

# CONNECTION

A Newsletter for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Parents

DECEMBER 2017

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 38

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- INNOV@TE - CTEC

- The Shop

- Principal Today

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE #MDCPSFAMILY



## ALL M-DCPS SCHOOLS, FACILITIES TO CLOSE FOR WINTER RECESS

All Miami-Dade public schools and most administrative offices will be closed for Winter Recess from Monday, December 25, 2017 to Friday, January 5, 2018. Students and employees, with the exception of Miami-Dade Schools Police, will be on recess for two weeks.

The offices of Economic Opportunity, Human Capital and Risk and Benefits Management will have staff available to the public at the School Board Administration

DECEMBER/2017						
MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Building from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on December 28, 2017, and January 2 - 5, 2018.

Schools and offices will reopen on Monday, January 8, 2018.

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

JAN. 17

11 a.m.  
Regular Meeting

FEB. 21

11 a.m.  
Regular Meeting

MAR. 21

11 a.m.  
Regular Meeting

## IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

Dec. 25 - Jan. 5 - Winter Recess

Jan. 15 - Observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday

Jan. 19 - Regular school day (previously Teacher Planning Day)

## SAVE THE DATE!



## National College Fair comes to Miami, Feb. 25

Representatives from nearly 200 colleges and universities will be at the 2018 Miami National College Fair – on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018, to meet with students and parents on subjects such as financial aid, college planning, admission, and testing requirements.

Requesting information from multiple colleges/ universities at the College Fair just got easier! By preregistering, students can print a bar-coded confirmation to be used at the fair as an electronic ID. Preregister at: [www.gotomyncf.com](http://www.gotomyncf.com).

## M-DCPS KICKS OFF COMPUTER SCIENCE WEEK WITH INNOV@TE – CTEC



M-DCPS aspires to engage and prepare all our students in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM), ensuring that our community has the next generation of inventors, explorers, innovators, artists and leaders. Career and Technical Education plays a critical role in equipping students with the needed skills to compete in a knowledge-based new economy.

On December 2, M-DCPS kicked off Computer Science Week with the Innov@te – Career Technical Education Challenge, held

**“More than 450 students participated in this year’s INNOV@TE - CTEC.”**

in partnership with Miami Dade College. The event showcased how students are not just technology consumers, but how they have become creators using technology.

Students competed in various events aligned with state and national standards in the career clusters of health science, information technology, business management, law,

engineering, marketing, finance and hospitality. The events involved the creation and presentation of projects and an interactive component with an industry professional and/or college professor serving as a judge.

For the fourth year in a row, students showcased their STEM and critical thinking skills, as well as their creativity by applying classroom theory into practice.

In addition, parents were also able to participate in small group sessions on college admissions and financial aid.

## HANTMAN, KARP TO LEAD SCHOOL BOARD



Perla Tabares Hantman has been elected as Chair of the Miami-Dade County School Board for the 2017-2018 school year. Hantman, who represents District 4, was originally elected to the School Board in 1996.

Ms. Hantman will serve for an unprecedented 10th time as Chair. She was the first Hispanic woman to serve as Chair, and has previously served from 1999-2001, and then each consecutive year from 2010-2015.

Dr. Martin Karp was elected as Vice Chair. Karp, who represents District 3, was first elected to the School Board in 2004. This is his third time as Vice-Chair. He has previously served twice in 2006 and 2012.

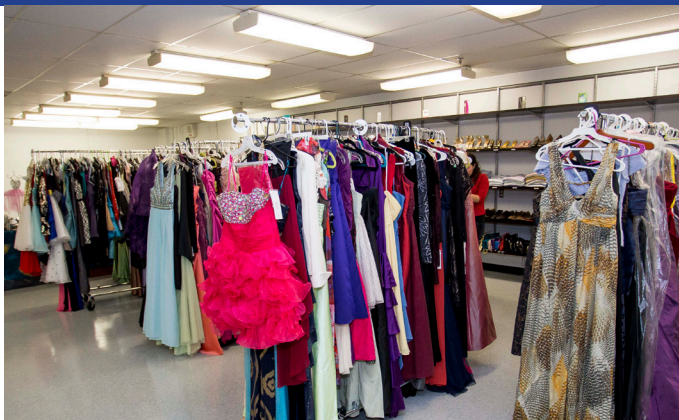
## HELPING THOSE IN NEED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Last year, Miami-Dade's public schools served 8,057 students who were homeless or living in transition while attending school. Helping all students and their families is a priority for M-DCPS.

The Shop is a free service for students and families who are needy and experiencing homelessness. At the Shop, families can schedule an appointment all year round in order to pick up a variety of items at no cost. The items have all been donated by community partners who want to help families in need.

If you are interested in donating to the Shop, the following items are accepted:

- New clothing and shoes
- Toiletries (toothbrush,



- toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, etc.)
- Non-perishable foods
- Backpacks
- School supplies (notebooks, pencils, etc.)
- New toys
- Gift cards

If you would like to make a monetary contribution, please visit the website for

*The Foundation for New Education Initiatives (FNEI):*

<http://www.giveourstudentstheworld.org/donate>

The M-DCPS family is thankful for the community support, donors, and volunteers who have made the Shop a true success, benefitting our most fragile children.

## APPLY NOW!



M-DCPS has over 380 specialized Magnet programs offering unique areas of study for students of all ages!

These free, public programs are open to all interested students. Applications for the upcoming school year close January 15.

Hurry and be sure to apply at: [www.miamimagnets.org](http://www.miamimagnets.org)

## #PRINCIPALTODAY MISSION STAYS ON COURSE



Last month, leaders from all walks of life spent the day seeing what it's like to be a principal at M-DCPS. Principal TODAY engages local leaders as principals for one day to build long-term business and school partnerships to benefit students. For more than 20 years, the program has focused on developing partnerships that support our schools.

## PARENT E-TIPS:

Primary: Don't procrastinate. Set a good example.  
Secondary: Friendship skills are survival skills for teens

For more resources, visit


<https://www.engagemiamidade.net/e-tips-for-parents>




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

## SOCIAL MEDIA

@MDCPS  
@MiamiSup

 MiamiSchools  
AlbertoMCarvalho1

 @MiamiSchools  
@MiamiSup

 MiamiSchools

Stay connected with Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Make sure you follow us on social media for the latest news and updates regarding the school district. #MDCPSConnects

**The School Board of  
Miami-Dade County,  
Florida**

Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair  
Dr. Martin Karp, Vice Chair  
Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall  
Susie V. Castillo  
Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman  
Dr. Steve Gallon III  
Lubby Navarro

Dr. Marta Pérez  
Mari Tere Rojas  
Alberto M. Carvalho  
Superintendent of Schools  
Bryce Febres  
Student Advisor to the School Board

**Produced by the  
Office of Communications**

Daisy Gonzalez-Diego  
Chief Communications Officer