



WORKFORCE WIRE

Volume 2 | Issue 16 | November 2022



HOT OFF THE WIRE

November ushers in a season of gratitude, opening a path to grace, joy and harmony. Miami-Dade County Public Schools is thankful that you have chosen to extend your talent and passion to us. We are an A-rated school district as a result of the unparalleled skill and precision with which you attend to the students and families of our district.

How do you show your appreciation? The District's Office of Communications would like to share your school's/work location's efforts to spread the spirit of Thanksgiving. Be sure to use the hashtag **#MDCPSGivesThanks** on your social media. Have a happy and peaceful Thanksgiving!

iLead

"iLead using my senses. This means leading with a clear vision that's consumable, free of distortion and touches on every level of humanity — most importantly, the heart."

— Jackson Nicolas
Principal, Earlington Heights Elementary
2021-2022 Principal of the Year

BODY & MIND

High-fiber fruit salad!

Choose four: apple, apricot, berries, cherries, grapes, melon, papaya, peach, pear, plum or sapote.

Mix and drizzle with honey. You're welcome.

Daylight Saving Time ends November 6 • **Virtual Power Hour** chat with the Office of Educational Equity, Access, and Diversity will take place on November 8 at 10 a.m. Click [here](#) for more. • M-DCPS schools and offices will be closed on November 11 in observance of **Veteran's Day** • **Thanksgiving Recess** will be November 24-25 for 12-month employees and November 21-25 for 10-month employees.

ABOVE & BEYOND



Alina Marin is a security guard and custodian at Henry Filer Middle. She completes her work quickly and efficiently, then promptly asks the administration what else she can help with. In the short two years that Ms. Marin has been part of the Filer team, she has earned the unwavering trust of the school community, going so far as to stay until she sees the very last student picked up or on a school bus at the end of the school day.

Pathways to Teach

M-DCPS' Support Personnel Career Development programs provide clerical personnel and paraprofessionals with professional growth opportunities for career advancement. Employee development through training and education is a major factor in our long-term sustainability as a public school district. Initiatives like the Passport 2 Teach (P2T), Clerical to Teach (C2T), and Paraprofessional to Teach (P2T) SPED programs effectively build the capacity of M-DCPS support personnel aspiring to become teachers. In this issue, join us in congratulating two of the programs' most recent graduates.



Lashonda Robbins
SPED-ASD
South Dade SHS

From school bus driver to paraprofessional, Ms. Robbins has worked her way up the M-DCPS public education ladder. After completing the P2T SPED program, she is now a full-time teacher of high school students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).



Jacqueline Jackson-
Houghteling
SPED-ASD
Norwood ES

Ms. Jackson-Houghteling dedicated many years in the classroom as a Pre-K paraprofessional before enrolling in the P2T SPED program. She is now a full-time teacher of primary students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).



WORKFORCE WIRE

Page 3

A Social Justice Hero Among Us

Tawana Akins, Assistant Principal at Miami Southridge Senior High, was selected to receive Barry University's Distinguished Alumni of the Year **Social Justice Award**. Ms. Akins works with non-profit organizations to provide wrap-around services for families, and she founded **A Better Me** to help communities countywide with cleanup projects. She has led more than 100 demonstrations to reduce gun violence and many meetings for change, both in and out of state that resulted in legislative solutions for safer communities. Her motto is, "Each day as far as I can see, I strive to become a better me!"



International PD

M-DCPS was recently visited by participants of the Puerto Rico Department of Education's (PRDE) Education Leadership Development Program. The program provided an experiential learning opportunity to mid-career education professionals via a trip to our A-rated school district. Here they learned best practices and discussed strategic priorities. Participants also visited Blue Lakes Elementary and Devon Aire K-8 as exemplars of M-DCPS' success. The PRDE hopes further visits will continue to help them strengthen Puerto Rico's public education system.

Produced by the

Social Media

www.dadeschools.net



@MDCPS
@SUPTDOTRES
@ESCUELASMDCPS



@MIAMISCHOOLS



@MIAMISCHOOLS
@SUPTDOTRES



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS