



WORKFORCE WIRE

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HOT OFF THE WIRE

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) values its employees. Last month, we invited you to submit questions to our new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jose L. Dotres for **Ask the Supt.** theHub inbox was flooded with diverse inquiries, which are being sorted by category and will be submitted for answering soon. Questions and answers will be published on theHub. Thank you for your truly insightful questions.

Be sure to check your District email and texts for updates. If you are not currently receiving text messages from M-DCPS, you may opt in by texting Y to 67587. Meanwhile, check out [theHub](#), which houses the latest District news, employee video profiles, human interest stories, helpful links, and much more.

iLead

“iLead with humility and fairness. I use my skills, knowledge, and experience to bring people together so we are ALL successful. This makes your team open to guidance, coaching, and self-improvement.”

— Lisette M. Alves
Assistant Superintendent, Division of Academics
Office of Academics and Transformation

BODY & MIND

When was the last time you took a nap on shady grass? Fresh air and sounds of nature are proven to reduce stress levels, which improve sleep. Fresh air also increases blood oxygen levels, helping white blood cells more effectively fight and kill bacteria.

APRIL 22 IS EARTH DAY



Remember New World School of the Arts' award-winning art teacher Jenny Gifford from our [December issue](#)? She just led a workshop that sold out more than one month before it went live at the National Art Education Association's 2022 National Convention! **Congratulations, Ms. Gifford!**

ABOVE & BEYOND

Nikki Jose is a science and green studies teacher at Vineland K-8 Center. She and her sons are Vineland alumni, so she is uniquely vested in the school's success. She created a pine rockland, edible garden, and NASA-inspired botany lab on campus. A tech-savvy champion of ecology, Ms. Jose also shares tech tips with her colleagues and created a QR code hall pass for her class.





WORKFORCE WIRE

Page 2

Going Green

M-DCPS is on a mission to reduce our carbon footprint by 2025 with gardens and composting stations at school sites, instating “meatless Mondays” and replacing plastic cutlery with biodegradable paper alternatives. Our in-house Health Coach and Nutritionist Cristina Wilhelm says “a more plant-based diet can help maintain a healthy weight, improve heart health, reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes, and promote kidney health, among other health benefits. These initiatives can help our employees develop healthy lifestyle changes and act on climate change by lowering their carbon footprint.”



E.W.F. Stirrup teacher instructs Pre-K student how to plant seedlings in school garden.



M-DCPS ESOL teachers before cleanup at El Farito/Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park.

Not Just a Beach Day

ESOL teachers from around the District met at El Farito/ Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park for an enriching professional development beach cleanup, where they collected 26 pounds of pollution in just 45 minutes. Teachers learned about the critical importance of the balance of clean water for the future of South Florida. As an extension of the experience, they collaborated to develop sustainability project ideas for their classrooms, including learning about the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals, for which they participated in the international global learning Goals Project.

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