
ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER



“When you look at the Crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now.”
– Blessed Mother Teresa

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Principals,

We are in the holiest week of the year, as we prepare for the resurrection of Christ. Know that my prayers will be with you and your school community this Easter Sunday. May the resurrected Christ continue to watch over all our Catholic schools!

I am looking forward to seeing you for our next Principals’ Meeting on April 27. As previously announced, this meeting will take place from 9:00 AM-2:30 PM at Archbishop McCarthy High School (Southwest Ranches). We are still constructing the agenda, but plan to discuss several important topics including the new Teacher Observation Process, the elementary religion curriculum standards, and potential priorities for the 2023/24 school year. StepUp will also be joining us to talk further about the expansion of the Family Empowerment Scholarship in Florida. I know this will be an informative day!

I hope you have a blessed Easter and a rest-filled Easter Break.

Yours in Christ,

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

EARLY CHILDHOOD PERSONNEL: We have heard that some early education teachers and assistants have been having difficulty securing spots to take the necessary tests for credentials and course certificates. DCF personnel have told us that ***you should reach out directly to the [Training Coordinating Agency \(TCA\)](#)*** (I have attached this list) in your county to discuss any specific needs. The TCAs monitor exam sessions and their capacity and adjust as necessary to help meet the needs of the region. They also said that exam sessions do fill up quickly, and we encourage personnel (teachers) to sign up for exams while they are taking the course. That way their testing date secured in advance.

- **CIRCUIT 11 and 16** – Dade, Monroe: Sam Ore (305) 237-2678 Miami Dade College Child Care Training Dept – Room 6219 11011 SW 104th Street Miami, FL 33176 Fax (305) 237-0641, E-mail: sore1@mdc.edu
- **CIRCUIT 17** – Broward: Josie Maymi (954) 262-6905 Nova Southeastern University 7600 SW 36th Street, Bldg 200 Mail: 3301 College Ave. MSI-FCV#B Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314 Fax (954) 262-3853, E-mail: mm1384@nova.edu

ELEMENTARY ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL MEETING: The elementary AP meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 18 from 9am-11am. The meeting will be held in the Parish Hall at Immaculate Conception (not the ADOM Pastoral Center, as previously announced). All APs attending must register in RML.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS (BROWARD): The OCS will be filling out the Needs Assessment PL Plan for all ADOM schools in Broward. It was emailed by Dorina Varsarmis on 3/31. I will be sending out a survey prior to completing the form.

FOCUS ELEVEN Vocations Rally is back!

Focus 11 is a field trip lasting about four hours during the school day. It provides our Catholic school 6th grade boys and girls with information about the many ways to serve the Church in ordained or consecrated ministry, it allows them to interact with priests and religious from the Archdiocese and various religious communities and invites them to prayerfully consider their own vocation – all in a fun and dynamic program of music, fellowship and prayer.

In order to accommodate the large number of 6th graders in our parochial schools, **Focus 11** will take place over three days – **May 22 & 23** at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami and **May 25** at St. Gregory in Plantation. There is no cost for the event, though each student will need to bring a bag lunch, and each school is asked to provide ground transportation with the requisite number of teachers and chaperones.

I invite the 6th grade boys and girls from *Error! No document variable supplied.* **School** to take part in this year's **Focus 11** Vocations Rally on **5/23/2023** at **St. John Vianney**. Please plan on arriving by **8:45AM**. The rally will begin with Mass presided by Archbishop Wenski promptly at 9:00AM and will finish at 1:00PM. Please respond to this email to acknowledge receipt and to provide a rough number of students that will be participating from your school. In addition, we ask that you give us the name, email, and phone number of the person(s) that will oversee this event at your school so that we may be directly in contact with them with more detailed information. Email the information to Ileana Roque at iroque@theadom.org.

HOUSE BILL 1: Please read the attached document for FAQs on House Bill 1. StepUp will be present at our April 27 Principals' Meeting to discuss this further.

TERRANOVA: Be aware that all elementary schools will be administering the TerraNova NEXT in the 23-24 school year. More information will be presented at the principal's meeting on April 27.

The Teacher Appreciation Giveaway Is Here

Teachers work so hard to make sure our kids are learning the skills they need to succeed. And they deserve a *huge* thank-you! That's why we're celebrating teachers this month with our Teacher Appreciation Giveaway, sponsored by the Army National Guard.

Right now, teachers can enter for a chance to win a **\$5,000 vacation** (to anywhere their heart desires)!

If you're a teacher, thank you! We'd love for you to enter this giveaway. If you're not a teacher, share this with the teachers in your life and let them know how much you appreciate them. The giveaway ends April 30. Please click below to enter.

[Enter Now](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Marketing Webinar: April 20, 3:30-4:30 PM
- Mental Health Counselor Meeting: Time: Apr 25, 2023 at 10:00 AM;
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83553893168?pwd=NytreStoWFYvY0FwRzVyKzIPNjN4QT09>
- Mental Health Task Force: Time: Apr 25, 2023 at 01:00 PM;
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88178979426?pwd=aWNYckpzZEx1L2o1V2Eva1lyS3ltUT09>
- Principals' Meeting: April 27, 9:00-2:30 (Archbishop McCarthy HS)

DUE DATES:

- Prior to May 1: Any outstanding documents for scholarship compliance are due to FLDOE
- May 19: Principal Self-Appraisal Forms due (with pastor signatures/comments) for all elementary principals in years 2+ at their current school. Forms should be sent to Dr. Rigg at jrigg@theadom.org.
- June 16: Contract/Employment letters are due to the OCS