

# Advanced Placement® Student Curriculum Review

## Miami-Dade County Public Schools (Miami, Florida)

Miami-Dade School District increased its underserved AP students 36% while maintaining a performance level of 46% on 3+ scores over four years from 2007 to 2010.



## Developing Professionals

The AP Student Curriculum Review (APSCR) provides students and their teachers with an end-of-year review from experienced Miami-Dade County Public Schools' AP teachers in preparation for the AP Exams. Students representing each of the more than 50 high schools in the Miami-Dade County area participate in this 5-hour review, which is held on a Saturday in late March or April. This spring, about 812 students participated in 22 sessions that covered 18 AP subjects. Students in attendance on the day of the review are encouraged to bring back what they learned to their individual schools and share tips and strategies with their peers.

Providing safe, free transportation has been a key to the success of the AP Student Curriculum Review. At 7 a.m., a bus is waiting in the high school parking lot to take both AP teachers and students, along with chaperones, to the review session.

The AP master teachers who apply for the position develop, prepare and deliver a workshop focusing on AP course content reviews, test-taking skills and study strategies. Spending a day with a veteran AP teacher increases students' chances of success. Similarly, AP teachers acting as chaperones, or teachers who simply wish to attend, gain insight from this master AP teacher. The Miami-Dade district has hosted this event for several years, and because of its success, a midyear review in November has been added.

### Meeting of the Minds

Provides a districtwide perspective on best practices for instruction and preparation during the final weeks leading up to the AP Exam administration. The collaboration that is created by bringing students from both high-performing and low-performing schools together during the APSCR is a very positive one and celebrated by all in attendance. Aimed at meeting the needs of all students, the APSCR can be easily replicated across other school districts and adapted to meet the needs of smaller learning communities.



*"Students spend the day listening, learning and solving problems with these master AP teachers, different from the one they have. It gets them out of their school, and they are introduced to students from all over the district. To me that is the greatest benefit, the fact that they can network with other AP students."*

— Montserrat Paradelo, District Supervisor

### What you need:

- An experienced AP teacher whose innovation, dedication and success in the classroom is reflected by students' achievement on the AP Exams, to share his or her expertise and best practices during the review.
- Following the completion of the workshop, the AP teachers/facilitators that present at the APSCR are compensated at their hourly rate for "planning and presentation."
- AP teachers who serve as chaperones, as well as AP teachers who wish to attend, receive a \$100 stipend.
- District budget: \$41 to \$60 per student for an average of 35 to 60 students per session.
- Transportation costs, including buses and bus drivers on a Saturday morning.
- Host high school, including school-site security guards, custodial workers and audiovisual technology personnel to assist during the presentation.

### What you need to know:

High school booster clubs and parent organizations have proved to be great partners in this initiative. Booster club parents and students can utilize this event as an opportunity to raise funds for their extracurricular organizations by selling drinks and breakfast and lunch items. The availability of lunch creates a positive and collegial environment where the students feel free to engage in conversations about their AP courses, the workshop presentation, and their individual plans and strategies for success.

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### Demographics

Miami-Dade County  
Public Schools  
Miami, Florida

