

CONNECTION

A newsletter for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Parents

AUGUST 2017

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 34
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Dadeschools Mobile App
- School Breakfast
- General Obligation Bond

WELCOME BACK! 2017-2018 'BACK-TO-SCHOOL TOOL KIT' NOW ONLINE



Visit <http://toolkit.dadeschools.net/> to view the toolkit.

INNOVATION AND EQUITY DRIVE NEW PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES

More than 950 choice programs.

M-DCPS students and employees will begin the 2017-2018 school year with a host of new, bold programs that build on the District's goals of providing classroom innovation, academic rigor, and increased student access, as well as increased efficiencies in operations. Fifty-five new choice/magnet



A few of the new school choice options for our students.

programs and 27 initiatives were created or enhanced for 2017-2018. These new courses bring the total of

choice programs to over 950. For more information, visit <http://news.dadeschools.net/cmnc/new/26144>.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

SEPT. 6

11 a.m.
Regular Meeting

6 p.m.

Second Budget Public Hearing and Adoption of Final 2017-18 Millage Levy and Annual Budget, Approval of 2016-17 Annual Financial Report, and Approval of 2016-17 Final Budget Resolutions

OCT. 11

11 a.m.
Regular Meeting

IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

August 21 - First day of School
September 4 - Labor Day
September 21 - Teacher Planning Day

I ATTEND M-DCPS



School success goes hand in hand with good attendance.

Did you know that getting to school every day is one of the simplest, yet most important contributing factors to a child's academic success?

What can you do?

- Set up a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Introduce your child to teachers and classmates.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call a family member, neighbor, or another parent.
- Schedule medical appointments when school is not in session.

DADESCHOOLS MOBILE APP...STAY INFORMED AND CONNECTED



Download for FREE via the App store or on Google Play.

Have you downloaded the *Dadeschools Mobile App*? Every day, more and more parents and students use the mobile app to keep themselves in the know about their schools. The latest version of the mobile app is available to download for FREE for iPhones via the Apple App store and for Android devices via the Google Play store.

The *Dadeschools Mobile App* features student class schedules and bus route information; student grades; report card information; a list of all Miami-Dade public schools by school

Over 350,000 people have downloaded the Dadeschools mobile app.

type; school information including website, photos, address and phone number, enrollment, school colors, and school hours; driving directions; ability to receive notifications from M-DCPS; and information about The Foundation for New Education Initiatives, Inc. (FNEI).

Access your child's school's mobile app through a

personalized school icon on the *Dadeschools Mobile App*. The school app includes the following features: school news; calendar; staff directory; social media; push notifications; videos; Principal's message; links; ability to contact the school via phone and email; driving directions; and a link to the school's website. More features will be added in the coming months.

Parents may log in to the *Dadeschools Mobile App* by using their Parent Portal username and password. Stay informed, stay in touch, and stay up-to-date.

THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL OF THE DAY



Healthy eating habits are an integral part of a child's growth and development. Children use their imagination to embark on journeys and in order to do this, they need healthy morning "fuel". Studies have shown that higher academic and social achievement occurs when children eat breakfast. Encouraging good breakfast eating habits early in life will ensure good eating habits for a lifetime.

Breakfast is FREE for students at all Miami-Dade public schools each school day. Elementary schools offer breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., middle schools from 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and high schools from 6:30 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. From Aug. 21 - Oct. 26, all students who eat school breakfast each day of the week will be entered into the "Awesome Amazon Award" Contest and be eligible to win a \$25 gift card.

YOUR BOND DOLLARS AT WORK

New schools & renovations are made possible by the General Obligation Bond (GOB).

Beyond the usual excitement of beginning a new school year, students, staff and the community can look forward to many new facilities opening during the 2017-2018 school year. Several highly-anticipated projects are being completed that will provide students with safe, comfortable learning environments to help them succeed in their studies. In



central Miami-Dade County, a completely new Frederick Douglass Elementary School, a \$9.7 million investment, opened its doors along with the rest of M-DCPS on Aug. 21. In the north end of the district, the new Bunche Park Elementary School represents a \$10.2 million investment in the community. To the west, in Doral, the new Dr. Toni Bilbao

Preparatory Academy will offer 750 student stations in more than 40 learning areas, including art, music and language arts labs, as well as a media center filled with resources. These three facilities are just some of the many renovation and replacement projects, made possible by the GOB.

GOB UPDATE



#GOBProgress

Since the approval of the bond in 2012, more than \$600 million dollars have been invested in our schools, with projects completed on-time and within budget. At M-DCPS, we are building schools, strengthening communities, and creating opportunities. For more information, visit www.gobprogress.com.

INSIDE LOOK AT M-DCPS PROGRAMS



Take an #iSideLook at Ronald W. Reagan/Doral Senior High School's Andrea Castillo Teaching Academy, a learning hub where the next generation of dream makers are taught. To view this video, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gw1awGsTsRo>.

PARENT E-TIP:

Look out for our e-Tips, an educational resource to assist parents in supporting children, in this space starting in September.



www.dadeschools.net

SOCIAL MEDIA



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