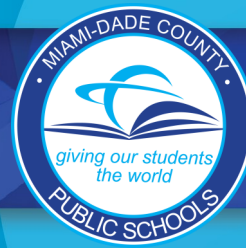


WORKFORCE WIRE

Volume 5 | Issue 53 | December 2025



HOT OFF THE WIRE

As 2025 comes to an end, we want to thank you - our Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Family - for being the most determined and committed group of professionals in public education. This year has been a whirlwind of milestones and achievements for District students and families. The Workforce WIRE Team wishes you a happy, safe and joyful holiday season with those you love the most. Thank you for making M-DCPS your best choice.

iLead

"iLead by igniting the light in others so that, together, we illuminate pathways of purpose, progress, and possibility."

— Melissa M. Miller
2025 Assistant Principal of the Year
Assistant Principal
Frederick Douglass Elementary

BODY & MIND

Many of us may be struggling with our emotions during the holiday season. Find trusted resources that can help with the range of emotions you may face. Visit [CDC.gov/HowRightNow](https://www.cdc.gov/HowRightNow) for resources on how to build your emotional resilience.

Tuesday, December 2, was **National Special Education Day**. Watch the heartwarming role music teacher Darwin Brown plays in the lives of his Special Education students [here](#). All M-DCPS schools, Region and District offices will be closed for Winter Recess (December 22, 2025 - January 2, 2026).

ABOVE & BEYOND

Osvaldo Ortega Perez is a custodian at Twin Lakes Elementary. He is meticulous, reliable, proactive, and consistently exceeds expectations, maintaining a **SAFE** and welcoming environment. Beyond his duties, Mr. Ortega Perez actively volunteers for school events, from setting up for assemblies to helping with after-school activities. His commitment demonstrates a profound dedication to the school community's overall success.



Showcasing Talent and Choice



The phenomenal students of **Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts** were chosen to perform at this year's **Miami Art Week**!

The event took place on Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6, at the Miami Dade College Gibson Educational Center in Coconut Grove. The school's Jazz Band performed at the Friday event and the Dance students presented and taught an original "Junkanoo Shuffle" at the Saturday event. Presentations showcased the remarkable talent, dedication, and artistic excellence fostered within Mays Conservatory.

Discover more about our specialized pro-

grams, like the one at Mays Conservatory, and explore employment opportunities at the **M-DCPS Choice Expo & Showcase**. All Magnet schools will be represented at these free events, providing a fantastic opportunity for families and job seekers alike to explore the universe of possibilities available at M-DCPS, your best choice. The **Central Choice Expo** will be held on **Saturday, December 13, 2025**, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Miami Dade College, West Campus; and the **North Choice Expo** concludes the series on **Saturday, January 10, 2026**, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Miami Dade College, North Campus.



Excellence in Folk Radio

Michael Stock, WLRN's folk music expert, will be inducted into the **Folk Radio Hall of Fame** at the 2026 International Folk Music Awards. This prestigious award honors those who actively promote and preserve folk music. Stock is a deeply passionate champion of the folk community, a recognition well-deserved after decades of dedication. His career comprises a remarkable 45-year run hosting his show on WLRN, missing only one broadcast. Stock has been instrumental in building and supporting the South Florida folk scene. Catch **Folk & Acoustic Music with Michael Stock**, Sundays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on WLRN 91.3 HD1.

Folk Radio Hall of Fame



Michael Stock



Venetian Parc Academy Reggio teacher Ms. Sophia Cuni and students during an immersive "G for Grass" lesson.

Innovating Pre-K

Venetian Parc Academy is the newest state-of-the-art PK-2 public school in M-DCPS. It features the district's first Reggio Emilia-inspired VPK Magnet program. The academy's philosophy uses a student-driven, mastery-based learning model that views children as capable collaborators. The curriculum emphasizes personalized pathways, project-based learning, and smart technology. Housed in a \$24 million facility with flexible spaces, the school is designed to cultivate confident, creative lifelong learners.

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