



# 2017-2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) ongoing tradition of achievement has garnered international, national and state recognition. Once again, several of our high schools were ranked among the nation's best - M-DCPS is home to five of the top 100 high schools in the nation and seven schools in Florida's Top 20 - according to U.S. News & World Report. For the 33rd year in a row, the Government Finance Officers Association of the U.S. and Canada (GFOA) has awarded its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Reporting to the Miami-Dade School Board for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). For the 34th year, M-DCPS received the Association of School Business Officials International Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for high-quality reporting to the community. This year, we want to share additional highlights that have strengthened the educational experience for all at M-DCPS:

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

### **HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT AS M-DCPS BECOMES A-RATED SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

For the first time in the history of Florida School Performance Grades, M-DCPS has achieved a district-wide grade of "A." For the second year in a row there are no "F" - rated traditional schools at M-DCPS. Higher percentages of Miami-Dade schools received "A" ratings in 2018 than statewide across all schools, and in all other large Florida districts.

### **STUDENTS CONTINUE TO SHINE ON NATIONAL ASSESSMENT:**

NAEP-TUDA is widely considered the Nation's Report Card and gold standard of assessments. Miami-Dade's NAEP-TUDA results demonstrated that academic standards, instructional rigor, and student achievement continue to move on an upward trend, surpassing the nation. Nationally, M-DCPS fourth graders ranked #1 in Reading, and #2 in Mathematics.

### **GRADUATION RATE SETS NEW HIGH:**

M-DCPS' graduation rate rose to 84.2 percent for the 2016-2017 academic year - the highest rate the school district has achieved since the Florida Department of Education began tracking graduation statistics with modern methods in the late 1990's.

### **UNPARALLELED ASSESSMENT RESULTS:**

M-DCPS students demonstrated consistent success across all content areas and grade levels on the Spring 2018 administration of Florida's statewide assessments. Summing the growth indicators across all exams, an Annual Aggregated Performance measure of 20 points was achieved in M-DCPS, compared to 13 points statewide and 10 or fewer points in other large counties.

### **IMPRESSIVE THIRD-GRADE TEST RESULTS:**

Third-grade students' scores on the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) in English Language Arts (ELA) outperformed their counterparts statewide, both in terms of performance & growth. Accelerated growth was seen for Black and Hispanic students, narrowing the gap between minority/majority subgroups.

### **CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ADVANCED PLACEMENT:**

For the seventh year in a row, M-DCPS increased Advanced Placement (AP) exam passing rates, while also increasing AP enrollment. M-DCPS offers 37 AP courses.

### **MAGNET PROGRAMS ONCE AGAIN GARNER NATIONAL ATTENTION:**

For the seventh straight year, M-DCPS received more national magnet merit awards than any other district. In total, M-DCPS received 54 awards for the 2017-2018 award cycle, an increase of 12 additional awards.

## INITIATIVES

### **PROMOTING DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND ONLINE SAFETY:**

M-DCPS partnered with Facebook to develop an anti-bullying initiative to provide students a greater understanding of the issue of bullying, to celebrate diversity and support others.

### **UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO THE ARTS:**

Thanks to a strong partnership with Perez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), students in grades pre-k to 12 are eligible for a year-round PAMM Student Pass, granting unlimited free admission to the museum with an accompanying adult.

### **STEAM COLLABORATION PROVIDES CULTURAL EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS:**

History comes alive through Kitty Hawk, a live theater performance and STEAM learning initiative created for more than 26,000 seventh-graders through a partnership between M-DCPS' Cultural Passport program and the Arsht Center.

### **NEW RECORDING STUDIO UNVEILED:**

Through the support of the José Milton Foundation, a new state-of-the-art recording space, the only professional studio housed in a public school, opened at Miami Arts Studio at Zelda Glazer and is available to all M-DCPS students.

## SCHOOL SAFETY

### SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:

A number of safety enhancements have been implemented in all schools. M-DCPS has increased the number of resource officers assigned to schools, improved surveillance efforts with security cameras, reduced the number of entry points, strengthened protocols related to securing buildings and classrooms in the event of an on-campus threat, and requested additional funding from the state to augment established security measures.

### ENHANCED COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCES:

The District has increased communication with parents via text messaging, improved information-sharing capabilities between law enforcement agencies, and implemented the use of highly-specialized software to detect social media threats.

## GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND (GOB) & ECONOMIC IMPACT

### MODERNIZING OUR SCHOOLS:

Since the passage of the General Obligation Bond in 2012, more than 400 projects have been completed with dozens more under construction or in planning stages. Total work completed or under contract exceeds \$660 million, passing the mid-point of the \$1.2 billion investment.

### DISTRICT RECOGNIZED FOR DIVERSITY COMPLIANCE MONITORING EFFORTS:

M-DCPS received an "Award of Distinction" for implementation, execution and enhancements to the B2GNow Online Diversity Compliance System. This system is used to track the progress of work being completed through the GOB.

## DIGITAL CONVERGENCE

### DIGITAL CONVERGENCE 3.0:

This year's implementation includes 12,000 mobile devices for the sixth-grade English Language Arts (ELA) Mobile Device Program an expansion of the Amplify ELA program, and expansion of the iPrep Math Program.

### BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE:

Through the "1 Million Project," M-DCPS partnered with Sprint to distribute 14,000 free wireless devices and provide service to participating students for up to four years while they attend high school, helping those who do not have Internet access at home reach their full potential.

## WELLNESS

### PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLNESS THROUGH THE 100 BILLION-STEP CHALLENGE:

This initiative is an awareness and engagement campaign utilizing physical activity challenges to promote wellness and an active lifestyle. Employees' use of a mobile app allows them to set goals and participate in individual and team competitions.

### SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION:

M-DCPS has partnered with various organizations, including Sandy Hook Promise and Lauren's Kids to promote the well-being of all students beyond academics.

## COLLEGE / CAREER READINESS

### PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE WORKFORCE:

Siemens' Building Automation Systems Technology certification is the first program in Dade/Broward counties to focus on training for high-paying technical jobs in the smart-building field, providing students with in-demand skills and improving their employment prospects, while saving our natural resources.

### CAREER ACADEMIES OUTPERFORM ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

M-DCPS now has 16 of the 68 National Academy Foundation (NAF) high-quality academies, demonstrating that our career academy programs perform at the highest level in preparing students for college and careers.

### EXPANSION OF TRADE AND LOGISTICS ACADEMIES IN URBAN CORE:

The King Carter Global Trade & Logistics Academies at Miami Northwestern and Miami Central senior high schools were made possible by a generous \$1 million donation by an anonymous donor. Turning tragedy into triumph, the academies pay homage to King Carter, a gregarious first grader who invoked pride and deep respect from all who knew and loved him.

### MILLIONS IN SCHOLARSHIPS:

The Class of 2018 has been offered \$423 million in scholarships, paving the way for success in post-secondary education.



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