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Miami Schools Provides Programs For Students' Future

By Stacy Andell

Miami Schools Creates Education Council of International Cities

In an aim to make students better prepared for the global marketplace, Miami Schools is creating the Education Council of International Cities. This council aims to help students gain the education they need to take part in the challenges of a new global economy. Many businesses in Miami and America now have more international services and concerns.

The motivation behind the creation of the Education Council of International Cities in the Miami Schools is to adjust and succeed in world where distance and time are increasingly less important as barriers to global commerce. The Miami Schools is aiming to add a more global perspective on education. The Education Council of International Cities will create international guidelines for quality education from both an academic and economic perspective.

The Miami Schools' Education Council of International Cities will be comprised of chief education officers, national and international business researchers, business leaders and mayors of major urban cities from around the world. This Council will use current research to provide professional development for teachers. Many fields have formed international research teams but these are not common in education. This is research team is also unusual in that Miami Schools is a large urban school district and most research teams come from smaller suburban schools. The Miami Schools' Education Council of International Cities will be formed and membership established by May 2007.

Miami Schools Joins Up with the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce for the Future Executives Program

Miami Schools aims to help students to choose a career by learning proper planning and business behavior from the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce. This new program will be started in eleven schools in the Miami Schools system. The Miami Schools Future Executives Program will center around the "Tools for Success" lessons in the ninth grade. These lessons will follow a curriculum that includes postsecondary education, proper behavior in the work place, manners, ethics and conflict resolution.

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The program also wants to establish Future Executives clubs in Miami Schools that will be responsible for two activities a year, a pre-holiday networking event in mid-December and a mini goals conference in May of 2007. This program is part of Miami Schools continued effort to ensure that children are armed with the tools they need to succeed in school and beyond.

Miami Schools Help Welcome New Pro Soccer Team to Miami

Students in the Miami Schools are competing to help the new pro soccer team choose a mascot and a nickname. The Miami FC is hoping the students can help them choose the best nickname and mascot. The contest which began on September 18th and ends October 6th. The contest is open to all 361,550 K-12 grade students in the Miami Schools system. The contest will be judged by a panel composed of Miami Schools' officials, Miami FC staff, celebrities and contest sponsors. Three top nicknames and mascots will be posted for voting on the Miami FC's website. Students may submit their nickname

entries and mascot designs through their teachers.

Stacy Andell is a staff writer for Schools K-12, providing free, in-depth reports on all U.S. public and private K-12 schools. For more information on Miami schools visit

<http://www.schoolsk-12.com/florida/miami/index.html>

Miami Schools Expands And Prepares For The 2006-2007 School Year

By Stacy Andell

This school year Miami Schools is opening four new schools and several new facilities to cope with increased student enrollment for the 2006-2007 school year. The new schools will cater to elementary, middle and high school students.

Miami Schools has added the Ronald W. Reagan High School in the northwestern part of the district. This is an area that is expanding rapidly. The new high school will cover about 20 acres and house extremely modern facilities. The Ronald W. Reagan High School will have 250,000 square feet of classrooms, computer lab, an 800 seat auditorium, a 700 seat cafeteria, a Media Center and a gymnasium. Also on campus there will be a number of outdoor areas: fields for football, soccer, softball and baseball as well as basketball, tennis and racquetball courts.

The most innovative part of Miami Schools' Ronald W. Reagan High School is that it is an academy based design. This means that ninth grade students will be tested and surveyed to discover their interests and areas of strengths and then be encouraged to select from three academies. The three academies on campus will be Cambridge Academy, Information and Communications Technology Academy, and the Classical Arts Academy. These academies will both have separate facilities and share common school facilities. This is part of Miami Schools continuing educational reform plan.

In the southern part of the district, Miami Schools will open the new Norma Butler Bossard Elementary

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School. The campus will cover 7.5 acres. The school will be equipped with a Media Center, music and art centers, a cafeteria that will accommodate nearly all the students, a three story classroom building, bilingual rooms, a well equipped science laboratory, and a Wellness Center. The Wellness Center will be available for staff and student use. This school is named for Norma Butler Bossard, who had served as the Miami Schools language arts division head for many years.

Another innovation for the Miami Schools is the newly constructed David Lawrence, Jr. K-8 Center. The K-8 Center will be a world class facility that is adjacent to Florida International University. Miami Schools will work in conjunction with Florida International University to provide professional development for Miami Schools' teachers and Florida International University's education majors. The K-8 Center will be able to house nearly 1,600 students. The state of the art facility will include a Media Center, computer labs, art labs, and music centers. The K-8 Center will be home to the Johnson and Wales University nutrition and cooking workshops. These workshops are part of "Healthy Eating/Healthy Choices," a grant the school received from Health Foundation of South Florida. The cooking workshops will be open to staff and parents.

The last addition Miami Schools is the Young Women's Preparatory Academy. This is the first all female school to be operated by Miami Schools. The Young Women's Preparatory Academy will accommodate 450 girls in grades 6-12. The Young Women's Preparatory Academy will have a thorough educational curriculum that will develop the academic, personal and social skills of the students. The school aims to prepare its students for postsecondary education and the world.

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