

# CONNECTION

A Newsletter for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Parents

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## M-DCPS MAKES HISTORY, BECOMING AN A-RATED SCHOOL DISTRICT!



For the first time in the history of the Florida School Performance Grades, M-DCPS has achieved a district-wide grade of "A." For more information, visit <http://news.dadeschools.net/cmnc/new/28712>.

## KEEPING PARENTS INFORMED

M-DCPS has the ability to communicate quickly and effectively with parents through automated messages – voice, email, push notification (via the Dadeschools mobile app) and text.

Accurate and up-to-date parent contact information is critical to receiving important outreach and EMERGENCY messages from the District and your child's school. Make sure you OPT IN to automated messaging



from your child's school and the District. When you OPT OUT, you are disconnected from important District,

school news and information. You may update contact information in person at your child's school.

## IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

- September 3 - Labor Day
- September 10 - Teacher Planning Day
- September 19 - Teacher Planning Day
- September 27 - Secondary Early Release Day

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

**AUGUST 15**  
11 a.m.  
Regular Meeting

**SEPT. 5**  
11 a.m.  
Regular Meeting

6 p.m.  
Second Budget Public Hearing and Adoption of Final 2018-2019 Millage Levy and Annual Budget, Approval of 2017-2018 Annual Financial Report, and Approval of 2017-2018 Final Budget Resolutions

## TEACH FLU A LESSON!



Miami-Dade County Public Schools has partnered again with Healthy Schools, LLC for the 2018-2019 school year to provide FREE flu vaccines to students enrolled in M-DCPS.

This year's "TEACH FLU A LESSON" student vaccination campaign will take place from September 11 through October 11. Each school will have a specific clinic date.

Parents/guardians have the option of providing consent through the Parent Portal using their digital devices or complete a paper consent form. Parents/Guardians MUST provide consent if they want their child to receive the flu vaccine.

Parents/Guardians should contact their child's school to determine when the flu vaccine will be offered at their child's school.

## BEYOND THE PROMISE: M-DCPS' BOLD NEW 2018-2019 PROGRAMS

2018 MAPS



**60** NEW SCHOOL CHOICE Options & Enhancements

M-DCPS students and employees will begin the 2018-2019 school year with ninety bold, cutting-edge programs and initiatives that build on the District's goals of providing classroom innovation, academic rigor, and expanded student access, as well as increased efficiencies in operations. Schools Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho recently unveiled the District's new programs.

"Miami-Dade County Public Schools has become one of the highest-performing urban school systems in the nation. We have reached this

We are increasing options in Information Technology, Health Sciences, Culinary, Digital Media, and STEM.

pinnacle by maintaining a singular focus on improving student achievement for each child we serve," said Superintendent Carvalho. "To meet this goal, we annually engage in a ritual of reinvention, which results in new bold initiatives or programs – launch pads for innovation and improvement – designed to enhance the teaching and learning

experience and improve efficiency."

Our goal is to provide college and career pathways that will engage students in dynamic learning, while preparing them for success in post-secondary education, careers, and life. Sixty school choice options were created or enhanced and thirty new and improved products and initiatives were unveiled to benefit students, employees, parents, and the community.

For more information on M-DCPS' new programs and initiatives, visit

<http://news.dadeschools.net/cmnc/new/28780>

## E(LIMINATE) - CIGS



**SMOKE FREE**  
**INCLUDING ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES**

Students may not be in possession and/or use products containing any type of tobacco, illegal, controlled, or mood altering substance while on school grounds, a school bus, or a school-sponsored event. E-cigarettes are known by many different names, including e-cigs, e-hookahs, mods, and vapes. They come in many shapes and sizes and may look like regular cigarettes, pens, or USB's. Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, which is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development. Besides nicotine, e-cigarettes can also contain substances that are harmful, including cancer-causing chemicals and heavy metals. It's never too late to quit. For free help, visit [Smokefree.Gov](http://Smokefree.Gov), call 1-800-Quit-Now, or speak to a trusted adult at your school. For more information, visit

<https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/>

## BREAKFAST: THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL OF THE DAY

Miami-Dade County Public Schools offers all students a FREE and nutritious breakfast each morning before classes begin. As you know, breakfast is the most important meal of the day, fueling the body and mind, and helping students remain focused throughout the day.

Studies have proven that eating school breakfast supports improved attendance, helps students focus in class and ensures students are in school on time and ready to learn. Eating breakfast is an important part of a healthy diet and overall wellness. Research has shown that people who eat breakfast consume more vitamins, minerals and fiber and



maintain a healthy weight. M-DCPS' school breakfast menus meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and meet one-fourth the Recommended Dietary Allowances for school age children.

Hungry for breakfast? School breakfast menus include scrambled eggs, grits,

whole wheat toast, 100% fruit juice, low-sugar cereal, fresh fruit and low fat milk. Specialty menu items include French toast, chicken biscuit sandwich, croissant and egg sandwich, oatmeal and fruit, yogurt, and fruit and granola parfaits.

Parents who are still looking for an early childhood or voluntary prekindergarten program for children ages 3 - 4 years old for the 2018-2019 school year, can still find space available. Please contact your neighborhood school or the Department of Early Childhood Programs at (305) 995-7632.

## READY, SET, ENROLL!



## READY FOR SCHOOL?



A "Back-to-School" tool kit has been developed to help parents and students have a smooth transition back to school.

The tool kit contains information about registration and vaccination requirements, school hours, transportation, important dates, and school safety.

Families can also learn about various academic programs, diploma options, before and after-school care, testing, free and reduced-priced meals, as well as policies regarding their child's education.

The tool kit is available online in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole at <http://toolkit.dadeschools.net/>



[www.dadeschools.net](http://www.dadeschools.net)

## SOCIAL MEDIA



@MDCPS  
@MiamiSup



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@AlbertoMCarvalho1



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