# Miami-Dade County Public Schools Secondary School Reform

# What has been accomplished over the last two years?

The Secondary School Reform (SSR)
Plan was approved by the School
Board for implementation on
May 15, 2006.

### The primary tenets of the SSR Plan include:

- Implementation of career academies in all senior high schools
- Increase graduation rates in which students are ready for college, university, technical school, or career
- An enhanced senior year experience which includes internships aligned to each students' career path goals
- Increased rigor of all academic subjects including Mathematics, English, Science and Social Studies all four years
- Increased access by all students to advanced placement courses
- Improved articulation between levels to decrease academic achievement transition dips between elementary and middle school, and middle and senior high school.

## Cohort 1

There are eleven high schools (identified within the district as *Cohort 1 Schools*) implementing the SSR plan with a voluntary eight-class schedule. Students in these schools will have expanded opportunities to take intensive electives as part of their career academy

- Miami Southridge Senior High
- John A. Ferguson Senior High
- North Miami Beach Senior High
- Miami Douglass MacArthur Senior (south campus)
- Booker T. Washington Senior High
- Miami Jackson Senior High
- Miami Senior High
- Miami Beach Senior High
- Ronald Reagan Doral Senior High
- Miami Edison Senior
- Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior

# What results have we seen so far?

# Baseline data has been established for all secondary schools relating to the targeted goals:

- Improved attendance rates
- Reduced drop-out rates
- Increased percentage of students meeting high levels of performance standards
- Increased participation in honors and Advanced Placement courses
- Increased participation in SAT and ACT testing programs
- Increased numbers of student participating in internship, dual enrollment, and apprenticeship experiences
- Increased numbers of students who pursue postsecondary education.

# **Additional Components**

- All high schools are implementing either a stand alone transition course for ninth graders or are integrating the curriculum through academic areas.
- All middle schools are integrating through academic areas the curriculum developed for the transition course (Middle Moves) for all sixth grade students.
- All high schools have created ninth grade academies.
- All middle schools are implementing teaming at all grade levels.
- Through the professional development instituted during the SLC grants, we have built capacity at the 16 schools to begin the reform work.

# What is our focus this year?

### 2006 - 2007

- Cohort 1 Schools of SSR are focusing on creating their career academies for the 2007 2008 school year.
- Remaining high schools are involved in a year long planning for career academy deployment.
- Cohort 1 Schools of SSR are preparing approximately 500 600 seniors who will be involved during the second semester in an internship experience. This is in addition to the 5,000 students who participated in such experiences in 2005 2006.
- An SSR Implementation Task Force has been developed in order to align district resources and oversee implementation activities.
- Professional development activities are focused this year on the re-culturing aspect of reform.

# **Questions - Discussion**

**Contact Information** 

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