

# ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

## PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER



### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Recent research confirms that high school students desire more information about their progress and their needs as they journey through high school.

According to the Data Quality Campaign and the Kentucky Student Voice Team, students want access and support to use their own data as they make decisions about their futures.

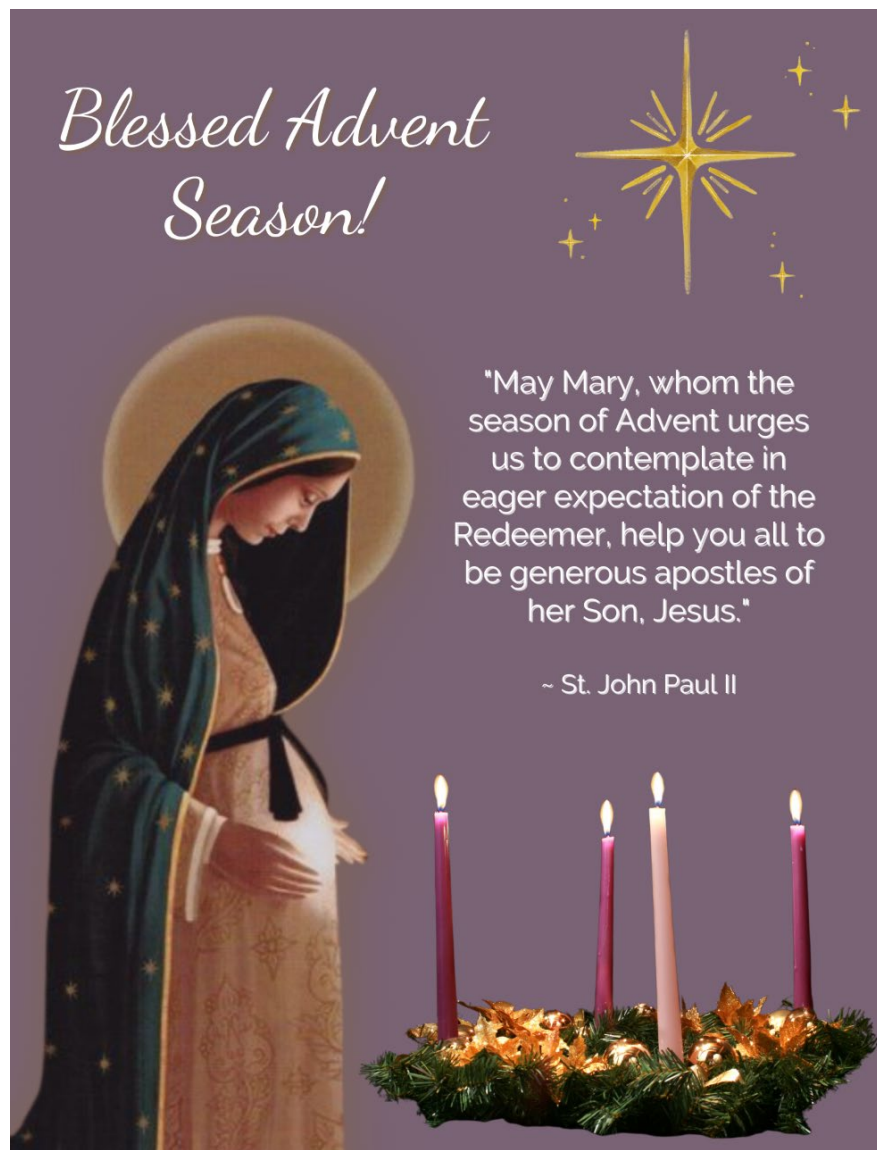
Accordingly, students want to know:

- Which high school courses should be taken based on their post-secondary school plans.
- Which pathways can be taken from school to workplace in order to earn a livable wage.
- Financial aid options and opportunities including scholarships and grants to fund post-secondary education.
- The competitive value of an education from their chosen high school(s) in terms of preparation for successful post-secondary educational experience.
- Selected pathways of their local school peers with regard to post-secondary choices: college, military service, or workplace.

The study notes that although six in ten students say they trust their parents and teachers to help them use academic data to make post-secondary plans, still, a significant number of students want (and need) more access to counselors to help them plan and map out their futures.

How are we doing in terms of making time for students to meet with counselors for purposes of data review? Are we maximizing software and available technologies (Naviance, Canvas, Rediker, etc.) to ensure that students are able to compile, review, interpret and utilize collected data in making post-secondary school plans?

### SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT!



"May Mary, whom the season of Advent urges us to contemplate in eager expectation of the Redeemer, help you all to be generous apostles of her Son, Jesus."

~ St. John Paul II

### A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Principals,

The season of Advent is upon us! I know that the pace of life at your school will increase as we approach Christmas Break. During this season of busyness, I hope that you also take time to celebrate your accomplishments during the school year. We always have reasons to celebrate in Catholic education, and Advent is a logical "midway point" to stop and reflect.

Speaking of celebration, I am looking forward to seeing you at our Principals' Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 9. Please see my email from last week with more information about this event. Remember to register for the lunch, including your preferred meal selection, using this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/vhAV9DNZcY>. I know this will be a wonderful celebration!

May God bless you during this season of joyous preparation!

Yours in Christ

**Jim Rigg, Ph.D.**  
Secretary of Education  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

**CERTIFICATION COORDINATORS:** Please, make sure that those who will be renewing their FLDOE certification this 22-23 school year have completed their 120 total points - out of which 20 need to be ESE points. Also, make sure that they have applied and paid the FLDOE renewal fee. Once they have fulfilled these requirements, please complete the FLDOE Certification Renewal Spreadsheet 22-23 located in the e-library and email it to [teacher.certification@theadom.org](mailto:teacher.certification@theadom.org) to request that their points be submitted to the FLDOE. We plan to start submitting points in the order in which they are received. Make sure we have all the information requested in the Certification Renewal Spreadsheet you email us to speed up the renewal process. If you have any questions, please reach out to your principal or to [teacher.certification@theadom.org](mailto:teacher.certification@theadom.org) - Thank you!

**The form is also attached.** This is the information we will be requesting:

FDOE License #	Teacher First Name	Teacher Last Name	# of RML Total Points	# of RML ESE Points	Certification Expiration Date	Applied for Renewal (Y / N)	Paid FLDOE Renewal Fee (Y / N)

ALL information must be submitted using the excel form.

### FLDOE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION RENEWAL POINTS - 2025 RENEWALS FORWARD

**The 40 reading points the FLDOE requires are for those renewing in 2025 forward.** These points are not in addition to the 120 total points, but they are part of the 120 required points. In other words, a teacher **renewing 2025 forward** will need **120 total points out of which 20 need to be ESE points and 40 reading points.** They can use the BESS portal to take independent courses in Reading and ESE. Once they complete the points, they will need to upload them on RML as out of district classes. Keep in mind that if teachers take a class which topic includes both reading and ESE, they will need to upload the certificate of completion on RML as either Reading or ESE points. A class cannot count for both reading and ESE points.

These are the links for active teachers to take free independent courses:

Regular Points – <https://fl-pda.org/#/category/25>

Reading Points – <https://fl-pda.org/#/category/31> (only the last two classes count for reading)

ESE Points – <https://fl-pda.org/#/category/34>

Please note that an inactive teacher will need to earn renewal points by taking college classes and mailing the college transcript to the FLDOE for them to consider those points for renewal. If points need to be transferred to or from our district, please ask teachers to contact the Office of Catholic Schools at [teacher.certification@theadom.org](mailto:teacher.certification@theadom.org)

**Register Me Live:** Note that we have added a class for **Principals' Retreat 2022** on RML. This is in reference to the retreat we had back in February. Please, **complete evaluations to get points.** We will close the class in late December.

Also, we have already added the class for **Catechist Conference 2021 and 2022.** Please, remind your teachers to complete evaluations so that they can get points for attending the conferences. We will close these classes in late December.

### Professional certification subject areas that require the 40 reading points (for those renewing in 2025 forward)

Information taken from the FLDOE:

As a component of the credit requirements specified under paragraph (1)(a) of this rule, an educator whose application for renewal of a certificate with a beginning validity date of July 1, 2020, or thereafter, must have earned at least two (2) college credits, forty (40) inservice points, or a combination thereof, in the use of explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to reading instruction, developing phonemic awareness, and implementing multisensory intervention strategies if the educator is renewing any of the following coverages: Elementary Education (K-6), Prekindergarten/Primary Education (age 3 through grade 3), Elementary Education (grades 1-6), Primary Education (grades K-3), English (grades 1-6), Middle Grades English (grades 5-9), Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum (grades 5-9), English (6-12), Reading (K-12), Reading (Endorsement), and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) (grades K-12).

#### Coverages

The requirement applies to anyone with the following coverages:

- Elementary Education (K-6)
- Prekindergarten/Primary Education (age 3 through grade 3)
- Elementary Education (grades 1-6)
- Primary Education (grades K-3)
- English (grades 1-6)
- Middle Grades English (grades 5-9)
- Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum (grades 5-9)
- English (6-12)
- Reading (K-12)
- Reading (Endorsement)
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) (grades K-12)

**Please share the information above with your certification coordinator.**

#### EARLY LEARNING: 2022 Florida Literacy Association - Early Learning Literacy Grant Application

The Florida Literacy Association (FLA) is currently accepting submissions for the 2022 FLA Early Literacy Grant. Early learning childcare/preschool providers may submit a completed proposal demonstrating the need for supplemental literature and share how the providers will use the resources to support literacy instruction in the classroom. The deadline to submit the application is December 15, 2022. **\*See attached.**

**ELEMENTARY CERTIFICATES AND PROMOTION CEREMONIES:** Elementary principals: Please be reminded that, as per Policy 503.02, eight graders participate in “Promotion Ceremonies” and receive “Certificates of Completion” (or “Promotion”). The terms “Graduation” and “Diploma” are used only in reference to promotion from 12<sup>th</sup> grade (and should not be used at the elementary level). When ordering or producing printed certificates, please ensure that they do not use the word “Diploma”.

**FEDERAL PROGRAMS: Communicating with Public School Districts Re: IDEA** (Please share this section with whoever at your school directly interacts with Miami-Dade/Broward/Monroe County Public Schools)

As a result of our recent trainings regarding IDEA implementation for students parentally placed in private schools, we have been notified that some miscommunications have taken place. Keep in mind:

- RtI is sound, effective instructional practice. RtI data does not have to be supplied to the district before obtaining consent for testing; however, data (showing well-delivered scientific, research-based instruction and interventions) does need to be provided after consent is signed if the team is considering eligibility for Specific Learning Disorder, Emotional/Behavioral Disorder, or Language Impairment category. This data does not have to be from specific programs or forms dictated by the district.
- Public school officials have made it clear to us that they want to do what is right and some issues are at the state level, not at the district level. We want to be the heroes who help the district get the resources they need to help our students.
- You “catch more flies with honey than with vinegar”, we are representing our Catholic faith, and we want to work positively with our district counterparts. If you encounter an issue or disagreement, please let Gabriel Cambert know (gcambert@theadom.org).

In an effort to support all our schools through this process we would like your feedback on the following survey regarding IDEA Child Find: <https://forms.gle/Zhh1Tcvd3Simhiqm6>. Please complete this survey by Friday, December 9, 2022.

Remember that our study on IDEA through the ADAC group is ongoing, and we hope to have a set of specific recommendations for improvements in the months ahead. It is important that you coordinate with the OCS if you encounter IDEA issues!

**PRESCHOOL GRANT OPPORTUNITY: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant - Round 2**

The Child Care Stabilization Subgrant Program was authorized by Congress through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). States received funding to provide direct assistance to eligible child care providers to support their financial stability and offset unexpected costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Florida’s program is designed to help stabilize providers now, support them to make strategic investments in their employees and programs, and to reward high quality and participation in the School Readiness Program, with an emphasis on directing higher rates of support to high quality programs in an area with a child care infrastructure deficit (desert).

Schools/Preschools can apply for this grant if they are deemed child care by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and meet either condition A or B below:

A. They were licensed, registered, or regulated under the appropriate state or local law **on or before March 11, 2021**. In Florida, this includes:

- Licensed Child Care Facilities
- Religious Exempt Programs
- School Readiness Contracted Wrap Around Programs
- Before and After care School-Age Only Programs (up to age 13) – **must have DCF determination letter**

OR

B. They were licensed, registered or regulated after March 11, 2021 **AND** is contracted for the School Readiness program.

The Division of Early Learning (DEL) is overseeing the Child Care Stabilization Subgrant Program in partnership with the Early Learning Coalitions (ELCs) throughout the State. ELCs will review applications to verify eligibility, confirm tax information, approve applications for payment and issue payments to providers. Please contact your respective ELC to apply for this grant.

Should you have any questions please contact Brenda Cummings (bcummings@theadom.org) or Gabriel Cambert (gcambert@theadom.org) in the Office of Catholic Schools for more support.

**MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE: Plan for Suicidal Ideation:**

- When a student reports self-harm, the student needs to be reported to a member of the Mental Health Task Committee. That member will report to the counselor. Task member will also notify the Principal.
- Counselor will assess the student for suicidal ideation while the parent/guardian is called by the Principal. The parent/Guardian will be asked to come in immediately. Principal will notify Superintendent (elementary) or Associate Superintendent (secondary).
- In the event that the counselor is not available or the school does not have a counselor, the Principal will assess the student and another member of the Mental Health Task Committee will make the appropriate telephone calls.
- Upon parent/guardian arrival, a full explanation of the event will be discussed and parent will be asked to have the student assessed by a professional. Possible resources in our area are Florida Behavioral Health or Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital. If a student is already in therapy with a psychologist or other mental health professional, the student may be taken to that person for further assessment. If the parent/guardian refuses to have the student assessed, Broward Sheriff’s Department or the local police will be call and possibly a Baker Act will occur.
- Parent must produce a discharge paper or letter showing that the student was seen by a mental health professional to return to school. That letter should include anything the school may need to know to assist the student.
- Counselor will notify all teachers and staff who have contact with the student of any special recommendations that need to be followed for the student. Counselor will follow-up weekly with the student for one month. After that the counselor will follow-up monthly or as needed. Counselor will notify parent/guardian of any concerns with the student.

Once you have developed your plan, please send to Rosa Alvarez at [rmalvarez@theadom.org](mailto:rmalvarez@theadom.org).

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: FDLRS-South Courses Coming Up**

There are two upcoming **face-to-face** courses that FDLRS-South will be offering at JRE Lee Educational Center in **December**. The *Classroom Management* and *Universal Design for Learning* courses are wonderful opportunities for teachers and staff to sample the supports and services FDLRS-South has to offer. Feel free to share these opportunities with any teachers that may benefit from attending.

A certificate of completion will be given to the participants and may be uploaded in RegisterMe Live as an out-of-district class for master in-service points (MIP). School-site MIP coordinators determine which courses will count for ESE renewal credit and any questions regarding this should be directed to the school's MIP coordinator.

To register, please email Patricia Fernandez-Laza (patlaza@dadeschools.net) with the names and email addresses of the teachers that plan to attend. This registration will help FDLRS-South prepare for the teachers' participation and allow them to email the teachers the course information/resources.

### ***Classroom Management***

**Course Description:** The purpose of this professional development is for participants to learn skills and strategies for implementing effective classroom management plans that target student behavior and foster an effective learning environment.

**Date:** 12/13/2022

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** JRE Lee Educational Center 6521 SW 62 Ave 33143 Room #18

### ***Universal Design for Learning***

**Course Description:** This professional development will assist teachers to better understand and utilize Universal Design for Learning (UDL) strategies to meet the diverse learning needs of all students. This Professional development will provide participants with information on the three principles of (UDL), Representation, Expression, and Engagement. UDL is a scientifically valid framework for guiding instruction. It reduces barriers in instruction, provides appropriate accommodations and supports, and maintains high achievement expectations.

**Date:** 12/16/2022

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** JRE Lee Educational Center 6521 SW 62 Ave 33143 Room #18

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Institute for Catholic School Leadership:**

- The Institute is excited to announce **free professional development resources geared specifically for Catholic school educators**. These resources are offered by the [Institute for Catholic School Leadership](#) and can be found in the [Catholic School Mission Toolkit tab](#).
- Each month, a short video will be provided along with informative documents and resources specific to Catholic education. See [The Catholic School Mission Toolkit](#) for the first of these resources.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: University of Notre Dame's STEM Teaching Fellows Application Now Open**

The Notre Dame STEM Teaching Fellows is a fully-funded, unique, and competitive program that seeks school-based teams of STEM teachers who desire to change STEM education in their schools and communities. The STEM Teaching Fellowship spans three summers and two school years to form STEM teachers for the middle grades.

The Fellowship is driven by three Summer Institutes in which Fellows participate in three modules: 1) STEM Integration; 2) Core Instructional Practices; and 3) STEM Blueprint Plan. Themes of equity, access, and leadership are woven throughout the Summer Institutes. During the school year, Fellows continue to work on their STEM Impact Plan, collect videos of their teaching performance, receive feedback from their content coach, and gather for the RISE Summit in January.

#### Application Criteria:

- Teachers in grades 4th - 8<sup>th</sup> of science, math, engineering, integrated STEM, or computer science technology.
- School-based Teams of 3 - 4 teachers. Preference will be given to teams with 1 or more early career teacher.
- Accepted applicants must attend all Summer Institutes and remain on campus at Notre Dame, residentially, during the Summer Institutes. Additionally, Fellows will engage in school year work virtually and attend, in person, two January RISE Summits at rotating sites around the US.
- Applicants must intend to remain teaching at their existing school for the duration of the Fellowship (2 academic years).
- All applicants must have letters of support from their principal approving their full participation in the program

For more information/to apply visit: <https://stemeducation.nd.edu/fellows/apply>. Should you have any questions please contact Gabriel Cambert (gcambert@theadom.org) in the Office of Catholic Schools for more support.

### **REDIKER: NewRediker App for AdminPlus**

Rediker recently published the following announcement:

"We're excited to introduce our newly redesigned app for AdminPlus. This is the perfect companion tool for AdminPlus users to access important student information on the go. There is no device syncing required. Two-factor authentication (2FA) keeps the app secure. The new app includes all the features of the AP Notify app for mass notification via text, voice and email.

Use the app to quickly scroll through student and staff data. Users can easily switch between schools within the app. Need to know where a student should be? Easily access attendance and scheduling info on the spot instead of going back to your desk.

Important: Enable the App within AdminPlus

To get started with the mobile app, first you need to enable access within the AdminPlus software. This allows you to manage users and control app access. If your school uses AP Notify, you will also have to enable access within the TeacherPlus Sync Manager."

To enable the App:

<https://support.rediker.com/support/solutions/articles/14000138561-adminplus-and-district-diocesan-manager-release-september-30-2022#new-feature>

App preview trailer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xLUKWk5m1M>

To learn more about the app:

<https://www.rediker.com/solutions/student-information-system/AdminPlus-Mobile-Apps>

