

CONNECTION

A NEWSLETTER FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARENTS

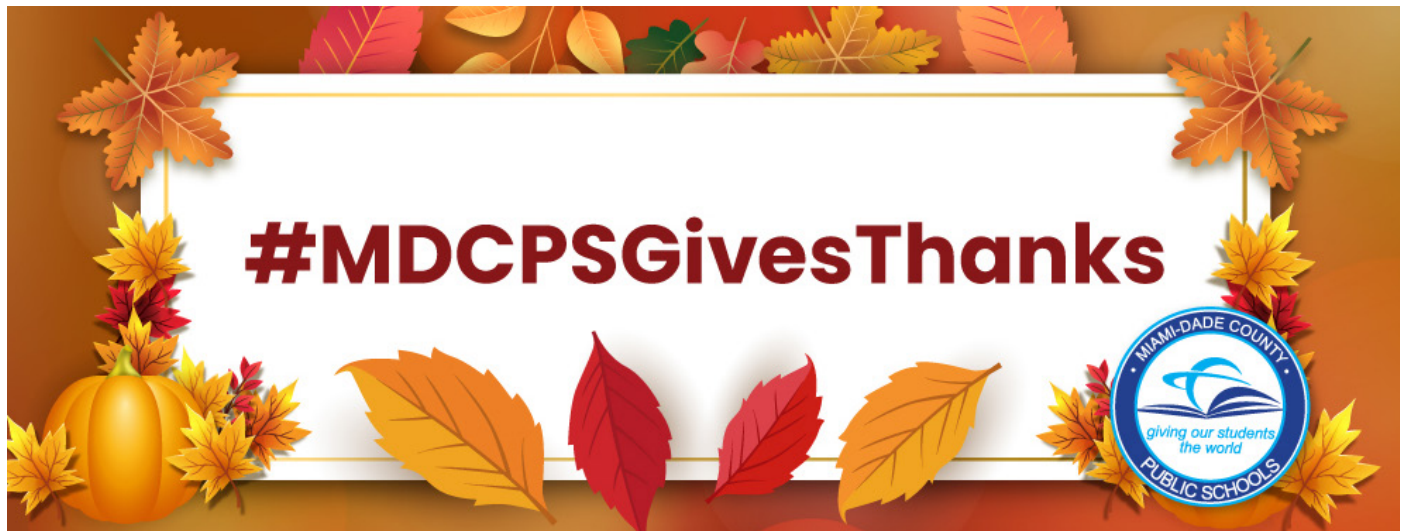
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- UPDATED COVID-19 PROTOCOLS
- PEDIATRIC VACCINATION OPPORTUNITIES
- FAMILY ENGAGEMENT MONTH

November 2021

Volume 14 | Issue #80 |

WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOU



As Thanksgiving approaches, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all students, teachers, administrators, employees and families for the support, dedication and commitment you have shown. We are grateful for the entire

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) family who, in the best of times and during the most challenging times, has been prepared, innovative and responsive to ensure the success of our students.

As we countdown to Thanksgiving, we invite you to join us by sharing what you are thankful for this holiday season. Post on your social media accounts using the hashtag #MDCPSGivesThanks and join our gratitude conversation.

IMPORTANT UPDATE TO COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS



Throughout the pandemic, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has been implementing protocols to ensure the health and wellbeing of our students and employees. As a result of legislation signed today by Governor Ron DeSantis, effectively immediately, facial coverings will no longer be mandatory in schools. Therefore, the parental opt-out form has

been eliminated. M-DCPS will continue to encourage the use of facial coverings while indoors, and parents, at their sole discretion, may allow their children to wear them. Also, effective immediately, no asymptomatic student or employee will be required to quarantine simply due to exposure to COVID-19.

M-DCPS HAS EXPANDED PEDIATRIC COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM TO INCLUDE CHILDREN AGES 5 AND OLDER



Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has expanded its voluntary COVID-19 vaccination program to include all children ages 5-11. M-DCPS has partnered with Miami-Dade County, The Children's Trust, Florida Department of Health (FDOH), University of Miami Health System (UHealth) Pediatric Mobile Clinic, Jessie Trice Community Health Center (JTCHC) and Community Health of South Florida (CHI) to offer the vaccine at dozens of schools throughout the District.

The UHealth Pediatric Mobile Clinic sites are offering the COVID-19 vaccine as well as the flu vaccine, school-required vaccines, and COVID-19 testing.

Additionally, the County is offering the COVID-19 vaccine to children and adults in our community at various school sites. All individuals under the age of 18 receiving a vaccine at these sites must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Pre-registration is encouraged and can be completed online at <https://public.domo.com/cards/jR815>.

For a listing of vaccination locations, dates and times throughout the month of November that are available to the community, please visit www.dadeschools.net.

To be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, students MUST be at

least five years old on the day they are receiving it. They must also have a completed COVID-19 vaccine screening and consent form, which will be available at the sites. Walk-ups are welcome.

Through partnerships with FDOH, JTCHC and CHI, the COVID-19 pediatric vaccine is also being offered to students at select school sites. Eligible students will be contacted by their school. Parents of students receiving the vaccine at their select schools do not need to be present, but they must complete and return the vaccine screening and consent to their child's school.

FLU SEASON



Protect yourself and your family during the height of flu season by getting a flu vaccine. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends a yearly flu vaccine for everyone six months of age and older as the first and most important step in protecting against the virus.

Contact your medical provider to schedule an appointment or the Florida Department of Health at (786) 845-0550, which will provide free flu vaccines for all children under 18.



Each November, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) celebrates Florida Family Engagement in Education Month. As we honor the crucial role that families play in their children's education, we continue to focus on building strong school-home relationships to ensure every student can be successful. Research shows that students do better -- whether it's better attendance, higher grades, or improved self-esteem -- when families and teachers work together as equal partners.

Staying connected with your child's teachers is vitally important, and below are some suggestions for becoming actively engaged throughout the school year:

- Check your school's website or social media accounts for general updates
- Log into the M-DCPS Parent Portal once a week to check your child's attendance and academic progress

- Download the Dadeschools Mobile App for convenient and helpful ways to stay connected
- Register to be a School Volunteer at your child's school by visiting: [M-DCPS School Volunteers \(engagemiamidade.net\)](https://engagemiamidade.net/schoolvolunteers)
- Consider joining a parent organization like PTA or a booster club

During this month, the school district also will highlight ways parents can stay engaged in their children's education. We invite you to check out one of many resources to support you as a parent and/or family member:

- Follow daily tips on how to better support your child via Twitter and Instagram @mdcpscommunity or visit www.engagemiamidade.net/e-tips-for-parents.
- Register for a webinar on topics such as, Mindfulness Practices for Families; or Magnet Schools offered

by The Parent Academy at <https://parentacademymiami.com/>.

- If your child attends a Title I school, learn more about the resources to support you and your child. Just click on the flyers available in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [Haitian Creole](#).

Lastly, if you missed Open House and have not yet had the chance to meet your child's teacher this year, consider reaching out this month to schedule a conference. Teachers and administrators share your goal of academic success for your child and look forward to building strong, lasting relationships with you. At M-DCPS, the possibilities are infinite when families and educators work together!

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

December 15
11:00 a.m.
Regular Meeting

OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A FOSTER OR ADOPTIVE PARENT IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY



PARENT E-TIPS

Connecting with
Other Families

<https://bit.ly/3ogQlpO>

IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

November 24

Teacher Planning Day –
No School

November 25

Thanksgiving

November 26

Thanksgiving Recess

Every child deserves to grow up feeling safe and loved. Fostering or adopting a child is a gratifying experience and has the power to change lives. Make a difference for kids and teens in Miami-Dade County by becoming a Foster Parent or becoming a child's forever family through adoption. In Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, Citrus Family Care Network (Citrus FCN) is the Community Based Care (CBC) Lead Agency for child welfare.

services in their local communities for children who have been abused, neglected and/or abandoned. As Miami-Dade County's CBC Lead Agency, Citrus FCN manages foster care and related services.

To learn more about becoming a Foster or Adoptive Parent, please contact Citrus Family Care Network to learn more at 1-855-786-KIDS (5437) or by visiting www.citrusfcn.com.

The Florida Department of Children and Families contracts with CBC Lead Agencies across the state to provide child welfare

SOCIAL MEDIA



@MDCPS
@EscuelasMDCPS
@MiamiSup



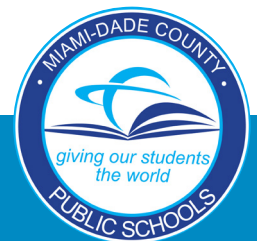
@MiamiSchools
@AlbertoMCarvalho1



@MiamiSchools
@MiamiSup



@MiamiSchools



www.dadeschools.net

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. Steve Gallon III, Vice Chair
Lucia Baez-Geller
Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall
Christi Fraga
Dr. Lubby Navarro
Dr. Marta Pérez

Mari Tere Rojas
Luisa Santos
Alberto M. Carvalho
Superintendent of Schools
Cori'Anna White
Student Advisor to the School Board

Produced by the Office of Communications and Community Engagement
under the direction of Daisy Gonzalez-Diego