



PRESS RELEASE

**Aventura City of Excellence School
For Immediate Release**

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ACES Special Projects/Events

Aventura City of Excellence School's Becca's Closet "Dress Drive" Helps Girls Attend Proms in Style

AVENTURA, FLORIDA — April 22, 2010. Aventura City of Excellence School, (ACES) K-8th grade students are working very hard to make Becca's Closet "Prom Dress Drive" a huge success so that high school girls all over South Florida will be able to attend their proms in style.

"Little things can make a big difference..."

This phrase served as the driving force behind the beautiful life and thoughtful actions of 16-year-old Rebecca Kirtman. Becca, a cheerleader, honor student, and caring young woman, who passed away in a tragic automobile accident on August 20, 2003. Today, her family and friends not only remember Becca for her great love and friendship, but also for her contributions to the community.

In the spring of her freshman year at Nova High School in Davie, Florida, Rebecca launched a dress drive to provide prom dresses and accessories to high school girls who could not afford to purchase them. Rebecca was a passionate, bright, and engaging young woman who loved being with her friends and felt that no one should miss a high school event because of not being able to afford to attend. She saw the inequity in this situation and sought to change things. During the spring of her sophomore year, Becca single-handedly collected and donated over 250 formal dresses to help hundreds of girls across South Florida to attend their High School proms in style.

ACES Becca's week-long dress drive runs through Monday April 26, 2010. Racks of dresses have been collected and displayed in the cafeteria for all of the students to see.

ACES Becca's "prom dress" collections will be donated through radio station Power 96 who is leading their own radio promotion to support the Becca's Closet cause. Evening Power 96 Radio Personality DJ – JP visited ACES morning TV Show and classes to encourage students to continue to participate and to specifically thank ACES 3rd grade students and the 3rd grade team of teachers Ms. Arrastias, Ms. Aloupis, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Florentino, Ms. Lopez and Ms. Peralta for their enthusiasm in the Becca's Closet initiative. Their commitment to its success expanded the "Prom Dress Drive" to become a very successful school-wide project.

Power 96 DJ – JP said, "ACES students serve as a powerful reminder and role models of what schools and students can do to give back to their communities to make a huge difference to others. We are impressed by their students "giving hearts" and efforts."

For more information on Becca's Closet go to <http://beccascloset.org/>. For more information on Aventura City of Excellence School, (ACES) call 305-466-1499 and for more information on Power 96 Radio call 305-654-1700.





About ACES:

Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES), established in 2003, serves 932 students grades Kindergarten through the eighth grade as the first municipal-sponsored school in Miami-Dade County. ACES leads the way in "Educational Best Practices" focusing on "whole child" development and excelling academically. ACES has achieved an A status for the past five years ranking among the top high performing combination schools (i.e. Elementary and Middle School) in the state and in the district. ACES maintains a low student-teacher ratio, state of the art facilities, advanced technology, a safe environment

for students to learn, Character Education and a variety of programs to meet the needs of all students including programs for Gifted Students, Exceptional Student Education (ESE), and English as a Second Language (ESOL). In addition, ACES curriculum offers even more choices for students and families including; Special Interest Clubs, Before and After School Care, After School Sports, Art and Drama Programs, Parenting Workshops, an Authors Series and a Middle School Leadership Speakers Series featuring leading entrepreneurs who discuss their career path and the values that lead to their success. ACES won the "Best Fairchild Garden" for two years, a State Innovation Award, and 11 State and National Awards for its Character Education Initiatives. For more information, visit ACES school Web Site at www.aventuracharter.org or call 305-466-1499.