

School District of Palm Beach County
Reach for Excellence

2010-2011 Points of Pride

“About us”

The School District of Palm Beach County, Florida is the eleventh largest in the nation and the fifth largest in the state of Florida with 187 schools, serving 171,692 students who speak 150 languages/dialects. Our FY 2011 total budget is \$2.5 billion serving 21,495 employees including 12,443 teachers. Over 37,036 community volunteers provide academic assistance to students through the Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) Program.

Additionally, approximately 1,124 business partners offer resources to support increased student achievement. As our school district grows more diverse, the task of providing effective learning experiences for every child in every classroom becomes increasingly more challenging. The School District of Palm Beach County recognizes this challenge and is determined to identify and eliminate obstacles that may exist within the structure of the schools and the school system.

Other “Just the Facts”

- Our school grades are among the highest in the state with 102 schools earning A’s, 27 schools earning B’s, and 27 schools earning C’s (excluding Alternative & Charter Schools).
- The School District of Palm Beach County has earned an "A" rating from the Florida Department of Education for the sixth consecutive year based on student performance on the FCAT
- The District has thirty-three (32) Charter schools as of July 1, 2010.
- The Home Education Office registered and ensured statutory compliance for 4,600 students in FY10. Our program continues to lead the state in size and students qualifying for Bright Futures scholarships.
- There are 171 Choice Programs which include magnets, career academies and choice schools and programs in 70 elementary, middle and high schools throughout the county. Over 33,000 students participate yearly.
- Community volunteers (37,036) provided academic assistance to students through the Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) program. There are over 1,124 business partners offering resources to increase academic achievement.
- The Department of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) assists the schools by providing a free and appropriate public education for all students with disabilities, ages 3-21. There are 34,031 students in all ESE programs. This includes 7,896 students in the Gifted program. Many of these ESE students are mainstreamed into regular classes.
- The District has built 85 new schools in the past 11 years, winning national design and construction awards. One (1) new school is opening this year.
- Our district has 50,083 computers (5 years or newer) available to teachers and students arranged in a combination of networked computer labs, distributed workstations and stand-alone computers.

- There are twenty-six (26) Adult & Community Education school sites, including one full-time Adult Education Center and one Virtual Education program. During the 2009-2010 school year, 25,000+ community members participated in Community Education programs. Adult Education served 9,630 students, English for Speakers of Other Languages served 16,328 students, Credit Recovery served 3,595 students, and 1,585 residents earned GED diplomas.
- Currently 18,500 (excludes new Kindergarten or 12th graders who have graduated) students are in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. There are 150 languages & dialects spoken; 196 different countries and territories of birth; ESOL classes are also held for adults.
- After School Enrichment Programs are provided for 16,500 students in 97 of our schools, 3,500 students in 36 middle schools. Summer Camps are provided in over 40 of our schools during the summer months.
- One hundred twenty-nine (129) teachers earned National Board Certification during the 2008-2009 school year with thirty-three (33) in 2009-2010, bringing the District's total number of nationally certified teachers to 737.
- Atlantic Community High, Boca Raton Community High, Dreyfoos School of the Arts, Dwyer High, Olympic Heights High, Palm Beach Gardens High, Park Vista High, Spanish River High, Suncoast Community High, Wellington Community High and West Boca Raton High are celebrating their distinction of being among the top in the nation. They are listed in Newsweek magazine's Top Six Percent of U.S. High Schools for the Year 2010. This percent-age represents 1,623 schools nationwide.

“Awards and Accomplishments”

District

FY11 FCAT Writing Skills: In FY2011, the District scored significantly higher than the State at all tested grade levels in the percentage of students scoring 4 or higher. In addition, at grade 8, the District and the State showed significant improvement (six percentage points). From FY2010 to FY2011, at grade 4, the District's increase was significantly greater than that of the State's; while at grade 10 the increase was the same as that of the State's

Over 37,000 Volunteers and 1,120 Business Partners Support Students and Schools - Over 37,000 volunteers and 1,120 business partners donate their time and resources in public schools throughout Palm Beach County.

State Representative Praises District Business Partnership 1,000 Mark Success - The School District's success in recruiting business partnerships to provide badly needed financial and material support for students, teachers and schools has been recognized at the state level.

Schools, District Exceed 33,000 Volunteers; More Joining—\$21,000,000 In Volunteer Value To Students, Teachers Annually - Thirty three thousand parents, senior citizens, students and community members have signed up this school year to give their time and talents, volunteering in Palm Beach County public schools—33,000 and counting.

Palm Beach County Ranks Among “Best” In Return On Investment (ROI) Study - A new national study by The Center for American Progress ranks The School District of Palm Beach County among the “best” in the nation for high student achievement and low spending.

[Education Foundation Of Palm Beach County Announces 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients](#) - The Education Foundation of Palm Beach County, Inc. is proud to announce the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Awards recipients. The Awards honor Palm Beach County public school alumni who have distinguished themselves through achievement, service or contributions to society either locally or to the broader community.

[2010-2011 Outstanding Student, Adult and Senior Volunteers Named](#) - The 2010-2011 Palm Beach County Outstanding Student, Adult and Senior School Volunteers have been named. Dhruv Tank a senior at Suncoast High School is the Student Volunteer of the Year, Maryann Polizzi from Alexander W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of the Arts is the Adult Volunteer of the Year and Ivorine Martin from Benoist Farms Elementary School is the Senior Volunteer of the Year.

[Palm Beach County High School Grades Soar – More Than Half Of District High Schools Earn A’s – District Achieves Greater Increase in Percentage of A’s Than State](#) - In FY2010, more than half (54%) of the high schools earned an “A,” and 86% earned an “A” or “B.” The District outperformed the State by 24 percentage points in “A’s” and 15 percentage points in “A’s” and “B’s”.

[District Graduation Rate Rises More than 4%; Second Highest Among Urban 7](#) - District officials say their preliminary analysis of graduation rate data from the State of Florida late today (attached) shows that from FY2009 to FY2010, all three of the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) graduation rates have significantly increased, most notably the NGA rate which increased 4.2 percentage points (77.7 to 81.9).

Schools/Departments

[Bak and Suncoast Receive Prestigious National Magnet Award](#) - Bak Middle School of the Arts and Suncoast Community High School have been recognized as 2011 Magnet Schools of Excellence by Magnet Schools of America.

[Dreyfoos Newsmagazine Exemplifies “Best of the Best”](#) - The advisor and student staff of The Dreyfoos School of the Arts Newsmagazine, The Muse, are all smiles. Their publication is being recognized for excellence in content, design or presentation, coverage, photography, writing and editing by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA).

[New Northboro Elementary Receives Prestigious LEED For Schools Gold Certification](#) - Northboro Elementary in West Palm Beach has received the prestigious LEED Gold certification from the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) under the LEED for School category.

[The Education Network Does It Again—Sixth “Telly” Awarded for Broadcast Excellence](#) - What if the Holocaust happened to you? That question was the basis of the 40-minute documentary created by The Education Network to inform students and the community about the horrors of the Holocaust.

[More Palm Beach County Schools Receive International Baccalaureate Authorization](#) - The School District of Palm Beach County’s is proud to announce the two newest authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) schools—William T. Dwyer High School and Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School.

[West Boca Raton High Earns 3rd National Career Academy Model](#) - After an extensive evaluation process conducted by the National Career Academy Coalition (NCAC), West Boca Raton Community High School's Academy of Drafting and Design has been named a "National Model Academy."

[Pine Jog Elementary Winner of Governor's Serve to Preserve Award](#) - Pine Jog Elementary is the winner of the *Governor's Serve to Preserve Green School Award*. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in conjunction with the Florida Department of Education (DOE), Florida's Foundation, and the Collins Center for Public Policy's Sustainable Florida Program announced the five 2010 winners for the *Governor's Serve to Preserve: Green Schools Awards* program in Palm Beach Gardens.

[Beacon Cove Intermediate School A Winner In Reading Challenge](#) - Students at Beacon Cove Intermediate School in Jupiter came in 2nd place in the Scholastic Read for the World Record Challenge. The school logged in an impressive 822,807 minutes, just shy of 1st place winner Village Elementary School in Hilton, New York.

[Park Vista High Earns Columbia Scholastic Press Association Silver Medal](#) - The Columbia Scholastic Press Association just announced that the Park Vista High's 2010 yearbook has earned their Silver Medalist Award. This is the third year in a row for Park Vista to be recognized with this prestigious award.

[West Boca Raton High Business Partner Selected National Outstanding Service Award Winner](#) - J.C. Perrin, Business Partner and Advisory Board member to West Boca Raton Community High School, has been selected to receive the 2010 Carl Perkins Outstanding Service Award from the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) during the General Session at the ACTE Convention and Career Tech Expo.

[Record Number Of Schools Receive Five Star Award](#) - The Florida Department of Education has designated 82 Palm Beach County schools Five Star Award winners. The Five Star Award is presented annually to those schools that have shown evidence of exemplary community involvement.

[Santaluces High Earns Gold and Silver at National Family and Career Conference](#) - Members of Santaluces High School's Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) recently attended the school's 11th FCCLA National Conference when they traveled to in Chicago, Illinois. They joined 6,000 other young people from the 50 United States, Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

[Florida Education Commissioner and Chancellor Congratulate Lake Worth High School On Academic Achievement](#) - State Education Commissioner Eric Smith and K-12 Chancellor Frances Haithcock today visited Lake Worth Community High School students, teachers and staff to congratulate them on what he called "the dramatic improvement" in student achievement last year.

[Twelve Palm Beach County High Schools Among America's Best — Washington Post Challenge Index, Successor to Newsweek Ranking](#) - Twelve Palm Beach County public high schools have made the Washington Post Company's 2011 list of America's top high schools (formerly published in Newsweek magazine) based on a "measure of how effectively a school prepares its students for college," according to the new report.

[Palm Beach County Schools Honored by Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#) - Crosspointe Elementary and Banyan Creek Elementary Schools were recently named as the Bronze National Recognition Winners from the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.

Teachers/Staff

[New National Board Certified Teachers Named](#) - The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards announced 14 Palm Beach County teachers earned National Board Certification in 2010. Palm Beach County now has a total of 718 National Board Certified Teachers.

[Passion Begun In The 60's Culminates With Environmental Educator of the Year Award](#) - Phil Weinrich caught the "bug" at Pine Jog Environmental Center way back in 1967. As a young college student he helped guide school groups on field trips through the woods and he initiated Pine Jog's first Summer Day Camps.

[Palm Beach County Educators Honored For Literacy Efforts](#) - Gisele Lowe, Just Read, Florida! Region 5 High School Coach of the Year and Brenda Darr, Just Read, Florida! Region 5 Middle School Coach of the Year were recently honored at the Florida Reading Association Conference in Orlando.

[Beacon Cove Intermediate Teacher Selected As A Florida Finalist For National Award](#) - Nancy Bourne, a 3rd grade teacher at Beacon Cove Intermediate School in Jupiter has been selected as a finalist for Florida in the 2010 Presidential Awards of Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

[Local Children's Health Crusader Receives National Honor](#) - Action for Healthy Kids, America's largest non-profit volunteer organization working with schools to fight childhood obesity and improve children's health, has named Palm Beach County School District's Eric Stern a 'Healthy School Hero,' a national honor bestowed on just five individuals each year for their commitment to making schools – and children – healthier.

[Four Palm Beach County Teachers Receive Prestigious 2010 Excellence in Teaching Award](#) - The Foundation for Excellence in Education has named four Palm Beach County educators 2010 Excellence in Teaching Award recipients. These teachers' students made the most progress in reading or math from one year to the next for the last three consecutive years.

[Equestrian Trails Educator Is Florida Elementary Physical Education Teacher Of The Year](#) - Amie Schneider from Equestrian Trails Elementary School is the 2010/2011 Florida Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Dance and Sport (FAHPERDS) Elementary Physical Education Teacher of The Year. Ms. Schneider has been teaching Physical Education for 18 years.

[Seminole Ridge High School Teacher Recognized For Outstanding Speech And Debate Coaching Skills](#) - Mierka C. Drucker, English Teacher at Seminole Ridge Community High School recently received the Diamond Coach Award by the National Forensic League (NFL) for her excellence in coaching speech and debate activities.

[Boynton Beach High Teacher And Autistic Former Student/Brother To Appear On The Today Show In Celebration Of Remarkable Best Sports Moment](#) - The Today Show has invited Jason McElwain and his brother Josh McElwain to appear on the Show Tuesday, February 15, to commemorate the five year anniversary of the remarkable February 15, 2006 Sports moment.

[Annette Levine Named Middle School Exemplary Holocaust Educator](#) - Don Estridge Middle School Sixth Grade Learning Team Leader Annette Levine is being honored by the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education at Florida Atlantic University.

[Army JROTC Instructor Voted Into 2011 Hall Of Fame Class](#) - W.T. Dwyer High School, Army JROTC instructor Thomas Johnson will be inducted into the Florida Athletic Coaches Association (FACA) Hall of Fame on January 7, 2011.

[South Tech Academy Teacher Honored As Educator of Distinction](#) - Jessica Ehring, a Science instructor at South Tech Academy, is honored as an Educator of Distinction from The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). She was nominated by Deon Ellison, a Senior Honors student at South Tech Academy and member of the NSHSS.

[Karen Nobel Named Florida Elementary Art Teacher Of The Year](#) - Karen Nobel, a former art teacher at Pine Jog Elementary and Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary, has been named Elementary Art Educator of the Year by the Florida Art Education Association (FAEA).

[John I. Leonard Department Chair Named “Exemplary Academy Educator”](#) - Fran Thew, a computer science teacher and department chair at John I. Leonard High School, has been awarded the Exemplary Academy Educator Award by the National Career Academy Coalition (NCAC). The award is given to academy educators who have made outstanding contributions to the success of a career academy.

[Local Educator Receives Prestigious National Speech and Debate Coaching Award](#) - Traci Lowe, the Speech and Debate coach at Suncoast High School has received the National Forensic League (NFL) Diamond Award. She was one of eight high school coaches across the country to receive the award.

[Local Career Education Specialist Recognized as a State and National Leader in Career Pathways Initiatives](#) - Dr. Jeraline M. Marsh, Career Education specialist within the Department of Choice Programs and School Choice, was recently elected to not one, but three leadership positions for her collaborative work in coordinating Career Pathways initiatives throughout the State of Florida and the Nation.

[Debrah Bowen Named 2010 Florida Association of Science Teachers \(FAST\); Outstanding Science Educator of the Year!](#) - Debrah Bowen was previously known around the District for her organization of the Secondary Science Fair, the largest academic event held in the school system. Now she'll be famous statewide after being named the 2010 Outstanding Science Educator of the Year by the Florida Association of Science Teachers (FAST).

[Crystal Castillo – Named Palm Beach County Social Studies Teacher Of The Year](#) - Crystal Castillo, 5th grade teacher at Royal Palm Beach Elementary School was recently named Palm Beach County's Social Studies Teacher of the Year by the Florida Council for Social Studies. Mrs. Castillo will be recognized at the Social Studies Conference that will take place in Orlando, FL on October 23, 2010.

[Department of Safe Schools Administrator Appointed to Leadership Palm Beach County Board of Directors and White House “Educate to Innovate” Campaign for STEM Excellence](#) - Dr. Dione Christy, the Department of Safe Schools' Efficacy Specialist of K-12 Schools, Parents, and Community, was appointed to the Leadership Palm Beach County (LPBC) Board of Directors and White House Educate to Innovate Campaign for STEM Excellence as an advisory community strategist.

[Boynton Beach High School Teacher Geri Grocki Named High School Health Teacher Of The Year](#) - Ms. Geri Grocki, Boynton High Health teacher, has been selected High School Health Teacher of the Year by the Florida Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (FAHPERD).

[Chief Of Facilities Management Wins Community Award For School District's Green Initiatives](#) - Joseph Sanches, Chief of Facilities Management for the School District, was named the "Most Outstanding Community LEEDer" in the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) South Florida Chapter 2010 LEEDership and Green Awards Program.

[School Administrator Named President Of State Health And Physical Education Organization](#) - Eric Stern became the 93rd State President of the Florida Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Dance and Sport (FAHPERDS) on October 9, 2010.

[School District Official To Be Honored For Leadership In LEED Green Building Program](#) - Joseph Sanches, Chief of Facilities Management for the School District, is a finalist for The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) South Florida Chapter 2010 LEEDership and Green Awards program. The awards ceremony will take place on August 28th at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six Resort in Fort Lauderdale.

[Jupiter High Teacher Wins MIT Teaching Award](#) - Jupiter Community High School teacher Anne Blankenship recently received the 2010 MIT Inspirational Teacher Award. The award was given by Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the MIT Alumni Club of Palm Beach.

[Superintendent Announces Palm Beach County School-Related Employee Of The Year](#) - Superintendent Bill Malone made a surprise visit to Ms. Victoria Smith, School Bus Driver, at the West Transportation Facility, to announce that she is the 2010-2011 Palm Beach County School-Related Employee of the Year.

[Superintendent Makes Surprise Visit To – Kristen Rulison – Palm Beach Teacher Of The Year](#) - Superintendent Bill Malone surprised Kristen Rulison at Elbridge Gale Elementary School, with the news that she is the 2011-2012 Palm Beach County Teacher of the Year.

[Cholee Lake Teacher Named Safety Patrol Advisor of the Year](#) - Liza Asch, Physical Education Teacher at Cholee Lake Elementary School, has been named the AAA School Safety Patrol Advisor of the Year. At Cholee Lake she supervises more than 40 students on the Safety Patrol and encourages them to do their best and show great leadership skills.

[School District Employee Recognized By Florida Speech-Language-Hearing Association](#) - Susan Z. Alex, Program Planner in the Department of Exceptional Student Education was recently honored at the 2011 Florida Speech-Language-Hearing Association Convention, held on Marco Island, FL.

[Dreyfoos School of the Arts Dance Instructor Named Top Arts Professional](#) - Jeffrey Satinoff, a dance instructor at the Dreyfoos School of the Arts, has just been awarded one of five 2011 Leadership Awards offered by the FAAE. Mr. Satinoff was selected from a field of strong candidates for Arts Professional of the Year by the FAAE award review panel who said they were impressed with his strength and commitment to the arts.

[2011 Florida Outstanding Biology Teacher at Dreyfoos School of Arts](#) - The National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT), in conjunction with Prentice Hall Publishing, is presenting Stephen M. Anand with the 2011 Outstanding Biology Teacher Award (OTBA) at its conference this fall.

Students

Boynton Beach Community High School Dimensional Harmony Named Number One Choir In The Nation - And The Winner Is!!! Dimensional Harmony from Boynton Beach Community High School was named the number one Chorus in the nation on the NBC Today Show Choir Showdown.

District Student attends prestigious Middlebury-Monterey Language School summer program - When the Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy (MMLA), a summer language immersion program for pre-college students, began its third year of programming in late June—Suncoast Community High School's Monica Patel, was one of the students accepted from a nationwide pool to participate.

West Boca High Student, Kayla Dubnick, Selected Among Top Youth Volunteers In The 16th Annual National Awards Program - Kayla Dubnick, 17, a West Boca Raton High School student, was selected among America's 102 most outstanding youth volunteer honorees by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for exemplary acts of volunteerism, in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

West Boca High Drama Does It Again With A Nomination For Best Musical For Dirty Rotten Scoundrels - What a year for the West Boca Drama Department, and its not over! As one of eight out of 40 schools in the entire state of Florida, they were chosen to Mainstage their fall production of Zombie Prom in Tampa at the Florida State Thespian Festival for over 3,000 high school drama students.

Royal Palm Beach High Students Rank Top 20 In National Financial Challenge - After competing in the 2011 National Financial Capability Financial Challenge, eight students from Royal Palm Beach High School have been ranked in the top 20 percent of the country.

Boca Raton Community High School To Compete In The National Science Olympiad At The University Of Wisconsin - This past weekend, Boca Raton Community High School Teacher of the Year Jon Benskin led the Bobcat Science Olympiad team to a State Championship, defeating the 50 top qualifiers from around the state.

Boca Raton High NJROTC Bobcat Battalion Won First Place At The National Academic, Athletic, And Drill Championships - The Boca Raton Community High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) Bobcat Battalion, led by Lieutenant Commander Kenneth A. Bingham and Chief Petty Officer Edwin A. Morales, took first place at the National Academic, Athletic, and Drill championships at Pensacola Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida on the 8th and 9th of April, 2011.

William T. Dwyer High Celebration Of National Ranking Includes Fundraiser - Winners of the Class 5A State Basketball Championship, the William T. Dwyer High School team then went on to play in a prestigious national high school basketball invitational.

Roosevelt Middle School Students Excel at State Math and Word Wizard Events - Showing their prowess in math and earning another Math trophy for Roosevelt Middle School, team members Bhumika Sood, Bisma Masudi, Daniel Gouge, Apoorva Ravichandran, and Ali Yamis placed 2nd in the 26th Annual Math Brain Bowl state competition for grades 6-8.

District Students Rack Up Wins at Brain Bowl Competition/National Achievers Summit - Some area elementary, middle, and high school students carried the academic banner for Palm Beach County during the 26th Annual Brain Bowl Competition and National Achievers Society (NAS) Summit in Orlando recently.

[Winning Dreyfoos Students Head to New York for National Art and Writing Awards](#) - Sixteen Dreyfoos School of the Arts students are being recognized for their originality, technical skills, and the emergence of a personal vision or voice in the 88 year-old Scholastic Art and Writing Awards by the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers.

[Palm Beach Gardens High School Senior Selected for Prestigious Science Program](#) - Palm Beach Gardens High School Senior Olivia Macowski is a Girl on Ice! She is one of nine girls selected from a pool of 120 applicants to participate in an 11-day program of wilderness exploration in the North Cascades in Washington State.

[Lake Worth High School's AFJROTC to Compete in National Competition in Washington, D.C.](#) - The Lake Worth Community High School's Air Force JROTC (AFJROTC) academic team composed of Angelina Cave, Christopher Stickney, Christopher Sharpe, Harry Foster, and Omar Avila will compete in the final Championship round of The 2011 Air Force JROTC Academic Bowl Championship in Washington D.C., on the campus of George Mason University, June 24 – 28.

[Jupiter High Moonbuggy Team – Tomorrow's Engineers And Scientists](#) - The Jupiter High School Moonbuggy Team recently won 3rd place at NASA's Marshal Space Flight Center Moonbuggy Race in Huntsville, Alabama.

[Dreyfoos School of Arts and International Thespian Honor Society Troupe Steal State Spotlight](#) - Superlative performances, design, and directing resulted in students in the Dreyfoos Troupe receiving two Critics' Choice Awards, two scholarship awards (only ten were given), six Superior Awards, six Excellent Awards, and multiple college callbacks during the recent State Thespian Festival.

[Bak Middle School of the Arts Students Receive National Art Award](#) - Three students from Bak Middle School of the Arts have received prestigious awards for their outstanding artwork through the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the 88 year-old national program that recognizes outstanding creative teenagers.

[Cool Temperatures Can't Stop Hot Jupiter High Spanish Competition Team](#) - Cool temperatures couldn't stop the hot Jupiter High School Spanish Competition Team, known as Los Amigos Vagabundos, as they recently competed at the 55th annual Florida State Spanish Conference in Orlando.

[Forty-Nine Palm Beach County Public School Students Named National Merit Scholarship Finalists](#) - Forty-nine (49) Palm Beach County public school students have been chosen 2011 National Merit Scholarship Finalists. These distinguished students are among the top college bound seniors across the country.

[Palm Beach Lakes High School Has Record Number of Gates Millennium Scholars](#) - Five students from Palm Beach Lakes High School were selected as 2011 Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS), this is a first in the school's history. An estimated 23,000 students applied for the scholarship this year, but only 1,000 students were selected.

[Two Palm Beach County Schools Selected As Springboard® Demonstration Site Finalists](#) - Congratulations to Boynton Beach Community High School and Santaluces Community High School for their selection as finalists to become College Board SpringBoard® National Demonstration School sites.

[Palm Beach County Robots Rule At State Competition](#) - Florida FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Education Foundation recently hosted the 13th Florida FIRST Regional Robotics competition for high school teams in Orlando and the robots from Palm Beach County powered to a win.

[Palm Springs Community Middle Racks Up Superior Ratings at 2011 District Competition](#) - Director Diane Hope-Float truly reached a milestone recently at BAK School for the Arts when her Palm Springs Middle School's Orchestra Program brought home all superior ratings from the District competition for the first time in over a decade.

[South Tech Academy Students Capture Wins In Regional SKILLS USA Competition – Will Advance To State Competition](#) - High School Students across Florida have learned that the competition just became fiercer as South Tech Academy announced that over thirty of its students have earned coveted spots in the State competition of SKILLS USA.

[Bak Middle School of the Arts Girls Chorus Only Middle School Chorus Selected To Perform At National Conference](#) - The Bak Middle School of the Arts Girls Chorus was selected to perform at the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) National Conference Chicago, Illinois March 9-12, 2011.

[Western Pines Middle School Student Wins Governor's Black History Month Essay Contest](#) - Gabrielle Marvez, 7th grade student at Western Pines Middle School is the recipient of Governor Rick Scott's Black History Month Essay Contest. This year's theme is "Celebrating African-American Leaders in Business Past, Present and Future."

[Congress Middle School Student Vidya Narine, 11, Publishes Her First Book "Kari"](#)

[Howell L. Watkins Middle School Students Shine In Medical Competition](#) - Students from Howell L. Watkins Middle School Medical Science Academy recently competed in the District 9 Regional Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Competition at Park Vista High School.

[Boynton High Student Named "Every Child Makes A Difference" Award Winner](#) - Destiny Andrews, a freshman at Boynton Beach Community High, was selected as the South Florida winner in her age group for the "Every Child Makes A Difference" award.

[Forest Hill High Boasts Two Winners in the National Scholastic Art and Writing Competition](#) - Several Forest Hill Community High School students participated—and two were proud Silver Key and honorable mention winners in several categories of the National Scholastic Art & Writing Competitions.

[Dreyfoos School of the Arts Junior Selected to Play in the 2011 Grammy Jazz Ensemble](#) - The Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts is proud to announce the very first student in the history of the school has been accepted to the 2011 GRAMMY Jazz Ensemble Program!

[ExxonMobil Recognizes Boca Raton High School Student](#) - Choice Programs is elated to announce that Olivia Plana of Boca Raton Community High School was named the Gold Medallion winner and received a \$3,000 scholarship.

[South Tech Academy Graduate To Represent The United States In The 2011 WorldSkills Competition In London](#) - Matthew Vicari, South Tech Academy graduate and winner of the Pat Oliphant award, was chosen for the team that will represent the United States in London, England in the 2011 WorldSkills Competition (WSC). Matthew represented Florida in the National SkillsUSA Internetworking Competition in Kansas City in 2009 and won the gold medal.

[Palm Beach Central High Bowling Team Brings Home State Championship](#) - The boy's bowling team at Palm Beach Central High School recently participated in the Florida High School Athletic Association Championship that took place at the Boardwalk Bowl in Orlando, FL and brought home the state championship. The girls team finished 19th in the state.

[Seminole Ridge High School Wins Robotic Tournament](#) - Seminole Ridge SECME took first place at the Miami VEX Round Up tournament recently, and they qualified for the 2011 VEX Robotics World Competition World Championship coming up next Spring!

[Santaluces High School Chorus Invited to Carnegie Hall Next Spring](#) - Santaluces High School's Chorus plans to take the stage at Carnegie Hall in New York next Spring to wow the audience with their singing performance—but first, they have to raise the money to get there!

[Panther Run Students Featured in International Magazine](#) - Katharina Quijada, 5th grade student at Panther Run Elementary made the cover of the October 2010 issue of the INTERNATIONAL Magazine KidzEra. Additionally, 5th grader Danielle Cuestas is the author of the inside story titled Aku Aizu and Austin Lent, also a 5th grader made the inside art work.

[Lake Worth High School Boasts Fourteen Advanced Placement Stars](#) - Fourteen students at Lake Worth Community High School have earned Advanced Placement Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the Advanced Placement Exams. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams.

[Fifty Palm Beach County Public School Students Named Semifinalists In 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program](#) - Fifty Palm Beach County public school students were among the 16,000 Semifinalists in the 56th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 8,400 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than \$36 million, that will be offered next spring.

[Glades Central High School Graduate Receives Gates Millennium Scholarship](#) - Juliana Prieto, a 2010 graduate of Glades Central Community High School, has been awarded a scholarship from the nation's largest and most successful scholarship program, the Gates Millennium Scholars Program (GMS). Juliana is one of 1,000 students around the country chosen to receive the GMS scholarship.

[Dreyfoos School of the Arts Student Gets Theatrical Release for Film](#) - During her senior year at Alexander Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, Shayne Leighton wrote a screenplay she never dreamed would receive a theatrical release. THE INCUBUS, a dark romance shot throughout South Florida, is set to open September 10 at over 15 theaters from Miami to West Palm Beach.

[Two Area Middle Schoolers Bring Home Silver From National Special Olympics](#) - The new school year is well underway, but two area middle school students are still enjoying the buzz from their outstanding performance when they competed in the Special Olympics National Games in Lincoln Nebraska shortly before the return to school.

[Omni Middle Students Shine At FCCLA STAR Event National Competition](#) - Thirteen students attended the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Students Taking Action with Recognition (STAR) summer event in Chicago and Omni Middle School received a total of 8 national medals.

[Lake Worth High School Senior Wins National Recognition](#) - Over 5000 students participated in the recent Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) National Leadership Conference (NLC) held in Orlando—but by the time competition in various events such as medical terminology and EMT skills had ended—Lake Worth High School senior Shaun Plunkett had placed 8th in HOSAs main event for health occupation students across the nation!

[Medical Academy Students From South Tech Academy Wins Silver Medal And Fourth Place In National SkillsUSA Competition In Kansas City](#) - Eleven South Tech Academy students represented the State of Florida at the National SkillsUSA competition in Kansas during the last week of June 2010. Sthanley Joseph won the silver medal for Practical Nursing, competing against students from all over the United States.

[Seminole Ridge High Biotech Students Win At National eCybermission Competition](#) - Seminole Ridge High School Biotechnology Academy students are National Champions in the United States Army eCybermission Competition that recently took place in Baltimore, Maryland.

[Palm Beach County Students Bring Home Numerous Awards From Academic Games League of America Tournament](#) - The Palm Beach County National Academic Games All-Stars brought home numerous awards from the recent Academic Games League of America Tournament held in Kissimmee, Florida.

[Omni Middle School Students Bring Home The Medals](#) - Sixteen Omni Middle School students traveled to Orlando, Florida, to compete at the state level of FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America). They advanced from district to state in competitive events called STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition) that build proficiency and achievement in leadership and job-related skills.

[Exciting Journey To New York City Ends With Top Award At Heritage Festival For Jupiter Middle School Music Department](#) - On May 5, students from the Jupiter Middle School of Technology Band and Chorus, under the direction of Paul S. Destito and Dr. Jerri Goffe, met at Palm Beach International Airport at 4:45 am to begin their journey to New York City.

[Loggers' Run Middle School's Students Dominate County, State And National Academic Competitions](#) - Loggers' Run Middle School (LRMS) students earned more than 50 awards in eleven different county, state and national competitions. The awards were both individual and team awards ranging from 2 state and 2 national competitions.

[A.W. Dreyfoos Student Excels at National Competition](#) - Daniela Amador, a student of Beverly Blanchette at Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts placed as a semi-finalist at the English-Speaking Union (ESU) National Shakespeare Competition.

[Dreyfoos Student Wins National Poster Contest](#) - Jordan Lane-Palmer, a 9th grader at the Alexander W. Dreyfoos Jr. School of Arts, was selected as the national winner of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC) annual “Be Money Wi\$e” poster contest.

[Students from John I. Leonard's Finance Academy Head to the Big Apple to Showcase Skills](#) - Five students and the academy coordinator from John I. Leonard High School's Academy of Finance have been invited to attend the National Academy Foundation's (NAF) Benefit at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York on May 23.

[Atlantic High Valedictorian Selected As 2011 U.S. Presidential Scholar](#) - Stephanie Heung, a senior at Atlantic High School, is one of 141 outstanding high school seniors that has been selected as a 2011 U.S. Presidential Scholar.

[Dreyfoos Student Named Presidential Scholar In The Arts](#) - Tyler Rabinowitz, a senior in the Communication Arts department at the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts and an aspiring filmmaker, is one of 20 high school students in the country named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts.