

Volume 3 | Issue 35 | June 2024

HOT OFF THE WIRE

Congratulations on a stellar academic year! You have proven once again that Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has the most involved families and the finest workforce in public education.

Before we jump into summer recess, I want to thank you for being a tireless supporter of M-DCPS. Our district excelled far above the state in testing scores and graduation rates, cementing our reputation as **THE best choice in education**. We remain steadfast in our commitment to providing safe schools, academic excellence, and innovation, where everyone is respected and accepted.

Thank you for another outstanding school year. We wish you a safe and fun-filled summer with those you love the most.

Dr. Jose L. Dotres Superintendent of Schools

iLead

YOUR BEST CHOICE

"iLead by orchestrating harmony amidst the chaos of information, inspiring our audience to see beyond the headlines, and guiding with integrity towards a shared vision of understanding and impact."

> — Jaquelyn C. Diaz Assistant Superintendent Office of Communications

BODY & MIND

When our ears are introduced to two separate tones at the same time, the combination has been known to reduce stress and increase concentration. This is called a binaural beat. Binaural beats help both awaken the brain in the morning and relax the brain at night.

AAA is offering all M-DCPS Educators free membership for the first year. Click here for more. Take advantage of more special offers! Visit theHub.dadeschools.net; scroll and select the Special Offers blue link. | All District offices will be closed on June 19 in observance of Juneteenth.



ABOVE & BEYOND

Daniel Finora is a counselor at Coral Gables Senior High School (CGSHS). At 90 years young, this most seasoned veteran educator has served as substitute, teacher, coach, club sponsor, treasurer, athletics business manager, and counselor. In 2023, Mr. Finora was inducted into the CGSHS Hall of Fame. He will be retiring this month after nearly 65 years of service to M-DCPS. Click to watch.

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YOUR BEST CHOICE

On to Seaside Smoothies, Rest and Relaxation!

This June, we recognize retirees who have served our District and worked tirelessly to make M-DCPS your best choice in education! Below are just a few incredible employees who have contributed many years of service and dedication to the children and families of Miami-Dade. Congratulations to all our outstanding employees on their retirement!







Jodi Allen 39 years

Ms. Allen became a part of the M-DCPS family in 1984. After sharing nearly a decade of service at a few other elementary schools, she finally found her niche at Virginia A. Boone/Highland Oaks Elementary, where she has taught for the past 30 years.

Malcolm Rambo 40 years

Mr. Rambo joined M-DCPS briefly in 1980, then returned as a school security monitor at South Miami Senior High in 1985, where he has served in that capacity for the entirety of his career. His welcoming and reassuring presence will be missed dearly!

Aleida Lorenzo
43 years

Ms. Lorenzo began her journey with M-DCPS in 1980 at a now-closed school site. In 1994, she joined the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Elementary family, where she has indispensably served in bilingual curriculum and as teacher of ESL as well as grades 3-5.

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YOUR BEST CHOICE

Math Teachers We Can Count On!

The annual Dade County Council of Teachers of Mathematics (DCCTM) Teacher Appreciation Celebration was held on May 14, 2024, at the InterContinental Hotel—Doral.

DCCTM celebrates all teachers of mathematics and especially honors Outstanding Mathematics Teachers as selected by their respective schools because of their exceptional knowledge of teaching and learning mathematics, enthusiasm in sharing best practices, commitment to ongoing professional development, and amazing ability to inspire students!













This year, 35 DCCTM 2024 Outstanding Mathematics Teachers were honored from traditional public schools. See our winners listed on the next page!

giving our students the world

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YOUR BEST CHOICE

Alena Sheriff Twin Lakes Elementary
Alina Hernandez-Granda Silver Bluff Elementary
Amelia Sanchez South Dade Middle
Angela Tidwell Pine Lake Elementary
Briana Williamson Frank C. Martin K-8

Christina Concepcion Air Base K-8
Cristina Hoyo Sunset Elementary

Diana Ortiz Kensington Park Elementary
Edwyn Claude John F. Kennedy Middle
El Hassan Saadioui Miami Killian Senior High
Genesis Conway South Miami Middle

Graciela Quinoa Southwest Miami Senior High

Janet Diaz West Miami Middle

Joana Trigo-Rodriguez South Miami Heights Elementary

Joanne Kraus Frank C. Martin K-8

Joi Brown Henry S. West Laboratory
Jose Zabala Kinloch Park Elementary
Josefina Nicolas Spanish Lake Elementary

Katia Ramirez Zora Neale Hurston Elementary

Kaytlin Alzugaray Felix Varela Senior High

Kylah Bess Leisure City K-8 **Laura Leigh Rampey** MAST Academy

Lida Menendez Village Green Elementary
Linda Holcolmb Howard Drive Elementary

Mahvash Ghahramani George Washington Carver Middle

Marianne Bouwland Redland Elementary

Marie Mondesir Thomas Jefferson Biscayne Gardens K-8

Marielena Viciedo Hialeah Gardens Senior High

Mayda Salgado G. Holmes Braddock Senior High

Patricia Thermidor Toussaint L'Ouverture Elementary

Pedro Sosa Calusa Elementary

Ramon Collar E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary

Shamika Myles Fulford Elementary

Shirley Etienne Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8

Yamalis Sanchez Guerra South Dade Middle

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M-DCPS Heroes

The District recently recognized employees who have gone above and beyond their professional role to make an impact on the lives of M-DCPS students, families, and/or their community. These heroes are M-DCPS employees who have demonstrated indiscriminate support, selflessness, and dedication regardless of their title or position. Please join us in celebrating the first M-DCPS Heroes awardees! Pictured left to right: Florencia Pecorari, Neva King Cooper Educational Center; Mallorie Conyers, Ojus Elementary; Mark Jones, Leewood K-8 Center; Randy Rovira, Coral Gables Senior High; Florence Pierre, Kenwood K -8 Center; Dr. Tierney E. Hunter, Miami Palmetto Senior High; Mayra DeLeon, Seminole Elementary.













Values Matter

























dents, employees, and schools based on the District's nine core values. Congratulations to this year's school site winners! Emblems left to right by row: Respect, Dr. Carlos J. Finlay ES; Responsibility, West Lakes Prep.; Citizenship, Miami SHS; Fairness, Avocado ES; Pursuit Of Excellence, N. Dade Ctr. for Modern Lang. ES; Kindness, Miami Shores ES; Cooperation, North Glade ES; Honesty, Kendale ES; and Integrity, Dr. Rolando Espinosa K-8.

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