

CONNECTION

A NEWSLETTER FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARENTS

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August 2020

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Reopen SMART



Return SAFE

For the latest updates regarding the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year, please visit <http://reopening.dadeschools.net>.

M-DCPS TO LAUNCH 'WEEK OF WELCOME' TO HELP FAMILIES PREPARE FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR



Beginning August 24, M-DCPS will launch a virtual Week of Welcome, a series of online programming modules to assist families in preparing for the reopening of the school year and introduce them to the routines and practices of My School Online (MSO). The 2020-2021 school year begins August 31 for students across Miami-Dade utilizing MSO.

During the week of August 24-28, sessions covering nearly 60 topics will be available for viewing in English, Spanish and Haitian-Creole at <http://miamiweekofwelcome.com>. The website has a translation

feature so all parents can view it in their preferred language. Each day of the week, additional videos will be uploaded to the site. Critically important modules to facilitate a student's education for the new school year will be indicated as "Must Watch."

Select programming will also be broadcast on WLRN-TV Ch. 17. Many of the "Must Watch" videos will be featured each day of the Week of Welcome, as well as special programming for students in Exceptional Student Education and PreKindergarten (PreK) programs.

The topics, which range from cybersecurity and coping with stress to study habits and nutrition, are organized into four main categories: Connecting Virtually, Supporting Student Success, Healthy Mind & Body, and Your Child on Campus.

Each module will indicate whether it is to be viewed by students, parents or by both.

In addition to the material that will be available for the Week of Welcome at <http://miamiweekofwelcome.com>, families can take advantage a wide array of resources at the M-DCPS [Reopening of Schools](#) website and through the The Parent Academy's virtual campus at parentacademymiami.com/virtual-campus/. The M-DCPS Distance Learning Hotline, 305-995-HELP (4357), will continue to be available to provide assistance in live-time.

Lastly, school administrators will be providing parents with instructions on how to view videos created by their child's school showing morning announcements and events such as Open House via the website <https://dadeschools.eduvision.tv/>.



In an effort to provide families and the community with comprehensive information regarding the reopening of schools, M-DCPS has developed a new, helpful resource called Reopen SMART/Return SAFE: A Guide to the Reopening of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

The guide outlines the instructional

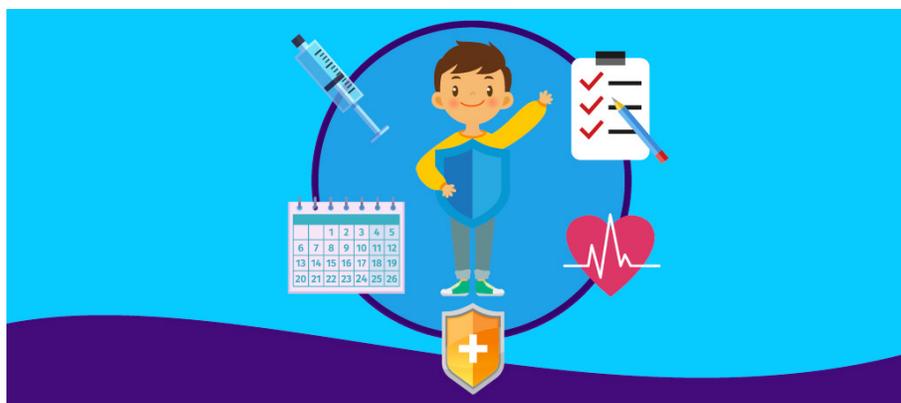
models, processes and procedures that will be implemented and expanded upon for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year. In addition to details related to the M-DCPS distance learning model, My School Online (MSO) and the Schoolhouse Model, the guide also includes resources related to new student

registration, student vaccinations, Internet access assistance, bullying prevention, resources for homeless students, graduation requirements and other useful information for the start of this new school year.

The guide is posted on the District's Reopening page, <http://reopening.dadeschools.net>, where it may be viewed or downloaded. Additional resources for families are posted online, including an updated list of Frequently Asked Questions, a Back-to-School checklist and information on the District's weeklong virtual orientation for students and parents and the Week of Welcome.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve and conditions may change. The District will continue to monitor guidance from public health entities and update the guide, as new information becomes available.

M-DCPS URGES PARENTS TO GET THEIR CHILDREN VACCINATED



exclusively via My School Online.

Parents/guardians should not wait to contact their medical provider to schedule an appointment. Not only are school age vaccines required for school, vaccinations prevent illnesses that lead to unnecessary medical visits, hospitalizations and further strain on the healthcare system.

The Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, Federally Qualified Health Centers, University of Miami Pediatric Mobile Clinic and the Jessie Trice Community Health System provide FREE or low-cost vaccines. For more information, visit <http://www.dadeschools.net/>.

M-DCPS is urging parents/guardians to check their children's immunization records to see if they are due for any mandated school entry vaccines. Particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, it's important for children to receive vaccinations to protect them from preventable diseases and outbreaks. During the upcoming

influenza season, the flu shot will also be critically important to reduce the impact of respiratory illnesses in the community.

All M-DCPS students are required to have the mandatory school age vaccines for the 2020-2021 school year, including those participating

Tune in to the _____ SUPERINTENDENT'S PARENT WEBINAR Tuesday, August 25 _____ 5:30 p.m. _____

With less than two weeks before the start of the 2020-2021 school year, M-DCPS continues to provide families with a myriad of helpful resources to assist them in ensuring their children have a strong and successful start to their academic year.

In addition to the Reopen Smart/Return Safe Reopening Guide posted on <http://reopening.dadeschools.net>,

the District has also posted Frequently Asked Questions and a Back-to-School checklist in multiple languages. Parents are encouraged to read through these materials to prepare for the upcoming school year.

In an effort to answer additional questions, Superintendent of Schools Alberto M. Carvalho will also host a webinar for parents and guardians

on Tuesday, August 25, at 5:30 p.m. Parents can submit questions for the webinar by emailing questions@dadeschools.net. The deadline to submit questions is Friday, August 21.

The hour-long webinar can be accessed by visiting <http://reopening.dadeschools.net> and will also air simultaneously on WLRN-TV Ch. 17. Click [here](#) for an informational flier.

STAY INFORMED!



**STAY
CONNECTED!**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) prides itself in its ability to communicate quickly and efficiently with parents through automated voice, email and text messages.

It is imperative that parents stay connected and informed. Accurate and up-to-date contact information, including phone numbers and email addresses are critical to receiving

important outreach and emergency messages from the District and your child's school. Parents may update their information by contacting their child's principal.

To receive text messages, parents should text "Y" to 67587 on their mobile device. If they don't opt in, they will miss out on emergency messages. The Dadeschools Mobile app is another available resource. It is a one-stop shop for parents to receive valuable information such as class schedules, student grades, and much more. The free app can be downloaded to your mobile device.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHECKLIST



REGISTRATION

Families are urged to register their children early to avoid processing delays. The **FIRST** day of school at Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is August 31, 2020 via My School Online (MSO). For more information, visit <http://attendanceservices.dadeschools.net/>.



WEEK OF WELCOME

A unique virtual experience taking place from August 24-28, 2020. Families are encouraged to view pre-recorded videos on selected topics such as Connecting Virtually, Healthy Mind and Body, Supporting Student Success and Your Child on Campus. For more details, visit <http://miamiweekofwelcome.com/>.



CONTACT INFORMATION

M-DCPS has the ability to communicate accurately and efficiently with parents through voice, text, and email messages. It's important that your child's school has the most current contact information. Parents can update their details by contacting their child's principal. They may also opt in for emergency text messages by texting "Y" to 67587 on their mobile device.



DADESCHOOLS MOBILE APP

The Dadeschools Mobile app is a one-stop shop for parents. Access important information including class schedules, school grades, District news and much more. Download this free app to your iPhone or Android device.



IMMUNIZATIONS

Parents are urged to check their children's immunization records to see if they are due for any mandated school entry vaccines. All M-DCPS students are required to have the mandatory school age vaccines for the 2020-2021 school year, including those participating exclusively via MSO.



ONLINE ACCESS

In preparation of the first day of school via MSO, all students are asked to visit www.dadeschools.net to log in to the Student Portal using their Student ID and Password on a personal or District-issued device to confirm access. If they are unable to access their account, the student should contact their school for assistance.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Students will need typical school supplies such as paper and pencils to write things down, take notes, solve math problems, as well as any other supplies that their teachers might indicate are necessary for the class. They will also need a computer with a camera, a microphone, and internet access. Parents should check their child's school website or contact the school for supply lists.



UNIFORMS

During Stage I and II on MSO, uniforms are encouraged. The uniform policy will be enforced and face coverings will be required in the Schoolhouse Model during Stage II.



MEALS

Parents are encouraged to apply for free and reduced-price lunch at www.nutrition.dadeschools.net. Meals will be available in Stage I and Stage II. Distribution sites and specific times for pick-up will be shared as soon as that information becomes available. Breakfast is free for all students.



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Get to know your child's teachers at the beginning of the school year. Request a virtual meeting with them to share important information about your child and to ask how to best support their learning at home. Consider joining a parent organization like the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) or volunteering at your child's school. Speak to your child's principal for more information on PTA or you can email info@mdccpta.net. To find out how you can become a school volunteer, visit <https://www.engagemiamidade.net/volunteers>.



HOTLINES

District Emergency Operations: 305-995-3000
Distance Learning: 305-995-HELP (4357)
Adult and Career/Technical Education: 305-558-8000

Mental Health Services for students/parents: 305-995-7100
Project UP-START for students experiencing unstable housing: 305-995-7558

reopening.dadeschools.net



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@MIAMISUP
@ESCUELASMDCPS



@MIAMISCHOOLS
@ALBERTOMCARVALHO1



@MIAMISCHOOLS
@MIAMISUP

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

September 9

11:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting

6:00 p.m.

Second Budget Public Hearing

October 21

11:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting

IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

August 24-28

Week of Welcome

August 31

First Day of School

September 7

Labor Day

September 28

Teacher Planning Day



www.dadeschools.net

SOCIAL MEDIA



@MDCPS
@EscuelasMDCPS
@MiamiSup



@MiamiSchools
@AlbertoMCarvalho1



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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

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