

ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER



ALL SCHOOLS MASS

If you have not already done so, please complete the survey for the All Schools Mass (sent in a recent email). The survey should take no longer than 5 minutes max to complete. You can access the survey via the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZMQC27S>

Please complete this survey by **Friday, Dec. 16**. In addition, be aware that *principals may attend the Mass without "counting" against the total number of attendees from the school.*



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Principals,

We are entering the final days before the celebration of Christmas. I know your days are filled with numerous school events. As always, I hope you take time this Christmas to relax, recharge, and celebrate your many accomplishments during our first semester. We always have many reasons to celebrate the successes in our Catholic schools!

This will be our final Principal Newsletter before Christmas. As such, remember that the OCS will remain open most of Christmas Break, although individual staff members will be taking vacations for some of this time. The OCS will be closed on Dec. 23, 26, and Jan. 2. May the joy of the Christ-child inspire and renew us this Christmas!

Yours in Christ

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

Adult Learning - Virtual Courses

Spring 2023 Virtual Session

Registration: January 9-20

Virtual Course Dates: January 20-March 20

Course List: http://adomvirtual.com/adult_learning.html

Questions? support@adomvirtual.com

EANS:

Your school may have recently received an email from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) regarding a release of new funding associated with the EANS program. These emails were sent only to schools that participated in the initial EANS release of funds (i.e. "EANS 1"). If you received such an email, please complete the referenced survey and submit by the deadline of Friday, Dec. 23. Note that the survey link is unique to each school, so you will need to check the email and click the survey link. We are confident that this will enable you to receive further funding from this important program!

If you participated in EANS 1 and did not receive an email from FLDOE, please contact Brenda Cummings at bcumming@theadom.org. If you did not participate in EANS 1, feel free to disregard this message.

IDEA (Please share this section with whoever at your school directly interacts with Miami-Dade/Broward/Monroe County Public Schools):

As a reminder: if you encounter an issue or disagreement, please let Gabriel Cambert know (gcambert@theadom.org). This includes students who are going through the evaluation process which is taking longer than the established timeline, RtI documentation concerns, etc.

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>. Some schools still have not completed the survey which was due last Friday, December 9, 2022. Please complete it as soon as possible.

Principals Meeting: Remember that the next Principals Meeting will take place on Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023. The meeting will be held at St. Timothy School (5400 SW 102nd Ave., Miami). More information, including a draft schedule, will be released after Christmas Break.

Secondary School Principals: Please email proposed agenda items for the January 19th meeting to Sr. Carmen and/or Principal Ana Garcia.

Security Cameras in Classrooms: We have received questions as to whether schools can install cameras in classrooms (vs. other areas of the campus) for the purposes of security. After consultation with our attorneys, schools can install classroom cameras, but should note a few considerations:

- Cameras should not utilize audio recording due to Florida laws that do not allow such recording without consent.
- Schools that utilize classroom cameras should include the following statement in the local Parent/Student Handbook: "The school has as its discretion placed surveillance cameras at various locations on the school premises for safety and security purposes."
- The use of surveillance video creates certain legal obligations particularly with recent legal developments related to retention and access of video footage. For example, when video footage is used to determine student disciplinary consequences there is legal authority supporting the proposition that it becomes part of a student record to which a parent is entitled to access upon request. There are also legal obligations to retain video footage that may foreseeably be relevant to a legal proceeding. Therefore, you will need to consider a retention policy both generally and for particular segments.

Please contact Dr. Rigg or Dr. Edwards with any questions.

