

Media Advisory



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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M-DCPS AWARDED MORE THAN \$16 MILLION IN GRANTS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) students and teachers will benefit from several grants, including in-kind support, valued at more than \$16 million. Superintendent of Schools Alberto M. Carvalho recently announced the award of the grants, which will help support District instructional programs, strengthen school and community safety, and provide online instructional resources to teachers.

"The funds awarded through these grants will further expand opportunities for teaching and learning in Miami-Dade's public schools and foster the creation of additional school/community partnerships that will build on our efforts to provide a safe and secure educational environment for students and staff," said Carvalho.

Fast Track to Citizenship Program III (\$250,000)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has awarded \$250,000 to implement Fast Track to Citizenship Program III in Miami-Dade County. The grant supports effective research-based practices to increase access to citizenship education for Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs) by providing intensive citizenship education through Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program.

Magnet (\$10,704,210)

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the \$10 million Magnet project will support Miami-Dade County Public Schools' efforts in strengthening minority participation, and improving student achievement by bringing diverse groups of students together at two new non-boundary, district-wide magnet high schools—BioTech @ Zoo Miami and iTech @ Edison—that will promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education in the District and increase school choice options for parents and students. These schools will be part of STEM: Increasing Rigor and Relevance (STIRR), a three-year project that will feature innovative, educational methods and practices addressing student needs and interests.

Physical Education Program (PEP) (\$2,144,879)

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded a grant to support the project Active Schools! - Healthy Students. The initiative is designed to promote innovative strategies to increase physical activity participation; fitness levels; and the percentage of middle school students who increase their fruit and vegetable consumption while contributing to a system-wide curriculum change in middle school physical education in Miami-Dade County Public Schools. M-DCPS estimates that over the three-year grant period, all middle school students will have the opportunity to be served by this grant.

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program \$967,698

The Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program, funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, will increase the capacity of Miami-Dade County Public Schools to

implement community policing strategies that strengthen partnerships for a safer community and enhance law enforcement's capacity to prevent, solve, and control crime through funding for additional officers. The federal funds will be used to support eight new officer positions over the three-year grant period.

21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Program (\$1,110,676)

Sponsored by the Florida Department of Education, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Program provides at-risk students with out-of-school opportunities for academic and personal enrichment. The 21st CCLC Program complements academic programs, and engages adult family members in educational and personal development opportunities. The program enhances and reinforces academic lessons of the regular school day for children attending educational transformation schools, to meet state and local student academic achievement standards in core academic subjects. The schools supported through these grants include Hialeah Gardens Senior High School, Avocado, Holmes, Miami Gardens, and Toussaint L'Ouverture elementary schools.

Health Teacher (In-kind support valued at \$1,219,216)

Miami Children's Hospital, through its Health Teacher Program, will provide Miami-Dade County Public Schools teachers with online health education resources aligned to national and Florida health education standards. The goal is to improve the health literacy of students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

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