

New Teacher Orientation

# RIDE THE WAVE TO SUCCESS!



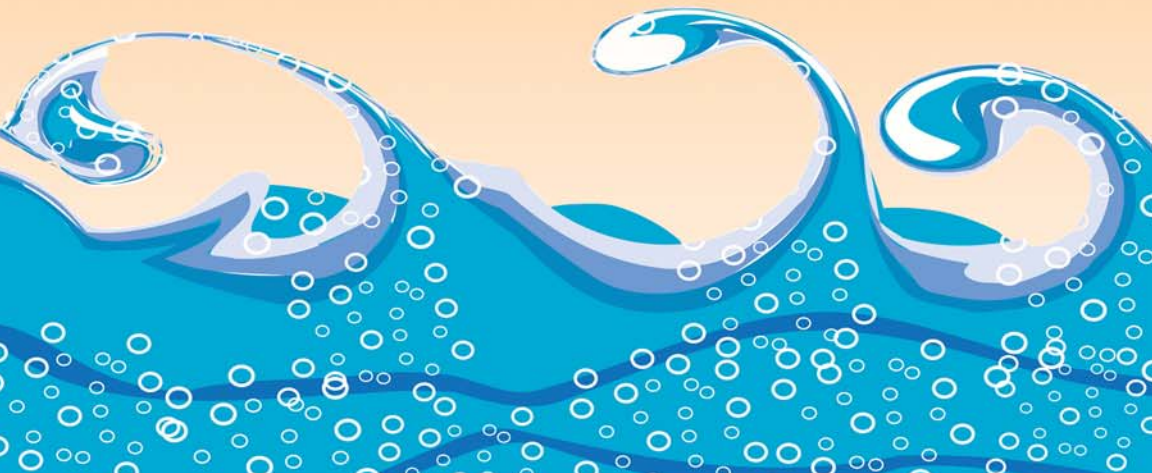
Miami-Dade County Public Schools



UNITED TEACHERS OF DADE



HIALEAH SENIOR HIGH  
AUGUST 10, 2007



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# NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - AUGUST 10, 2007

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7:30—8:00 a.m. Courtyard	<b>REFRESHMENTS</b> Courtesy of UnitedHealthcare
8:00—11:30 a.m. Auditorium	<b>BRAIN POWER</b> Dr. Deborah Estes
11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Courtyard	<b>LUNCH</b> Will be sold by school clubs
<p><b>READY, SET, GO! SESSIONS</b></p> <p>Ready, Set, Go! sessions are presented by National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) to help you plan and prepare for a successful opening of school. The session content is appropriate for the specified grade levels.</p>	
12:30—1:25 p.m. See schedule	<b>READY, SET, GO!</b> Session #1 (Select one session)
1:30—2:25 p.m. See schedule	<b>READY, SET, GO!</b> Session #2 (Select one session)
2:30—3:25 p.m. See schedule	<b>READY, SET, GO!</b> Session #3 (Select one session)

## READY, SET, GO! SCHEDULE

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### Do You Know Your Students? (SESSION 1 ONLY)

*Glenda Algaze, NBCT & Michael Sanchez, NBCT*

**Room 804**

Grades 6-8, 9-12

How well do you know your students? To be an effective and accomplished teacher, you must recognize the different learning styles and personalities of your students in order to plan accordingly. Through hands-on interaction, participants will explore methods to determine the different learning modalities and personality traits, and how to effectively construct lessons that address multiple learning styles in the classroom.

### I Can Read With My Eyes Wide “Open”

*Latha Murali, NBCT*

**Room 806**

Grades PreK-2, 3-5

Participants will be provided with hands-on reading and writing activities based on some of Dr. Seuss' classic books. These activities are geared towards motivating students to learn sight words and apply them to reading and writing activities. Organizational tips will also be provided to assist with classroom routines and enhance the instructional program.

### Meeting the Needs of SPED Students

*Daniel Brooks, NBCT & Carmen Gardiner, NBCT*

**Room 808**

ESE

New teachers of Students with Special Needs face many challenges: managing behavior, facilitating inclusion, handling paperwork. This session will provide strategies for efficiently complying with these responsibilities.

### Dynamic Bulletin Boards

*Daphne Connor, NBCT; Kathy Hull, NBCT & Patricia Tuttle, NBCT*

**Room 810**

All grade levels

This presentation will focus on ideas to enhance the learning environment through motivational bulletin boards and classroom displays.

### Show Me the Money

*Janet Duguay-Kirsten, NBCT*

**Room 812**

All grade levels

This session will provide information on where to locate and how to apply for grants related to classroom instruction. Areas that will be covered include: how to organize ideas and materials in anticipation of grant-funded projects, component parts of typical grants, helpful internet sites which list available grants. Funding possibilities will include local, state, and national sources. Additionally, teacher awards, student competitions, and sources of discounted or free teacher supplies will be shared.

## When You Are Stuck in Quicksand, Don't Struggle!

**Room 814**

*Rochelle Epstein, NBCT & Peggy Slott, NBCT*

Grades 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Educators are challenged to plan for students with diverse strengths and needs, protect the individual dignity of all students, and promote equity and fairness in the classroom. In this session, the formation of alliances that assist in accomplishing these goals will be emphasized. Participants will experience various situations, seating arrangements, and structures. Environmental structure and the use of motivational techniques and strategies to promote engagement will be explored. Participants will experience the impact these have on students' self-esteem, motivation, progress, and success.

## Parent Communication & Involvement: A Major Key to Classroom Success

**Room 816**

*Lourdes Fuller, NBCT*

All grade levels

Parents are important stakeholders in their children's education. Engaging them as partners is important to achieving a successful year both for the students and the teacher. As teachers, we need to employ ways to effectively communicate with parents to enlist their support and insure optimum student performance.

## Managing Anti-Social Behavior: Oh, No! They're Misbehaving Again! Now What?

**Room 818**

*Angela Gonzalez, NBCT*

All grade levels

This session will focus on using proven strategies gleaned from educational research to manage unruly students. Participants will be presented with concrete ideas for addressing inappropriate behaviors and will learn how to thoughtfully take and keep control of their classroom. Strategies such as social problem-solving, differential reinforcement and behavioral contracting will be addressed with an emphasis on using positive, proactive behavioral interventions.

## First Week "Get-to-Know-Me" Activities

**Room 822**

*Maria E. Hernandez, NBCT*

PreK-2, 3-5

On the first day of school, the first questions in students' minds are, "Who are you?" and "Who are they?" To relieve their anxiety and to facilitate the learning process, a teacher needs to carefully plan to be able to provide the following from the very first day of school:

- A formal introduction of each student as well as her/himself.
- A comfortable and relaxed environment conducive of learning.
- Clear conduct parameters for the class.

The activities that will be covered facilitate student introduction and serve as ice-breakers for the first day of school.

## Cooperative Learning Techniques Useful in Creating a Classroom Learning Community

*Amanda Heinemann, NBCT*

**Room 824**  
Grades 9-12

Participants will engage in activities that can be used during the first few weeks of school to help form learning communities. The session will include techniques useful in establishing the structure necessary for creating an effective cooperative learning classroom.

## Lesson Planning - Three Tiers

*Melissa Keller, NBCT*

**Room 803**  
Grades 9-12, ESE

In order to fully engage, prepare, and motivate students for learning, the teacher should view lesson planning as a “three-pronged” process: 1. “Front-loading” to engage the students and provide background knowledge acquisition; 2. Content-based instruction; and 3. Post-acquisition assessments, products, or projects. The presenter will illustrate this technique using examples from the Language Arts and Science curricula. Teachers will receive copies of sample lessons and be involved in strategies to use in their classroom instruction.

## Creating Classroom Confidence – by Organization!

*Eileen Kott, NBCT*

**Room 805**  
Grades 9-12

Are you a little nervous about the first day of school? Your secret’s safe with me! This session will help you to gain confidence through organization. We will discuss what you can do before school starts, how to handle the first day like a pro, and how to exude confidence to your administrators, your students, and their parents. You will receive materials and activities, as well as tips for organizing your classroom to be an optimal learning environment for all your students.

## Learning to Cooperate/Cooperating to Learn

*Diana Maniscalco, NBCT*

**Room 807**  
Grades 6-8, 9-12

In this session you will learn to organize cooperative learning teams. The session will include activities that encourage teamwork, problem-solving, learning to learn, interpersonal skills, the ability to negotiate, and personal identification of strengths and weaknesses.

## Engaging ESOL Students

*Maribel Martinez Font, NBCT &  
Catherine Cabrera, NBCT*

**Room 809**  
Grades PreK-2, 3-5

This session will provide participants with ESOL strategies to use with Limited English Proficient Students (LEP). It will present effective best practices, graphic organizers, visuals, and strategies that appeal to different learning modalities. These strategies can be used during the Reading/Language Arts block or during content area instruction.

## Preparing for Field Trips (SESSION 1 ONLY)

*Catherine Mendoza, NBCT*

**Room 813**

All grade levels

This session will introduce District procedures and organizational tips to insure a successful field trip. These time-saving suggestions will help you make your class field trip an enjoyable learning experience for the students and the adults involved.

## Focused Planning – How to Optimize the Time until August 20th

*Patricia Perez, NBCT & Dorothy Hammer, NBCT*

**Room 815**

All grade levels

From the moment you enter your school you will be bombarded with meetings and requirements with imminent deadlines. Veteran teachers have a prioritized list of tasks for these planning days. This session will help you identify what needs to be done, establish your priorities for planning and classroom preparation, and locate resources to assist you. What questions should you ask before planning? What about equipment, photocopies, textbooks, emergency lesson plans, supplies, decorating the classroom? While schools differ, there are many things you can begin to plan today and this session will help you know where to begin.

## Rock, Paper, Scissors

*Kathleen Pham, NBCT*

**Room 819**

All grade levels

During this hands-on session, participants will experience a variety of strategies for using paper and scissors to create numerous instructional items including little books, step books, and star reports.

## Understanding and Using Assessments

*Lisette Ramos, NBCT*

**Room 821**

Grades Pre-K-2, 3-5

Participants will learn about the correct use of assessments and the data they provide. Special emphasis will be given to the use of the Houghton Mifflin reading series assessments in planning for instruction. Strategies for re-teaching will be discussed as well as the use of informal and formal assessments for diagnosing needs of individual students. The use of Assessment binders as an organizational tool will be addressed. Other assessments such as writing samples, portfolios, and student conferencing will also be covered.

## Check Out the Media Center

*Sherry Riley, NBCT*

**Room Media Center**

All grade levels

The school media center is more than just a place to check out books. Media Specialists are curriculum support teachers. One of their many jobs is to collaborate with teachers in developing lesson plans and research projects using print, non-print, software and technology resources available in the media center to impact student learning. The purpose of this session is to show teachers how to use Destiny M-DCPS online library catalog. During the course of this workshop, teachers will select a topic and learn how to find and reserve reference materials to enhance classroom lesson plans.



## SPICE It Up!

Mark Rosenkrantz, NBCT

**Room R089**

All grade levels

Scaffolding and

Planning

Instructional strategies that transform

Curriculum through

Engaging the Senses - Visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic & Tactile (VAKT)

This session deals with instructional planning procedures that infuse curriculum with engaging sensory learning experiences for the student. Participants will discuss the need for enriching curriculum and the concepts of scaffolding, planning, VAKT, multiple intelligence theory, and differentiated instruction. Participants will also experience the opportunity to plan a lesson as a member of a group of targeting Visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic, or Tactile learners.

## Hands-on Introductions for the New School Year

Bernard Roy, NBCT

**Room R090**

Grades 6-8, 9-12

Participants will engage in ice-breaker activities for: Individual students (simple origami), student pairs (testing your reaction time), student groups (card shape sort), the entire class (getting-to-know-you bingo). Necessary resources and preparation will be included. A simple method of determining learning preferences of students and an amusing way to get students to follow directions will also be shared.

## First Impressions (SESSIONS 2 & 3 ONLY)

Michael Sanchez, NBCT &  
Glenda Algaze, NBCT

**Room R092**

Grades 6-8, 9-12

Your students are sizing you up! Are you ready to deal with this? Your "First Impression" is a lasting impression and often sets the stage for a successful year. Participants will explore items they should be preparing NOW to provide a positive first impression. The session will cover things to do prior to the first day of school, during the first week, as well as required items that effective teachers need to master: documentation, ethics, locating resources, and basic teaching strategies.

## Welcome to Dadeschools.net!

Deedee Toner, NBCT

**Room 641 (lab)**

All grade levels

During this session participants will become familiar with Miami-Dade Public Schools website and the 24/7 resources available to students, parents, guardians, and teachers. Through this "online tour" participants will gain the confidence and "know how" to find information. The following aspects of the website will be highlighted: the Professional Development Menu and Registration System, how to locate District offices and employee information, calendars, The Parent Academy and the Office of Parental Involvement, the M-DCPS subscription databases, and the M-DCPS Online Public Access Catalog.

**Practical Procedures for Primary Teachers  
(SESSIONS 2 & 3 ONLY)**

*Alicia Velazquez, NBCT*

**Room 813**  
Grades PreK-2

This session will provide practical ideas for establishing classroom routines at the beginning of the school year. Materials provided will include songs, fingerplays, and websites for teachers as well as ideas for teaching numbers and colors. The classroom management approach discussed will be Conscious Discipline. This will include: I love you rituals, relaxation techniques, and positive nursery rhymes.

**Electronic Gradebook, Teacher Portal & P-Synch!**  
*Fritz Brouard & Patty Vargas, Technology Liaisons*  
*Information Technology Services*

**Room 681 (lab)**  
All grade levels

New teachers attending the workshop will be able to understand the basics of how to use the Electronic Gradebook, how to access the "Teacher Portal" and the importance of Password Management (P-Synch).

**Parent Involvement and Communication**

*Alice Host, NBCT*

**Room 801**  
Grades 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Starting the year off right by early communication with parents can set the tone for a successful year. This session will offer a number of effective communication strategies for use during the first few weeks of school. The important content of early communications will be outlined. Topics to be featured include: school policies, classroom agreements/guidelines, student folders, book distribution lists, emergency contact cards, communication log, electronic gradebook, parent conferences, interim progress reports, Open House preparation, unsatisfactory progress notification, documentation/communication of classroom management issues.

**Early Literacy: Introduction to Books/Reading**

*Jean Dawson, NBCT & Ellen Skidmore, NBCT*

**Room 091 (portable)**  
Grades PreK-2

In this session you will learn to introduce young students to a love of reading through simple language and literacy techniques. These strategies will provide your students with basic skills for a successful start in Language Arts and an interest in books.

**Parent Conferencing and Documentation**

*Theresa Borges, NBCT*

**Room 675 (lab)**  
Grades 6-8, 9-12, ESE

This session will provide tips and techniques for conducting effective parent-teacher conferences and an organized method for maintaining documentation of parent-teacher communication.

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UnitedHealthcare is proud to  
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