

North Area Advisory
September 10, 2009
North Area Superintendent's Office

Resolution in Support of the Decennial Census 2010
Resolution in Support of Brazil National Day, September 7 2009
Resolution in Recognition of "Harness the Power Program Savings"
Resolution in Support of National Grandparents Day - Sunday, September 13, 2009
Resolution Proclaiming September 11, 2009 as a Patriotic Observance: A Day to Remember
Resolution in Support of Suicide Prevention Week - September 6-12, 2009
Resolution in Support of Constitution Day - September 17, 2009
Resolution in Support of the International Day of Peace - September 21, 2009
Resolution in Support of Celebrate Freedom Week - September 21-25, 2009

Two Schools Honored for Outstanding Federal and State Achievements

The State Board of Education recently recognized two schools in Broward County for their excellent performance on both state and federal accountability standards. **James S. Hunt Elementary**, which has a student population of more than 68 percent who are economically disadvantaged, has maintained a state school grade of "A" for the last two years, while at the same time meeting stringent federal requirements known

as Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for more than five years.

Boulevard Heights Elementary, which has a student population of more than 57 percent who are economically disadvantaged, has made significant progress in closing the achievement gap between white and minority students for the last two years, maintained a state school grade of "A" for the last two years and has met AYP requirements for two consecutive years.

Pompano Beach Elementary PTA Hosts Beach Clean Up

Students, staff, and families of **Pompano Beach Elementary School** recently participated in their First Annual Beach Clean Up on Pompano Beach. The project, initiated and hosted by the Pompano Beach PTA, is part of an ongoing effort by the school to promote a sense of community service, environmental stewardship and conservation of natural resources among students and families in the Pompano Beach area. The beach clean up is a follow-up to the "100 Trees for 100 Years" event at which students, staff, families, and community members planted 100 native trees on campus to celebrate the 100th birthday of the city of Pompano Beach. American Watersports at N Ocean Blvd. hosted a family beach social following the clean up.

District High School Students Collect 11 Silver Knight Honors, 41 Awards Overall

Broward County Public Schools high school students collected 11 of the county's 15 Silver Knight Awards, recently presented by the Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald. The Silver Knight winners demonstrated both excellence in academics and contributions to the community. Students also earned 30 of 45 Honorable Mention recognitions, claiming 41 of 60 awards overall. Winners from Broward County Public Schools:

Sarah Benckenstein, Coral Springs High - Athletics
Jay Adam Shechtman, Cypress Bay High - Business
Lauren Allison, Western High - Drama
Janette Hernandez, Hallandale High - Foreign Language
Megan Barron, Coral Springs High - General Scholarship
Edward Andre Pino, Hollywood Hills High - Mathematics

Kayla O'Brien, Hollywood Hills High - New Media
Renata Dinamarco, Pembroke Pines Charter High - Science
Ganavya Doraiswamy, Cypress Bay High - Social Science
Lauren Marie Barriere, Nova High - Speech
Jasmine Brown, Hallandale High - Vocational-Technical

Winners of Holocaust Writing and Visual Arts Contest Announced

Three Broward students have been selected as first place winners in the 2009 Writing and Visual Arts Contest sponsored by the Holocaust Documentation and Education Center in Hollywood. Over 400 elementary, middle and high school students from Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties took part in the annual contest. Alex Han, a fourth grade student in Rose Wyda's class at Lakeside Elementary School won in the Elementary School Writing category with his essay, "Never Again."

Liana Hoffman won first place in the category of Elementary School Visual Arts for the 3-D poster she created with pen and ink, markers and a silver braid that looked like barbed wire. Hoffman is a fifth grade student at **Coral Park Elementary School**.

Coconut Creek High School student **Donnatoni Zawackis** was the winner in the High School Visual Arts category with his untitled, mixed media entry. Zawackis is a 10th grade student in **Marcus Bickler's** art class. The winning students will be recognized at the Holocaust Documentation and Education Center's Annual Meeting on June 4.

Broward School Employee Honored By State Department Of Education

The State Board of Education and Education Commissioner Dr. Eric J. Smith recently named **Jannette Thompson-Irwin** as the 2009 Florida School-Related Employee of the Year. Thompson-Irwin earned the award for her exceptional work at **Pompano Beach Middle School**, where she serves not only as Confidential

Office Manger, but also serves as nurse, counselor and community liaison. Thompson-Irwin was selected as Broward's Non-Instructional Employee of the Year in December. As Florida School-Related Employee of the Year, she receives an award check for \$1,000 from the Department of Education.

ACCLAIM Winners Named

Congratulations to the winners of the 2009 ACCLAIM Awards – Kim Flynn, Principal, Olsen Middle School and Priscillia Ribeiro, Assistant Principal, Cypress Bay High School. The annual awards were created to honor an outstanding principal and assistant principal each year for their hard work and dedication. The event was held late in the school year, so watch for profiles of these outstanding administrators in the fall issue of *The 411*. Congratulations also to the finalists for these important awards.

Principal Finalists

Sonja Braziel, Pompano Beach Middle

Ricardo Garcia, *Nova Middle*

Charles McCanna, *Nova Blanche Forman Elementary*

Assistant Principal Finalists

Cindy Dean, Virginia Shuman Young Elementary

John Vetter, Pompano Beach Middle

Latosha Williams, Broward Estates Elementary

Nine Schools Named Prevention Schools of Excellence

Nine Broward County Public schools have received 2009 Prevention Schools of Excellence Awards presented by the District's Office of Prevention Programs. The awards are presented to schools that demonstrate outstanding efforts to provide effective services, support activities that promote positive behaviors – the development of emotional resilience skills, positive mental health and pro-social actions – while limiting and/or preventing violent behavior and drug abuse.

Schools receiving 2009 Prevention School of Excellence Awards include Nova Blanche Forman, Nob Hill and **Pinewood Elementary schools**; Lauderdale Lakes, Lauderdale Hill, Nova and James S. Rickards middle schools; Piper High School and LifeSkills Center.

The 2009 Prevention Schools of Excellence Awards are supported by the Project Bridge (Safe Schools/Healthy Students) initiative. Project Bridge has been implemented throughout the schools in the District's North Central Area.

Ten High Schools Receive Nike Product Grants

Ten District high schools (**Blanche Ely, Coconut Creek, Dillard, Fort Lauderdale, Hallandale, Hollywood Hills, McArthur, Miramar, South Broward and Stranahan**) were selected to receive \$5,000 in Nike product grants, as part of an overall \$50,000 donation to support high school football in Broward County. The donation is in recognition of the Broward County Athletic Association's commitment to football and participation in the annual Dade vs. Broward All-Star football game. Funds must be used to purchase products that can be used, year after year, by players on junior varsity or varsity football teams.

Deerfield Beach High Holds Successful MDA Shamrock Drive

Twelve student leaders in Deerfield Beach High School's DECA Club and 10 in the school's National Honor Society rallied fellow students around them for another successful MDA Shamrock Drive. The students exceeded their goal, collecting \$660 which was presented to the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Broward County. In order to raise the funds, students sold MDA shamrocks for \$1 each that were then displayed at the school.

Sawgrass Springs Middle School Holds "Green Days"

As part of the District's "Go Green" initiative, Sawgrass Springs Middle School students have been evaluating the national challenges related to their environment. The school's "Green Team" implemented an initiative called "Green Days" to teach environmental issues campus-wide. "Green Days" are like traditional field days except all the activities are centered on major environmental issues impacting the nation, and how those concerns relate to the school's unique Environmental Learning

Complex. Activities are held indoors, outdoors, and in the computer lab. Lessons are hands-on and cover all academic disciplines, including technology.

Trees Planted on Coconut Creek Elementary School's Campus

The city of Coconut Creek selected Coconut Creek Elementary School to host the city's National Arbor Day celebration. As a Tree City USA participant, the city celebrates National Arbor Day every year by planting trees at a local school. This year, three native shade trees were planted on Coconut Creek Elementary's campus. The tree planting ceremony fulfills one of the four standards required by the National Arbor Day Foundation to be re-certified as a Tree City USA, a national program that recognizes local government's commitment to planting trees for present and future generations.

Tree-Huggers Club at Deerfield Beach High Enlightens School Community About Environmental Issues

Established in 2007, the Tree-Huggers Club at Deerfield Beach High School continues to bring environmental issues to the attention of the school's students, staff, parents and other members of the community. Founded by sophomore Aliza Karim, who now serves as club president and was recently named Broward County Environmental Student of the Year by the IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum, the club has worked on beautifying the school's appearance by restoring the horticulture garden and has held several fundraisers. Sponsors for the group are science teacher Lauren Williams and math teacher Janet Andrade.

FPL to Equip Deerfield Beach Middle School With 'Next Generation' Solar Education Stations

Deerfield Beach Middle School is one of six Florida schools selected by Florida Power & Light Company in its service territory to receive cutting-edge solar power education stations to help teach future generations about the benefits of renewable energy.

Each school receiving a 'Next Generation Solar Education Station' will be able to generate emissions-free electricity and provide students with a hands-on tool to learn how solar power works.

"The next generation of Floridians will live in a world where renewable energy is a central part of the economy and our way of life. The Next Generation Solar Education Stations we are building will give students a head start on understanding the critical role solar power will play in that future," said FPL External Affairs Area Manager Isabel Hebert, whose territory includes Deerfield Beach.

"Using renewable energy and solar power as teaching tools is a top priority for our District. Our School District will benefit from this, and it will inspire our students to excel," said Broward County Public Schools Superintendent James F. Notter.

When FPL's Next Generation Solar Education Station is complete, it will provide five kilowatts of solar electricity. The solar installation will save the school about \$800 each year in electricity costs while giving teachers a way to focus science education on essential energy technologies of the future.

One Hundred Students Take Part in Battle of the Books Competition

With only 15 seconds to come-up with the correct answer, students participating in this year's Battle of the Books academic competition had to think and act quickly. On April 22nd, over 100 students from 10 Broward County high schools participated in the Battle of the Books, which requires quick recall and synthesis of facts about books read.

While last year's Battle of the Books saw six high schools pit their best readers against rival teams, this year had four more high schools joining the battle held at Fort Lauderdale High School. Students representing their school often had to compete with their classmates to make the team, based on the number of books they had read and their ability to summon up details of plot, dialogue and character. This year's competition was especially fierce requiring a special tie-breaker round between Coconut Creek and South Plantation high schools, with many students having read all 15 Florida Teens Read books, from which the questions were drawn. The team from South Plantation High edged-out the team from Coconut Creek High by only one point to finish in 1st place.

Media Specialists from the 10 participating high schools (Atlantic Tech, **Coconut Creek**, Fort Lauderdale, McFatter Tech, **Monarch**, Nova, **Pompano Beach**, South Plantation, **Taravella** and West Broward) have been busy all year coaching their students in preparation for the event. The teachers often met on Saturdays to organize the event and write the questions. Funding for food and t-shirts came from corporate donations and monies raised by the schools' book clubs.

Groundbreaking Ceremony Held at Deerfield Beach High School

The city of Deerfield Beach broke ground for a new 4,000-seat stadium and regional athletic facility at Deerfield Beach High School. The \$4.2 million stadium

and athletic facility project is a joint venture between the city of Deerfield Beach and Broward County Public Schools. The first phase of the project – demolition of the

current stadium – is already underway. The new stadium and athletic facility will include expansion of the polyurethane track to eight lanes for field events, new bleachers, new drainage system and renovation of the press box, bathrooms and concession stands. The stadium

will become home to Deerfield Beach High School's athletic program, serving a student population of over 2,200. Broward School Board members and administrators along with city officials attended the groundbreaking ceremony.

Ceramic Plates Created by Sawgrass Springs Middle School Students Included in Museum's Auction

Ceramic plates made by students from Sawgrass Springs Middle School were among the items auctioned at the Coral Springs Art Museum's 10th Annual Great Art Affair.

Under the guidance of Kathi Randolph, the school's art instructor, each eighth grade art student researched and wrote a paper about a famous artist of their choice and then designed, created and decorated a ceramic plate to illustrate an aspect of the artist's life or work.

Money raised from the sale of the plates will be used to offer additional art classes for Coral Springs' teens.

Two New Elementary Schools Officially Named

The District's newest elementary schools, scheduled to open in the fall have been officially named – Discovery Elementary School, formerly called Elementary School "A" in Sunrise, and **Heron Heights Elementary School**, formerly called Elementary School "Z" in Parkland. Both schools are scheduled to open August 2009 and will each accommodate approximately 960 students in grades kindergarten through fifth. The School Board unanimously approved the names suggested by the schools' community members, parents and students through a name-gathering public hearing process.

High School Seniors Receive National Merit Scholarship Awards

Thirteen Broward County Public Schools high school seniors were among 199 Florida winners of College-Sponsored Merit Scholarships, in announcements made by officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Officials of each sponsor college selected their scholarship winners from among finalists in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program who plan to attend their institution.

National Merit Scholar winners:

Samantha E. Cooke, Nova High; University of Florida

Yudir M. Chang, Coral Springs High; University of Florida

Boyang Meng, Coral Glades High; University of Florida

John M. Mern, J.P. Taravella High; Washington University in St. Louis

David C. Wallace, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High; Arizona State University

Kevin Krutek, Pompano Beach High; University of Central Florida

Lex K. Bobrow, Coral Springs High; University of Miami

Ryan V. Chancoco, Charles W. Flanagan High; University of Florida

Amanda B. Levine, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High; University of Florida

Valerie L. Moses, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High; University of Central Florida

Alan J. Sariol, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High; Washington University in St. Louis

Zachary A. Kaufman, Nova High; University of Florida Scholarship

Kara M. Goldman, Cypress Bay High; University of Florida

Another group of scholars will be announced in July. These awards provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship.

J.P. Taravella High School Teacher Named Arts Teacher of the Year

Susan Anderson, Visual Arts teacher at **J.P. Taravella High School** was named the 2009 Broward County Arts Teacher of the Year. Anderson recently received the news in the school auditorium full of her students, family, friends and members of the School Board and the Broward Cultural Division staff. A ceremony to recognize her will be held on October 21 at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. The Broward County Arts Teacher of the Year Award was created by the Broward County Cultural Division to annually recognize an outstanding arts teacher in Broward County schools. In addition to the ceremony and reception at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, the winner receives a cash stipend, a scholarship to Nova Southeastern University, a Tiffany crystal apple, an inscribed brick on Riverwalk, and an assortment of gifts from cultural organizations and businesses.

HOMETOWN STUDENTS PLACE IN THE TOP 6 IN NATIONAL COMPETITION

Taravella High School in Coral Springs, FL had the following accomplishments at the 2009 National Forensic League (NFL) National Tournament: John Mern was a finalist in the United States Extemporaneous Speaking and the team of Brian Zakarin & Mickael Silangil were finalists in Public Forum Debate. This accomplishment places Mr. Mern sixth in the nation and the team of Zakarin & Silangil fourth in the nation in their respective events.

United States Extemporaneous Speaking required students to prepare an extemporaneous speech concerning a domestic topic using the student's files and 30 minutes of preparation time. Public Forum Debate requires students to debate controversial, "ripped from the headlines" issues in a team format. United States Extemp and Public Forum Debate are two of the 10 main events at the NFL National Tournament, an event which attracts over 3500 students from all 50 states. This year's NFL National Tournament was held in Birmingham, Alabama on June 14-19, 2009.

The National Forensic League is the nation's oldest and largest speech and debate honor society. Its mission is to promote secondary school speech and debate activities and interscholastic competition as a means to develop a student's lifelong skills and values, as well as the public's awareness of the value of speech, debate, and communication education. To date, more than 1.3 million alumni have found their voice in the National Forensic League.

Debate & Forensics at J.P. Taravella H.S. is coached by Beth Goldman, a four diamond key coach with 27 years experience. Taravella H.S. was the only Broward County School among both public and private schools to place at the NFL National Tournament.

Photo attached: order from left to right: Brian Zackarin, John Mern, Mickael Silangil, Beth Goldman (coach).



Deerfield Beach High School

Once again students from **DBHS** made us proud. Fendley Griffen earned a SILVER in Event -Career Investigation at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference/ Competition in Nashville Tennessee last week. May I add that we still hold the record of the only school in the District that has competed nationally in FCCLA (Family Career and Community Leaders of America) for three consecutive years and have returned with accomplishments of gold in 2 previous years. Additionally, the experience of networking and building small communities globally is rewarding.

Thanks for making this possible and for investing on our students of tomorrow.

STUDENT'S ARTWORK SELECTED FOR POSTER PROMOTING WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Deerfield Beach Elementary School 2nd grade student Nicolas Ulla Blanca faced some stiff competition when he submitted his crayon drawing for the poster contest.

Eighty-five entries -- all original pieces of artwork created by elementary through high school students -- were considered for use on a poster promoting parent education workshops for families of students with disabilities. Nicolas' drawing of a smiling, bright yellow sun on a red background was selected and will be the

focal point of posters that will be on display all over the county this fall in schools and various community locations.

Along with his drawing, Nicolas submitted a haiku poem that he wrote himself, explaining its meaning. A video of him reading the poem has been posted on the District's Exceptional Student Education Web site (www.browardschools.com/ese).

The purpose of the posters is to promote a series of workshops for parents of students with disabilities presented by the Exceptional Student Education Department and the Florida Diagnostic & Learning

Resources System. The workshops cover a wide range of topics including behavior, learning, academics, transition, evaluation and services, and are held in the mornings, evenings and on weekends to accommodate the various schedules of parents.

CAPTION FOR ATTACHED PHOTO:

Nicolas Ulla Blanca, a 2nd grade student at Deerfield Beach Elementary School, holds his crayon drawing.

