



# PRESS RELEASE

## Aventura City of Excellence School For Immediate Release

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### 2007 School Grade

#### **Aventura City of Excellence School is an “A” rated school**

The Florida Department of Education released school grades for the 2006 – 2007 school year. The Aventura City of Excellence School is proud to announce that the school is “A” rated.

This year, additional areas were used in the calculation of school grades, making it increasingly difficult to maintain an “A.” To maintain and /or to achieve an “A” grade this year, schools were required to score 85 points higher than last year. For the first time, student scores in Science were counted towards the school grade as were learning gains made by the lowest 25% of students in math. Many schools in the district did poorly.

ACES did well in all areas. “As the standards continue to rise, our students continue to exceed expectations,” says Acting Director, Julie Alm. “This accomplishment is the result of the hard work and dedication of the ACES staff and students.”

ACES offers targeted programs for all learners including; gifted, struggling and on level learners. An unprecedented number of ACES students scored in the highest achievement levels possible.

City Manager Eric Soroka said, “I am proud of the efforts of our school administration, teachers, students and parents. This truly was a team effort.”

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This fall ACES will be at full capacity adding an eighth grade program. The school's focus continues to be one of academic rigor, in conjunction with motivational electives and extra curricular activities. Vice Principal, Daniel Sandberg points out, "At ACES we look at each child as an individual and provide the best programs possible to suit each student's needs."

For more information to clarify this year's additional testing requirements and school results on FCAT School Grades, review the Miami Herald Article on June 30, 2007 titled, "In Dade, 26 schools don't meet standards." The Miami Herald link is <http://www.miamiherald.com/519/story/156270.html>

### **About ACES:**

Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES), established in 2003, serves 900 students grades Kindergarten through Middle School as the first municipal-sponsored school in Miami-Dade County. ACES' brand new Middle School opened in August 2005 and will be filled to capacity in August 2007. ACES has achieved an A status for the past three years, maintains a low student-teacher ratio, state of the art facilities, advanced technology, a safe environment for students to learn, a values-based Education and a progressive curriculum; including programs for Gifted Students, Exceptional Student Education (ESE), English as a Second Language (ESOL), and Before and After School Care. In ACES offers many unique programs for students and families including; twenty-six "Special Interest Clubs" for students, After School Sports, Art and Drama Programs. ACES won a National Promising Practices Character Education Award for the past three years with the "Knock Your Socks Off" Parenting Workshop Program, Global Human Rights Curriculum and Community Care Outreach Program. The ACES School Garden Project was awarded first place by Fairchild Gardens in 2007. ACES has been honored as one of the top combination schools (i.e. elementary and middle school) in the State of Florida, ranking near the top in both the district and state. For more information, visit the school's Web site at [www.aventuracharter.org](http://www.aventuracharter.org) or call 305-466-1499.

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