

CONNECTION

A Newsletter for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Parents

MAY 2019

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 53

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Learn to Swim
- Prom Boutique
- PAMM

M-DCPS CELEBRATES TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK



M-DCPS ANNOUNCES SUMMER PROGRAMS, CAMPS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools is at the forefront of offering and providing access to outstanding educational programs. Students in all grade levels will have the opportunity to participate in educational services at selected school sites during the summer session, which is scheduled for July 1 – 29, 2019. These services are designed to support students to successfully meet academic grade level requirements.

For more information regarding the summer school



schedule, summer academic/enrichment offerings, online applications, summer camps, and our Summer Youth Internship Program, please visit

<http://news.dadeschools.net/cmnc/new/29073>

#BeSummerReady

IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

May 27 - Observance of Memorial Day
June 6 - Last Day of School
June 7 - Teacher Planning Day

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

JUNE 19

11 a.m.
Regular Meeting

JULY 24

11 a.m.
Regular Meeting
6 p.m.
First Budget Public Hearing and Tentative Adoption of 2019-2020 Millage Levy and Annual Budget

AUG. 14

11 a.m.
Regular Meeting

TOP MAGNET SCHOOLS IN THE NATION



Fifty-eight Miami-Dade County public magnet schools recently were honored at the 37th annual Magnet Schools of America (MSA) National Conference with a Merit Award of either Excellence or Distinction for having demonstrated the highest level of achievement in Magnet schools nationally. This is more schools than any other district in the country – ever!

Among them is Miami Lakes Educational Center, which earned the 2019 Dr. Ronald P. Simpson Magnet School of Merit Award of Excellence for the highest commitment to Diversity, Academic Excellence, and Curriculum Innovation.

Miami-Dade County's public schools, students and employees also received numerous awards and recognitions for stellar work and high levels of achievements during the 2018-2019 year.

LEARN TO SWIM



M-DCPS' Learn to Swim Program (LTSP), also known as iSwim, is currently in its 44th year of operation. This innovative initiative has taught thousands of young students how to swim and eliminate their fear of water-related activities.

The LTSP teaches primary age students the required skills to be safe in and around the water. These students are most vulnerable and at risk of drowning. Students in Pre-K to 2nd grade receive beginning swimming skills and water safety education. Targeted schools are in areas that experience the highest number of drownings or water related incidents in Miami-Dade.

LTSP swimming instructors are certified Florida teachers who have undergone extensive training in water safety and proper swimming techniques. The staff is very adept and experienced with teaching all types of students. This is a program of inclusion; a special emphasis is placed on working with those students who have special needs. In addition to being State of Florida certified teachers, each swimming instructor holds certifications in American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor and American Red Cross Lifeguard.

Each participating school is provided an above ground indoor swimming pool which

is housed inside a classroom. Each classroom must meet certain safety requirements prior to pool installation. In addition, the pool consists of a state-of-the-art pump circulation system, a heater and a dedicated alarm system.

The LTSP operates during the school year. Pools remain at a school for nine weeks before rotating to another school site.

For more information about the Learn to Swim Program, please contact the Office of Life Skills and Special Programs at 305-995-1963.

M-DCPS' "PROM BOUTIQUE"



This month, deserving female and male students had the opportunity to visit the Prom Boutique to select dresses, suits and shoes, as well as accessories for their prom events. Community members and organizations have donated fashion items and funds in order to help students who cannot afford to buy prom gear and tickets. Prom Boutique assists students in fragile economic positions and those who are part of Project UP-START – M-DCPS' program that supports students who are in the Homeless Assistance Program or who are living in transition. The Shop at Lindsey Hopkins Technical College will continue to serve students in need year-round with clothing, backpacks, school supplies, food, toiletries and more.

SUMMERTIME AT THE PAMM!

Summer break is around the corner, and students have the opportunity to spend part of it at the Perez Art Museum Miami for free! The PAMM Student Pass is a program that grants free admission to the museum for all students currently attending Miami-Dade County Public Schools, from Pre-K through 12th grade.

Not only is the student granted free access, an accompanying adult also enters the museum at no cost. The adult guest can be a parent or guardian, or another adult including a babysitter, grandparent or scout leader. The Student Pass empowers students to visit as often as they would like.



This summer, explore the latest exhibitions, Beatriz González: A Retrospective and The Other Side of Now: Foresight in Contemporary Caribbean Art, and take advantage of the family-friendly PAMM Kids offerings, including Artivity Booklets, Made at PAMM art-making, and more.

To enroll in the PAMM

Student Pass program, simply head to PAMM.org/studentpass or fill out the application at the front desk of the museum during regular museum hours.

The M-DCPS partnership with PAMM to implement the PAMM Student Pass offers unprecedented free arts access to students. Take advantage of it this summer!

2019 GRADUATION SCHEDULE



Graduation ceremonies for Miami-Dade County Public Schools students will take place from Wednesday, May 29, 2019 through Thursday, June 6, 2019.

For a list of dates, locations and times please visit www.dadeschools.net.

Follow us on social media using the hashtag #MDCPSGrad. Best of luck to the Class of 2019!

AMERICA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOLS



U.S. News & World Report announced its list of America's Best High Schools. Miami-Dade County led the state once again with 52 schools earning U.S. News Best High Schools 2019 badges, seven of the top 100 high schools in the nation, and 13 of Florida's Top 20. Six out of the top 10 schools in Florida are in Miami-Dade County.

PARENT E-TIPS:

Primary:

Help a Frustrated Student
<http://bit.ly/2H87Va0>

Secondary:

Modify Your Strategy if Your Teen Gets a Poor Report Card
<http://bit.ly/2HkqWra>



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Office of Communications**

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