



FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION
May 21, 2009

FORTY-THREE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOLS SAVE OVER 14 MILLION POUNDS OF GREENHOUSE GASES

– Green Schools Challenge Awards Ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 28th –

(Miami, FL) – Dream in Green, a South Florida nonprofit, will honor forty-three Miami-Dade County elementary, middle and senior high schools that participate in the organization's Green Schools Challenge (GSC) on May 28, 2009. CBS4 Weather Anchor, Lissette Gonzalez, will host the awards ceremony, which will be held at the law offices of Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. in downtown Miami.

The GSC engages students, teachers, parents, administrators, and facilities staff from each of the participating schools to save energy, conserve water, recycle, and mitigate carbon emissions through tree planting. Using a standardized curriculum, teachers complement class instruction with learning about climate change and environmental sustainability. This learning is combined with hands-on energy and water-related activities at their schools, homes, and in the broader community. As a result, the forty-three schools in the GSC program have saved approximately \$465,140 in energy costs, which translates to over 9,795,371 kWh of electricity. In addition, their collective efforts have recycled over 810,403 pounds of paper, plastic, and aluminum, mitigating 14,161,494 pounds of carbon dioxide.

To honor the participating schools, Dream in Green will award each school with its own "Greenometer™," which displays each school's overall reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for the 2008/09 school year. Dream in Green will also present cash prizes to the top ten carbon-reducing schools.

Who: Dream in Green
What: Green Schools Challenge (GSC) Awards Ceremony
When: May 28, 2009, Reception: 5:30 – 6:45 pm, Awards Program: 6:45- 7:30 pm
Where: Offices of Stearns Weaver Miller, et al. 150 W. Flagler Street, Suite 2200, Miami

ABOUT DREAM IN GREEN

Dream in Green™ is a South Florida non-profit that mobilizes our community to collectively respond to challenges faced by global climate change and energy security. Dream in Green works to reduce energy and waste, conserve water, and mitigate carbon emissions within our community's schools, homes, and businesses. Dream in Green's programs emphasize education and collective behavioral changes. The GSC is conducted with the assistance of the Alliance to Save Energy, a national organization addressing global energy.

The 2008/09 Green Schools Challenge is made possible thanks to generous support from:

• Miami-Dade County Public Schools (in-kind) • The Environmental Protection Agency • Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management • Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management • Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department • The City of Miami AmeriCorps Program • The Lannan Foundation • The Home Depot Foundation • The Dade Community Foundation • The Edward S. Moore Family Foundation • Staples, Inc. • Florida Power & Light • The City of Doral • Assurant • MWH Inc • Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson • P.A. • Ransom Everglades • The Shepard Broad Foundation • Greenberg Traurig • ZIXODA Design • Robert & Barbara Rosenberg • Bank United • Shape, Inc. • Ecolovation LLC • The Staubach Company - South Florida • Choice Environmental Services of Miami (in-kind), among others.

-END-

Edith McClintock
Executive Director
edith@dreaminggreen.org