



PRESS RELEASE

Aventura City of Excellence School

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ACES STUDENTS WALK FOR FREEDOM TO HONOR OUR TROOPS

On 9/11, ACES 5th Grade students participated with the City of Aventura and the Aventura Marketing Council in the Freedom Walk Event to commemorate the victims of 9/11 and to pay tribute to our troops and Veterans. The event took place at the Aventura Mall.

The ceremony included the City of Aventura Color Guards, the Naval Color Guards, the national anthem, the ACES chorus led by Choral Director, Phillip Lakofsky and Keynote speaker, ACES Principal, Julie Alm, who spoke to ACES students and to the audience about the significance of coming together as a community to support our troops and to thank the service people who serve our country and community by protecting our rights and freedom. ACES Vice Principal, Daniel Sandberg, Assistant Principal, Daniel Verdier, Community Officials and community members participated with ACES students. Representatives from the US Navy and the Aventura Police were present. After the ceremony, Aventura Mayor, Susan Gottlieb and Aventura Commissioner Billy Joel led the students and community members in the Freedom Walk around the Aventura Mall.

ACES 5th Grade students participated in the Freedom Walk event as part of the ACES Cross Curricular Study Program, which ties the students American History curriculum into the ACES Character Education Program. Students got an opportunity to participate in history and to experience the significance of being part of a caring community that appreciates those that serve to make our world a better place. ACES students created a Freedom Walk art banner that was donated to the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C. The Aventura Mall gave ACES students Freedom Walk T-shirts to remember the patriotic experience.

About ACES:

Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES), established in 2003, serves 900 students grades Kindergarten through eighth grade as the first municipal-sponsored school in Miami-Dade County. ACES' Middle School Wing opened in August 2005 and filled to capacity in August 2007. ACES has achieved an A status for the past four years and is considered a Leader in "Educational Best Practices," teaching the "whole child," known for its innovative programming. ACES 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 addition, ACES offers many unique programs for students and families including; "Special Interest Clubs," After School Sports, Art and Drama Programs, Parenting Workshops and a Middle School Leadership Speaker Series for students and families featuring leading entrepreneurs and an Authors Series. ACES won first place for the "Best Garden" in the Fairchild Botanical Garden Exchange for two years in a row. In addition, ACES has also won a State Innovation Award, State School of Character Award, ranked as a National Finalist for the prestigious National Schools of Character Awards and has won five National Character Education Promising Practices Awards. ACES Cross Curricular Studies Program ties Character Education into all subject areas. ACES has been honored as one of the highest ranking combination schools (i.e. Elementary and Middle School) in the State of Florida and in the district. For more information, visit ACES school Web Site at www.aventuracharter.org or call 305-466-1499.