

# CONNECTION

A Newsletter for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Parents

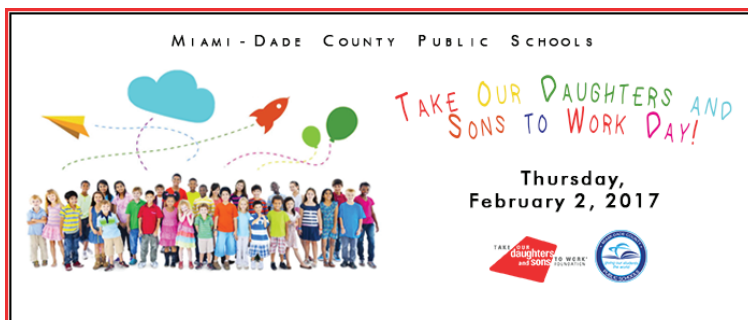
## M-DCPS' GRADUATION RATE REACHES ALL TIME HIGH



Miami-Dade County Public Schools' graduation rate has reached an all-time high of 80.4 percent for the 2015-2016 academic year, exceeding the average of other large Florida school districts, including Broward, Hillsborough, and Duval county. This 2.3 point increase from last year's rate of 78.1 marks the highest graduation rate M-DCPS has achieved since the Florida Department of Education began tracking graduation statistics with modern methods in the late 1990's. Miami-Dade's graduation rates for White, Black and Hispanic students also exceeded those of the State. The District's graduation rate has increased by almost 22 percent from 58.7 percent in 2006-2007.

## M-DCPS TO OBSERVE 'TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY' ON FEBRUARY 2

M-DCPS will observe Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on Thursday, February 2 instead of the national observance of April 27 to minimize disruptions to scheduled testing (Florida Standards Assessment [FSA], and Florida End of Course Assessments). Designed to be more than a career day, the program goes beyond the average practice of "shadowing" an adult. Exposing girls and boys to what a parent or mentor in their lives does during the work day is important, but showing them the value of their education, helping them discover the power and possibilities associated with a balanced work and family life, providing them an opportunity to share how they envision the future, and allowing them to begin steps toward their end goals in a hands-on and interactive environment is key to their achieving success.



## SAVE THE DATE! SUPERINTENDENT'S 5K CHALLENGE BENEFITTING M-DCPS SCHOOLS SET FOR APRIL 1ST

Superintendent's Challenge  
Race for Education

5k

#MiamiSup5K

Register Today! Scan Here!

Ready? Save The Date — April 1, 2017

Register Now @ <http://bit.ly/2hRx3ao>

The Foundation for New Education Initiatives (FNEI) and Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho are teaming up to host the 2nd Annual 5K Challenge to benefit Miami-Dade's public schools! All participants running for a School Team will help FNEI support their school. FNEI will donate a percentage of the proceeds back to each school, based on the amount they raise.

Entry to the race is \$30 per adult plus a \$2.64 registration fee and \$10 per student plus a \$1.54 registration fee. To register visit: [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) and click on Miami events or click on: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-superintendents-5k-challenge-a-race-for-education-tickets-27079654977?aff=es2>. The registration deadline is March 25th.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

February 20 - Presidents' Day  
March 24 - Teacher Planning Day

## M-DCPS TO HOST MIAMI-DADE STEAM EXPO

**Miami-Dade STEAM EXPO 2017**

**Inspiring STEAM HEROES**  
Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics

**Opening Ceremony**  
Miami Dade College, North Campus  
11380 Northwest 27th Avenue  
Miami, FL 33167  
Saturday, February 4, 2017 at 8:45 A.M.

Artwork by:  
Tiffany Lopez  
South Miami K-8 Center

OFFICE OF ACADEMICS AND TRANSFORMATION  
DIVISION OF ACADEMICS

**Miami Dade College**  
North Campus

The Miami-Dade STEAM Expo highlights M-DCPS' most creative, intelligent, and resourceful students who compete and demonstrate their proficiency in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM). The expo, which features nationally recognized student science competition winners, showcases the results of their hard work and provides information to the community on STEAM research and engineering designs.

## PRE-REGISTER ONLINE FOR THE MIAMI NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR

**2017 Miami National College Fair**

Visit 200 colleges and universities from around the country!  
Free Admission! Free Information Sessions!

**Sunday, February 26, 2017**  
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Miami Airport & Convention Center  
777 N.W. 72 Avenue, Miami, FL 33134

Pre-register at [www.gotomyncf.com](http://www.gotomyncf.com)

For more information, contact the College Fair hotline at 305-995-1739 or visit [www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org). Follow the event at #collegefairmiami

## UPCOMING SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

February 15	11:00 a.m.	Regular Meeting
March 15	11:00 a.m.	Regular Meeting

## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES 2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDARS

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

July 2017							August 2017							September 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
31							28	29	30	31			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

October 2017							November 2017							December 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
30	31						27	28	29	30			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2018							February 2018							March 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31		

April 2018							May 2018							June 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
30							28	29	30	31			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

New Teachers Report  
 Teacher Planning Day  
 Teacher Planning Day - (No - Opt)  
 District-wide Professional Development Day  
 Recess Day  
 Bag/End of Grading Period  
 Secondary Early Release  
 Legal Holiday

Days in Grading Period

1-46
2-44
3-43
4-47

The Miami-Dade County School Board approved the 2017-2018 School Calendars at its recent monthly meeting with a start date of August 21, 2017 for students. The School Calendars were jointly developed by the School Calendar Ad Hoc Committee comprising representatives from M-DCPS, the United Teachers of Dade, and the Parent Teacher Association/Parent Teacher Student Association. For more information visit, [www.dadeschools.net/calendars](http://www.dadeschools.net/calendars).

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

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

Alberto M. Carvalho  
Superintendent of Schools

Sebastian M. Lorenzo  
Student Advisor to the School Board

Produced by the Office of Communications  
Daisy Gonzalez-Diego  
Chief Communications Officer

