



QUEST  BRIDGE

*An education at a  
TOP COLLEGE  
is possible.*

## Quest to college with QuestBridge

QuestBridge hosts the “College Match!”, a well-known national program to help match students to some of the nation's top colleges. This opportunity pairs high achieving high school seniors with full scholarships to some of the nation's elite schools. After receiving a record high of 14,491 applications, from which QuestBridge chose 5,338 as finalists, only 767 students from around the country were matched and received full four year scholarships.

One of those lucky students was Cutler Bay Senior High’s very own Melissa Quiros. She was accepted to Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. Melissa received four years of full paid tuition, including books as well as room and board. Melissa said that she chose Tufts because “of the fall weather, the great atmosphere and the fact that [her] sister currently attends the school.”

Tufts University only accepted 22 QuestBridge scholars this year, so Melissa is a proud member of an elite group. Melissa also holds the honor of being the first Cambridge diploma recipient at Cutler Bay Senior High. She plans on pursuing a career dedicated to the sciences. While at Cutler Bay High, she has been an active member of the Cutler Bay Ocean Academy of Science and Technology (COAST) Magnet Program.



### CBHS Reaches State Swim Finals

The Cutler Bay Senior High Swim Team is making waves. This year teammates Haily Jerew (c/o 2020), & Janet D'Alessandro (c/o 2021) capped off their remarkable season with a trip to Stuart, Florida to compete at the 2016 FHSAA 1A State Finals.



Way to go!

### Robots invade Whigham Elementary

Robots are coming to life at Whigham! The after-school Robotics Club provides opportunities for students in Fifth Grade to learn about design and engineering using the VEX IQ robotic kits. Students are also learning life skills in the club. According to student Ronald Kapxhiu, "We learn how to work with people and their different abilities."



### Bel-Aire's Night of STEM

Students showcased their Science Fair projects during STEM (Science Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Night at Bel-Aire Elementary. Parents and students solved math problems as they explored science principles. The gallery featured science fair projects created by students in grades Kindergarten to Fifth grade.



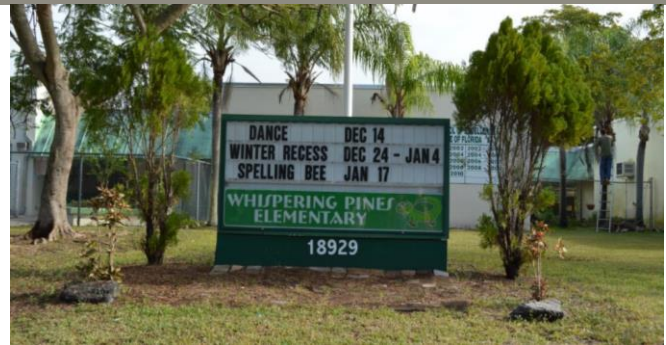
**STEM**

science • technology  
engineering • math

### C.R.E Rainbows After Rain

The Rainbows After Rain Holiday Toy Collection Drive is an initiative conducted in the honor of Kelsey Dickson, who was a C.R.E. student at the time that she lost her battle with cancer. In her memory, students along with her family, donated unwrapped new toys and received a chance to win a bike. The toys collected over the three-week period were donated to Pediatric Cancer Patients at Baptist Hospital.





### Gulfstream Puppety Surprise

Nico, The Accordion Man, visited the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students attending Gulfstream Elem. to perform a puppet show. Nico performs with famed Cirque de Solei. The Audience was captivated as he demonstrated how students can express themselves using just their hands.



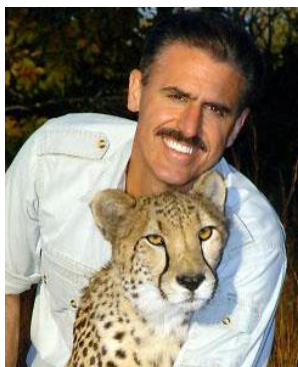
### Whispering Pines Science Fair

Whispering Pines' fifth grade students showcased their Science skills at the Annual Science Fair. Students displayed their Science Fair Projects and shared their findings with peers and special guests. Three of the student projects will be featured at the M-DCPS Science Fair.



### Cutler Bay Special Principal of the Day

On Dec. 12, Mr. Ron Magill, Communications Director at Zoo Miami and American wildlife Expert, was Cutler Bay Middle's Principal of the Day. Mr. Magill is an alumnus of Cutler Bay Middle. He spoke to students about the importance of putting forth maximum effort, and having a passion for excellence.




This newsletter is produced by the Town of Cutler Bay in collaboration with our local public schools. Our Town Council is dedicated to supporting our local schools and doing our part to ensure a quality education for all children. The purpose of the newsletter is to increase our resident's awareness about the wonderful activities and accomplishments of the schools that serve our children daily.

***For additional information, contact LaKeesha Morris, Grants Coordinator at (305)234-4262 or [lmorris@cutlerbay-fl.gov](mailto:lmorris@cutlerbay-fl.gov).***

# UPCOMING Events

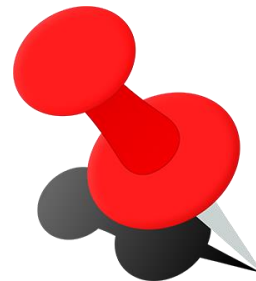
## All Schools:

February 2 – Take Your Child to Work Day

Feb. 20 – NO SCHOOL – Presidents Day

## **Cutler Bay Senior High:**

- February 3 – Senior Picnic
- February 16 – Early Release
- February 16 – Junior Ring Ceremony



## **Cutler Ridge Elementary:**

- February 6 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mandatory Meeting
- February 10 – K-12 Valentine's Day Dance
- February 22 – Class Photos

### **Bel-Aire Elementary School**

Principal: Prudence Mingo  
10205 SW 194th St Cutler Bay, FL  
33157 (305) 233-5401

### **Cutler Ridge Elementary**

Principal: Adrienne L. Wright- Mullins  
20210 Coral Sea Road Cutler Bay, Florida  
33189 (305) 235-4611

### **Dr. Edward L. Whigham Elementary**

Principal: Cynara Suarez  
21545 SW 87 Avenue Cutler Bay, Florida 33189  
(305) 234-4840

### **Gulfstream Elementary School**

Principal: Yubeda Miah  
20900 SW 97 Avenue Cutler Bay, Florida 33189  
(305) 235-6811

### **Cutler Bay Senior High**

Principal: Lucas De La Torre  
8601 SW 212 ST Cutler Bay, FL  
33189 (305) 235-1581

### **Cutler Bay Middle School**

Principal: Paul A Pfeiffer  
19400 Gulfstream Road Cutler Bay, Florida 33157  
305-235-4761

### **Dr. Edward L. Whigham PLC-E**

Principal: Cynara Suarez  
8035 SW 196 Street Cutler Bay, Florida 33189  
(305) 252-5050

### **Whispering Pines Elementary School**

Principal: Tamela L. Brown  
18929 SW 89 Road Cutler Bay, Florida 33157  
(305) 238-7382