED SCHOOL DISTRICT:

For the second year in a row, achieved a districtwide grade of "A". For the third year in a row, there are zero F-rated traditional schools in the District and 99% of all schools are rated A,B, or C.

### SUCCESS IN ADVANCED PLACEMENT:

Continues to increase Advanced Placement (AP) exam passing rates and enrollment. More than 30,000 students participated in an AP course in 2017-2018, showing an overall passing rate of 55 percent, a two percent increase over the previous year.

### CAREER ACADEMIES OUTPERFORM ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Twenty-one academies were among 88 nationwide identified by the National Academy Foundation (NAF) network as Distinguished, the highest level of achievement, more than any district in the nation. An additional 10 schools recognized as Model level.

### GRADUATION RATE SETS RECORD:

Graduation rate (excluding charters) rose to 89 percent for the 2017-2018 academic year - the highest documented rate the school district has achieved.

### MAGNET PROGRAMS GARNER NATIONAL ATTENTION:

Fifty-eight magnet schools honored nationally by Magnet Schools of America with a Merit Award of either Excellence or Distinction for having demonstrated the highest level of achievement. This is more schools than any other district in the country.

### ACCESS TO RIGOROUS COURSES:

Recipient of the 2018 Cambridge District of the Year Award for exceptional commitment to expanding access and delivering a high-quality Cambridge education with equally strong student performance.



## Initiatives

### SECURING OUR FUTURE REFERENDUM:

Seventy percent of Miami-Dade voters resoundingly approved Proposition #362 to raise teachers' salaries and increase school safety. As a result, M-DCPS teachers ratified a new contract with largest pay increase in history.

### CREATION OF MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

With a \$7.8 million investment and the hiring of 30 professionals, the Department of Mental Health Services was created to coordinate and facilitate services between schools and community agencies, ensuring students have access to services.

### #MIAMIREADS CAMPAIGN:

Following Board action, year-long #MiamiReads Campaign promoted reading at all grade levels. It included literacy events and competitions to build a community that will make the joy of reading a part of their daily lives.

### #RESPECT4TEACHERSMDCPS:

Following Board action, launched the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. (Recognize, Engage, Support, Persuade, Educate, Celebrate, Teachers) campaign to highlight the transformational impact that teachers have in molding and shaping the lives of students.

### TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM:

Following Board action, created the E(liminate)-Cigs campaign to increase public awareness on the negative consequences of tobacco use, educating students, staff, and the community on the dangers of using vaping and e-cigarette products.

### EXPANSION OF iATTEND:

Districtwide community partnerships with Florida Panthers and Miami Marlins to support iAttend, M-DCPS' initiative to increase school attendance. Nearly 50,000 students with significantly improved or perfect attendance received free tickets to a baseball game and other incentives.



@MDCPS @MIAMISUP



@MIAMISCHOOLS @MIAMISUP



@MIAMISCHOOLS @ALBERTOMCARVALHO1



# School Safety

## RESOURCE OFFICERS AT EVERY SCHOOL:

Since day one, a certified law enforcement officer was assigned to every school following the swearing-in of 130 newly-hired Miami-Dade Schools Police (M-DSP) officers, and partnerships with Miami-Dade County and various municipalities.

## POLICE COMMAND CENTER:

M-DSP command center created to serve as a digital monitoring clearing house, enhancing safety and security measures and increasing law enforcement's response rate. The center monitors over 16,000 school security cameras including the nearly 1,700 school security cameras installed this year and the more than 1,650 that will be added.



# General Obligation Bond

## MODERNIZING OUR SCHOOLS:

Since the passage of the General Obligation Bond in 2012, approximately 200 main projects and more than 540 accelerated scope projects have been completed, along with dozens more under construction, design or planning. Total work completed or under contract approaches \$800 million.

## NEW FACILITIES:

Kendall Square K-8 Center unveiled, with a total \$14.3 million investment for the first phase including \$10 million in GOB funds. New stand-alone iPrep Academy at Dr. Michael M. Krop, for approximately 600 students, provided the northeast area with an additional choice option.



# Accolades

## ACCREDITATION DISTINCTION:

Largest school district in the nation to earn AdvancED accreditation for a second five-year term. The accreditation is based on District's overall performance of a comprehensive set of indicators and criteria.

## VISIONARY LEADERSHIP:

School Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman received the Lifelong Educator Award from the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) for making a difference in the lives of bilingual learners.

## BEST-IN-STATE EMPLOYER:

Included on Forbes' list of America's Best-In-State Employers. One of only eight Florida school districts included and the only large, urban district in the state to make the list.

School Board Member Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman was recognized by the FBI National Citizens Academy Alumni Association with the Gold Medal Award and as the 2018 Board Member of the Year for his commitment to student safety.

## HIGHEST MAGNET HONORS:

Miami Lakes Educational Center earned the 2019 Dr. Ronald P. Simpson Magnet School of Merit Award of Excellence for highest commitment to diversity, academic excellence, and curriculum innovation. Principal Deborah Leal of Hammocks Middle received the MSA Region III Magnet Principal of the Year award.

School Board Member Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall received the 2019 Government Service Award from the National Alumni Association of Bethune-Cookman University for her continuous civic and social responsibility efforts.

Alberto M. Carvalho was named the 2018 National Urban Superintendent of the Year by the Council of Great City Schools. The Green-Garner Award honors his commitment and passion to increase student achievement. Carvalho was also named the NABE Superintendent of the Year for his exemplary leadership in bilingual education.



# Inspirational Educators

## TEACHER EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION:

Jennifer Jimenez, a music teacher at South Miami Senior High School, has been named one of only six winners of the 2019 Kennedy Center/Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Awards, spotlighting the country's most inspirational teachers.

## TEACHERS OF THE YEAR:

Oliver Diez, music teacher at Palmetto Elementary School, was named the 2020 Francisco R. Walker Miami-Dade County Teacher of the Year. Laura Haim, a teacher at Pinecrest Elementary School, was named Rookie Teacher of the Year.



# Notable Alumni

## 2019 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES:

Three prominent Miamians were inducted into Alumni Hall of Fame: Internationally-acclaimed music producer and Miami Senior High School alumnus Emilio Estefan; Miami Coral Park graduate Alan Fein, who was on the original committee that brought the Miami HEAT franchise to South Florida; and Southwest Miami Senior High School alumna Ana VeigaMilton, President of the José Milton Foundation, who helped establish a recording arts studio at Miami Arts Studio at Zelda Glazer.