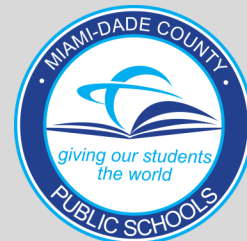




Perla Tabares Hantman, Chair

The School Board of Miami-Dade County

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 Volume 1, Issue 1 - March 2011



BOARD CHAIR RECOGNIZES POSTER CONTEST WINNERS, PROMOTES FLORIDA BIKE MONTH AND ENDORSES MARCH 2011 AS 'ARTS IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH'

The School Board unanimously approved three items proposed by Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman at its regular school board meeting February 9, 2011.

One item recognizes the three winners of the 2010 WalkSafe Poster Contest. Mrs. Hantman recognized Ariadna Rodriguez, a first grade student from Gertrude K. Edelman/Sabal Palm Elementary; Aranzazu Bravo, a second grade student from Sunset Elementary, and Denver Jake, a fifth grade student from Mater Academy of International Studies for winning the 2010 Walk Safe Poster Contest. Their works of art help promote safety throughout the District.

The other board approved items endorse March 2011 as both Florida Bike Month and Arts in Our Schools Month.

"The arts are an essential part of public education," said Ms. Hantman, a long-time supporter of arts education. "Arts in Our Schools Month not only increases students' understanding of the world around them, but also broadens their perspective on traditional academics. In addition, March is Florida Bicycle Month, which promotes bicycle safety, healthy lifestyles, encourages physical fitness and has a positive effect on the environment."



Ariadna Rodriguez, 1st Grade Student from Gertrude K. Edelman/Sabal Palm Elementary School received recognition from Perla Tabares Hantman, School Board Chair. The student was joined by her family and representatives from the WalkSafe Program.

Upcoming Dates to Note:

FCAT Writing Prompt
 March 1– 3, 2011

March School Board Meeting
 March 9, 2011

Spring Break
 March 14 -18, 2011

Miami-Dade County Fair & Exposition
 March 17– April 3, 2011

April FCAT Testing
 April 11-25, 2011

District 4 School Highlights

- The College Board has recognized **Barbara Goleman Senior High School** as one of five schools in Florida that led the nation in the number of minority students who participated and passed Advance Placement tests.
- **Hialeah Gardens Elementary** school staff, students and parents came together to participate in the first Annual Walk About Autism, which took place at the Sun Life stadium. Hialeah Gardens Elementary helped raise over \$4,000 benefiting the Autism Society.
- Students at **José Martí Middle School** participated in a Literacy Week Read-Aloud. Dr. Alegria, Librarian/Media Specialist, read aloud to 6th, 7th and 8th graders at the school's media center.
- Mrs. Eutsay's third grade class at **North Twin Lakes Elementary** participated in Scholastic Bookclubs' Classrooms Care Program. They read 170 books. Mrs. Eutsay's class is listed in the Scholastic Classrooms Care Hall of Fame.
- The Earth Club at **Palm Springs Middle School** was awarded a grant from donors chosen to strengthen the school's recycling program. In addition, the school will be participating in a Styrofoam Recycling Pilot Program in collaboration with MDCPS' Department of Planning, Design and Sustainability.
- **Milam K-8 Center** students won the SECME Regional Mousetrap car competition. The National competition will be held in Tennessee this summer.



Shadow Day

On February 2, 2011, School Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman participated in national "Job Shadowing" Day with Ms. Karina L. Montenegro, a Barbara S. Goleman Senior High School student. This academically motivating activity gives students a hands-on experience in the real-work environment.