

Archived Information

Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami, Florida

1. Increasing public understanding;

Day at the Mall On Saturday, November 17, 2001, Miami-Dade County Public Schools hosted “**Fun with Mathematics and Science at the Mall!**” The event was to help promote the importance of parents in determining their child's mathematics and science classroom performance. Students and teachers from elementary, middle, and senior high schools exhibited hands-on science, mathematics activities, and projects. The theme of the event, "Read, Investigate, and Calculate," was promoted in every Miami-Dade County Public School and through the media. A memo was sent to all schools inviting them to participate.

The event occurred in twelve sites consisting of malls, flea markets, and shopping centers across Miami-Dade County. Twenty-three Mathematics and Science Education Educational Specialists provided support and presented activities that were equally engaging and exciting. A total of one hundred and sixty two different activities occurred in the various malls across the county. One thousand one hundred eight participants were exposed to this community endeavor.

Next 12 months: **Reach over 6,000 Parents through Community Math and Science Nights**

2. Improving teacher quality

On-line Professional Development: TeacherLine PBS TeacherLine is a comprehensive professional-development, web-based resource for PreK-12 teachers. It helps educators achieve mathematics and technology skills recommended by state and national standards and guides them towards integrating technology into learning and teaching. TeacherLine is a series of learning modules produced by leading educators, educational institutions, and leading companies. The modules, moderated by local, online facilitators, guide educators toward integrating technology into their learning and teaching. The video-rich, learn-by-doing modules are a combination of content and methodology, accessible via the Internet. They are individualized, self-paced, and sequenced at various skill levels.

Next 12 months: **Develop additional on-line professional development activities for teachers**

3 Supporting high-quality research

Action Research The Miami-Dade Division of Urban Systemic Initiative team of Directors, Supervisors, and Educational Specialist along with South Florida Center for Educational Leaders, FAU, and Eisenhower Project were committed to taking on the challenge of building learning communities in our schools over a three year span. The scope and format of the project, with emphasis on action research and continuous renewal, provided the anticipated platform for Phase II of our efforts in systemic reform. The hope and expectation for this enterprise was that school principals and leadership teams of teachers would develop a school culture with a set of norms of behavior that insist on high levels of mathematics and science for ALL students. We were committed to bridging the gap with "Education for All" as our great equalizer.

Next 12 months: Work with local universities to learn and replicate their successful research in their professional schools.