A Change Has Come!
D.A. Dorsey Technical College Celebrates Its Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

At 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, students, staff, faculty, Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, our district leaders, elected officials, community leaders and school board members gathered at 7100 N.W. 17th Avenue, Miami, FL. for the unveiling of D.A. Dorsey Technical College newly renovated building.

Mr. Dana Albert Dorsey (1872-1940), a businessman, banker and philanthropist, was one of the first African American millionaires in Florida and the American South. Dorsey was a firm believer in education and a philanthropist at heart who donated the land on 17th Avenue and 71st Street to Miami-Dade County Public Schools. On this land, Dorsey High School was built in 1936 and is now D.A. Dorsey Technical College. It provides a rich heritage and positive influence in the Liberty City area of Miami, FL. Over the years, the building needed a make-over and that was made possible by the General Obligation Bond (GOB).

D.A. Dorsey went through two-phases of renovations to include new windows, motion-sensor energy-efficient lighting, new floors, new roofing, furnishing, additional office space, state-of-the-art computer labs, adorned with vibrant colors that grace the walls and doors. The entrance of the school has a digital marquee to enhance communication publicly. The newly renovated facility will allow students more options to expand their educational opportunities in a zealous environment and bridge the gap for community engagement.

Guest speakers at the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Mr. Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools, and The Honorable Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, School Board Member, District 2. They gave accolades to the students who attend this institution and encouraged them to take advantage of what D.A. Dorsey has to offer.

After the speeches by school board officials, the ceremonial ribbon-cutting took place in the front of the school. A colossal red ribbon snipped by gigantic scissors signified the ceremonial ribbon-cutting symbolic of the successful completion of phase one and two of the school. It was a sight to behold and day to remember.

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, attendees had the opportunity to view the newly renovated building inside and out. Mr. D.A. Dorsey would have been very proud with this moment in time. When he died in 1940, flags were lowered to half-staff all over Miami for his support of education for the masses.

And his legacy continues...

https://www.dorseytechnicalcollege.com
Teaching Amid the COVID-19 Crisis: Miami-Dade School District Adapts to Distance Learning

Distance Learning education is not a new concept to students and teachers at Miami-Dade County Public Schools. In the past, we have utilized this technique to teach our Adult General Education (AGE) courses – remediation in reading, writing, language arts and math, as well as high school equivalency, English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) and more. In response to the Coronavirus and the Governor's “stay at home” order, we have quickly implemented all aspects of our training and services throughout the district via the Internet for both K-12 and Adult Education Students.

Our M-DCPS educators have been working tirelessly and efficiently during this unprecedented global COVID-19 pandemic to implement interactive lesson plans using various types of software such as, Microsoft Teams, Burlington English and Google Suite, etc. This will engage students in critical, creative, and reasonable thinking, while attempting to gain the highest learning outcome levels. In the past, Distance Learning access to education was available to those with limited opportunities due to work, family, or physical limitations. Now, Distance Learning is mainstream and allows for students to develop skills to be more self-directed in a learning environment. It also requires individual motivation, initiative and for learners to become technology savvy. The District currently has 14 Adult Education and Community Centers and 7 Technical Colleges to accommodate this process.

Recognizing the parallel need to train staff, the District is also offering several Professional Development Training to all of its instructional and support staff to assist with this transition. The coronavirus pandemic has allowed us to reshape the way in which we deliver the theory and practice of teaching. It has opened our eyes to new ideas for instructional and learning methodologies as we venture into an academic cyberspace. It is a catalyst for online education, and presents the possibility not just for teaching locally, but also on an international scale in the near future.

https://www.adulteducation.com

ACCESS DISTANCE LEARNING

To access distance learning, please visit your school's website. Once you click on the button below, you will notice a school list. Find your school, click on the name, and you will be directed to the corresponding website.

SCHOOL LOCATIONS
Dorothy M. Wallace COPE Center’s Media Specialist Education Fund Grant Recipient: Ms. Constance Gilbert!

Congratulations! The Education Fund was pleased to announce Ms. Constance Gilbert, Media Specialist on being selected as a 2019-2020 Education Fund Adapter Grant recipient for her project, Building Bridges with Skype in the Classroom, in the amount of $400. An evening celebration and presentation of the grant check was held at the Grant Awards Reception on Thursday, January 23rd at the Ocean Bank Center for Educational Materials.

The grant funding will be utilized to purchase items for the grant project. Skype in the classroom is a digital communication tool, available at no charge, that connects teachers with educators and guest speakers from around the world. It enables teachers to find classes thousands of miles away, or just around the corner, to collaborate and learn with.

Additionally, all of the recipients received a framed certificate and Yoobi Classroom Pack, which consists of supplies for 30 students. Ms. Gilbert is Anchored in Excellence!

https://www.deoamdcps.org
On Friday, February 7th, 2020, Miami Lakes Educational Center & Technical College (MLEC&TC) hosted its first College Assistance Program (CAP) Advisors Information Workshop. Staff from Miami-Dade County Public Schools’ seven Technical Colleges as well as from the District presented at the workshop. Over 70 CAP Advisors attended, to learn about programs designed to prepare students to enter the career field of their choice through one of the sixty career technical education training programs, and to speak with a few students who provided testimony of their experience in the program.

Assistant Superintendent Mr. Luiz E. Diaz and District Director, Mr. René Mantilla, with the division of Adult/Technical Colleges and Educational Opportunity and Access, greeted the CAP Advisors while the Technical College staff highlighted some of the most popular programs and earning potential – Air conditioning, Automotive Service Technology, Building Automation Systems Technology, Heavy Equipment Operations, Truck Driving, Aviation, Biomedical Equipment Repair, Central Sterile Processing, Practical Nursing and much more. Ms. Jacqueline Chavarria, a financial aid officer from South Dade Technical College provided invaluable information about tuition, fees and financial assistance opportunities for students who are interested in our programs. A few of the students from the Braman Automotive program spoke to the audience about professional expectations and class experiences such as the opportunity of attending a technical college program with financial aid to graduating debt-free and becoming employed in a high-paying career.

A delicious lunch was provided and prepared by the culinary students at MLEC&TC. At the end of the workshop, visitors were offered a tour of the campus by Mr. Scott Parker, Vice Principal and Mr. Eddy LaFaille, Assistant Principal who showcased the school’s state-of-the-art classroom in which the Building Automation Systems Technology program, sponsored by Siemens Corporation is housed.

To learn how you can earn a career in a year from one of our many programs, visit www.careerinayear.com or call 305-558-8000.

https://www.miamilakes.edu/
On January 18th and 19th, 2020, our Airframe Department Head, Mr. Ricardo Flores, had the pleasure of traveling to Tulsa, Oklahoma, home of American Airline’s main base of repair operations. Mr. Flores, a long time American Airlines Line Maintenance Technician and experienced Airframe Instructor, met with over 40 George T. Baker Aviation Technical College Students, who had been recently hired by the company as Aircraft Maintenance Technicians.

George T. Baker Aviation Technical College began it’s aviation program in 1939. The building was dedicated in 1961 as George T. Baker Aviation Maintenance Technician School to honor Mr. Baker who, until his death, had been president of National Airlines, and had donated the land to the School Board of Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Flores stood proud amongst his fellow technicians, many of whom had been his students only months earlier. According to Mr. Flores, “There’s nothing like seeing the end result. It’s truly incredible to witness Baker students working at a major airline.”

The majority of these students have recently graduated from George T. Baker Aviation Technical College, having also gained experience from working at maintenance repair operations and airlines in Miami.

These newly hired technicians benefitted from a recent hiring spree in which American Airlines hired 500 Aviation Maintenance Technicians in late 2019. Mr. Flores stated that, the company plans to hire 100 more mechanics this year.

American Airlines’ acquisition efforts showcase the volume of growth in the aviation industry. As new technologies are being developed, many aircrafts today are being outfitted with more complex avionics equipment.

This is expected to have a major impact on the demand for avionics, airframe, and powerplant technicians in the next ten years.

As the industry evolves, George T. Baker Aviation Technical College is continuously innovating their Aircraft Maintenance Technician and Avionics Systems Technician programs. By investing in state-of-the-art technology and hiring experienced industry professionals to teach, the school is taking many steps to keeping the program rigorous and competitive.

Many major airlines at Miami International Airport such as American, Delta, LATAM, and United have continued to hire Baker Aviation’s best and brightest. As career demand continues to rise, George T. Baker Aviation Technical College will continue to do what it does best, by providing the industry with the finest Aircraft Maintenance Technicians.
Employee of the Year Winner
Adult/Vocational Education: Mr. Hicham Moujahid, Office Manager, Miami Beach Adult and Community Education Center

The Miami Beach Adult & Community Education Center (MBA) takes great pride in announcing that its office manager, Mr. Hicham Moujahid, has been selected as the 2020 Employee of the Year for the Miami-Dade County Public Schools district. As a 12-month employee, Mr. Moujahid is a sterling example of one who constantly strives for excellence. Himself, a former student at MBA, Mr. Moujahid calls the school his second home.

A native of Morocco, Mr. Moujahid came to this country with no English skills. Thanks to his tenacity, and the dedication of his MBA teachers, he learned at an accelerated rate. Soon afterward, he was hired as an MBA community liaison specialist, before moving to his present position. He is multilingual (Berber, Arabic, French, Spanish, and English) and he uses these superior skills to communicate with a wide range of newly-arrived immigrant adult learners.

Mr. Moujahid is the UTD Steward for MBA and he works tirelessly with teacher-members who require clarification on the contract or other issues. His diplomacy helps him also to clear up misunderstandings that may arise between teachers and students.

This is no small feat, as MBA, in addition to its Fienberg-Fisher location, comprises the following programs: After-School Care Program at two centers; Biscayne Beach Elementary; Treasure Island Elementary; North Miami Beach Senior; and Miami Beach Senior. Additionally, there are eight satellite centers that report to the MBA principal.

To Mr. Moujahid, no task is too large or small. His mantra is, “When you do something meaningful for children and adults concomitantly, you really make a difference.”

Whether it is leading a staff meeting, greeting our district administrators and guests, ordering supplies, setting up audiovisual equipment, handling security, or a myriad of other concerns, he welcomes the chance to be of assistance. He is an exemplar of the perfect UTD Steward and the MBA family is proud to salute his numerous achievements.

https://www.miamibeachadult.com
Today, more women are driving their way into the transportation repair industry, creating more opportunities for them, and a different experience for customers. The Bureau of Labor Statistics says less than two percent of auto technicians and mechanics are women. Currently, in Canada and the United States, only 3-4% of all automotive mechanics are women. And among heavy-duty mechanics, only a minuscule 1% are women (according to surveys conducted by Statistics Canada and the U.S. Bureau Of Labor Statistics). This is extremely low, especially considering that, according to a study by Frost & Sullivan, women are now involved in 80% of car-buying decisions.

My name is Rebecca Koch, a 28 year old student from Miami, FL. I am focused on my passions of becoming a High Horsepower Diesel Technician (working on really big engines that run trains or large generators). I aspired to become a mechanic since I was young girl. My Dad was definitely the inspiration for starting off in this profession. He always taught me to take care of our vehicles so that I could be independent when I grew up. Things in life led me on a different path when I first graduated high school. However, the long time passion to be in the diesel world led me to the Heavy Duty Truck and Bus Program at Robert Morgan Educational Center & Technical College. Here, I acquired the tools to learn how to diagnose and fix a problem. These valuable lesson directed me to better things. This programs of study was a really great way for me to get my foot in the door. My professor, Mr. Nembhard, was extremely helpful in getting his students placed in jobs to help them start working, learning and earning. I was even lucky enough to go to SkillsUSA which is a United States career and technical student organization serving more than 395,000 high school, college and middle school students and professional members enrolled in training programs in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. I was in my last year when I took 2nd place in the whole state for diesel mechanics. This was a proud moment and allowed me the opportunity to showcase my talent and be a stand out candidate in the industry.

I was able to graduate at the end of 2017 without incurring any student loans, thanks to Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Due to my achievements in school I was given the opportunity in September 2017 to get my dream job at Cummins Inc. (formerly Cummins Power South) which is an American Fortune 500 corporation that designs, manufactures, and distributes engines, filtration, and power generation products. I secured a spot in its new Technician Apprentice Program (TAP). I am extremely grateful for the consistent support I have received in my years at Miami-Dade County Public Schools. I fully believe it is the main reason for my success today. Honestly, I have been extremely lucky with my coworkers and managers. Yes, It can be rough being a “woman in a man’s world,” however, they have given me a chance at Cummins Inc. to earn their respect and show that I can do my part. Several mentors at work are always there to help me figure things out when I need it.

I am excited for my future as a diesel technician. It all boils down to who will work hardest at this job and give it their best effort. This I am very much prepared to do. My training at M-DCPS has given me the confidence to know I am fully equipped in every respect to take on new challenges in my profession.

https://www.robertmorgantech.net/
United Way of Miami Hosts M-DCPS: Annual Breakfast at Jungle Island

On Thursday, February 19, 2020, the United Way of Miami held its annual breakfast for Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) at Jungle Island. This festive event was an opportunity for United Way to honor its most generous schools and individual donors.

Our Administrators and teachers from the Miami Beach Adult & Community Education Center (MBA) were proud to be among the invitees to this prestigious event. Kudos to Ms. Farah Perez, Teacher, who raised the highest amount of money from her adult education class. Students in her class were recognized with a pizza party for their generosity. MBA is proud to also recognize Mr. Steven Payne, Assistant Principal, whose generous individual donation was a testament to his concern for the less fortunate in our community. Miami Beach Adult raised $3,358.50 for the 2019 Campaign—Together, we’re standing for a stronger Miami.

Ms. Belkys Nerey, the WSVN Channel 7 newscaster and local personality, inspired the audience with her powerful words about the importance of philanthropy.

She advised and encouraged the attending group on how to promote community health and well-being, and what our impoverished community members would require in order to enable them to lead healthy and productive lives.

The administration and staff of MBA are pleased to have played a part in the United Way 2020 fundraising effort. Next year, MBA fully expects to expand its generosity and to provide further funding for those in need.

www.miamibeachadult.com
Tips on How to Stay Well: COVID-19 Prevention

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS
Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
cdc.gov/COVID19

WATCH FOR SYMPTOMS
Reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death for confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases. These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure (based on the incubation period of MERS-CoV viruses).

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

WHEN TO SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION
If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. Emergency warning signs include*:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face
*This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

USE OF CLOTH FACE COVERINGS TO HELP SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19
How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering

Side view of an individual wearing a cloth face covering, which conceals their mouth and nose areas and has a string looped behind the visible ear to hold the covering in place. The top of the covering is positioned just below the eyes and the bottom extends down to cover the chin. The visible side of the covering extends to cover approximately half of the individual’s cheek. Cloth face coverings should—

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape
- Bluish lips or face
*This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019
The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment and educational programs/activities and strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all as required by: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender. Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA) as amended - prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40. The Equal Pay Act of 1963 as amended - prohibits gender discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - prohibits discrimination against the disabled. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations and telecommunications. The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) - requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to “eligible” employees for certain family and medical reasons. The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions. Florida Educational Equity Act (FEEA) - prohibits discrimination against students, employees, or applicants on the basis of sex, race, color, ethnic or national origin, religion, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, political