

# What's The Buzz?

BETTER ENVIRONMENTS TO ELEVATE EDUCATORS



## August Events Recap

Last month, the BEEE Foundation partnered up with the Miami-Dade Urban Debate League (MDUDL), and Teach for America (TFA), we spoke in-person to educators and parents and provided tips towards professional development and how they can prepare for the upcoming school year. They became mentors to these new and experienced teachers who are struggling with gaining proper support from their schools.

The BEEE team gave these educators and parents effective educational resources that would be used to meet the needs of their students/children. They showed the importance of flexible teaching and creating an safe environment for students of all different cultures, races, skills, and learning styles.

BEEE is a big advocate towards practicing a well-managed, stimulating, student-centered environment inside of a classroom that is academically challenging but also respectful. We believe that educators should use professional standards to contribute to the future growth of their students.

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# August Recap



## Miami-Dade Urban Debate League

In partnership with the Miami-Dade Urban Debate League, BEEE Foundation provided professional development to professional educators that demonstrated how they could maximize debate during yearly evaluation. The debate educators learned a lot about the major components of the IPEGS DPGT, major skills that students take away from debate, how to incorporate the things that teachers do in debate into the classroom, and the impact their involvement can have on their Summative Performance Rating.



## Teach for America

In partnership with Teach for America, BEEE Foundation provided an IPEGS Professional Development for new teachers. These new, curious educators got exposed to the ideas of how they can get along with their students, keep their students engaged, and be professional within the classroom. With the upcoming school year, BEEE helps educators to be ready for the upcoming challenges that they will face. We are here to support educators new and old!

# August Interviews

## MAGGIE WALSH

Maggie Walsh, former English teacher, left teaching due to feeling unsafe and unsupported, is now a full-time law student at the University of Miami where she utilizes her professional skills to advocate for social justice. Maggie Walsh was an English educator at Miami Carol City Senior High School for two-and-a-half years. During that time, she prepared 9th graders for English language curriculum using effective lesson plans and weekly assessments. She left back in 2021 after she didn't feel safe and was not being supported as a teacher. Walsh is now a full-time law student at University of Miami where she brings in her professional skills to advocate social justice.



## CYDNEY EDWARDS

Cydney Edwards is a social justice activist and educator who primarily focuses on the practice of art and debate to boost the confidence of students before they head off to college. She currently teaches at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as the Associate Director of The Office of Multicultural Arts Initiatives where she mostly works with African American students who are in low-income neighborhoods.

## KHORTLAN BECTON

Khortlan earned her BAs in African American Studies and Religious Studies from the University of Alabama, a Master of Theological Studies from Vanderbilt Divinity School, and a Juris Doctor from Temple University Beasley School of Law. Becton is co-founder of the Restorative Education Institute. Her research interests include social justice, algorithmic bias and discrimination, and educational equity.



# Teacher Talk

## THE BEST TEACHER PLAYLIST FOR STARTING THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

As a teacher, it can be difficult to get yourself pumped up for the new school year with all the different stresses that you are constantly on your mind. As you get yourself ready in the morning, you can pop in your earphones and listen to this playlist that will get you through your day. These uplifting, motivational songs are made for amazing teachers like you who work hard to create a loving, safe learning environment for students!

### 1. Eye of the Tiger - Survivor

This song has been used to motivate professional boxer Rocky Balboa while he trained for his boxing matches. As you prepare yourself for the endless amount of school stress, you can jam to this motivational song to remind yourself that you have "the eye of a tiger"!

### 2. Don't Worry, Be Happy - Bobby McFerrin

This song literally says what you need to do: don't worry, be happy! While you listen to this song, put all your stresses behind and enjoy the rhythm!

### 3. Here Comes the Sun - The Beatles

This inspirational song is all about gaining hope even when you are going through the stress of teaching. It symbolizes that there is light at the end of the tunnel, and as a teacher you have to stay positive with a smile.

### 4. I Gotta Feeling - The Black Eyed Peas

When you need a little boost in morning, you can blast this song in your car while you're on your way to school. Everyone wants to escape life's struggles to go out and "have a ball". For teachers, this means that they will make the best of their day by making their classroom be fun and memorable!

### 5. Survivor - Destiny's Child

While you are driving home at the end of a long, stressful day at school, you can listen to this song to remind yourself that you are a survivor! You can build yourself up for the next day of teaching lessons. You are a warrior and inspiration for students who look up to you for guidance. You made it through today and you will make it through tomorrow!

**Kickback, Relax,  
and Unwind**



# Meet our new intern!



**AINSLEY MADDALENA**

Ainsley is a rising senior at the University of Oregon pursuing a BA in Journalism and Advertising with a focus on visual communications and a minor in Sustainable Business. Coming from a family of educators, Ainsley grew up seeing educators' difficulties in the American education system. She is passionate about uplifting her coworkers and ensuring everyone's voices are heard to help the team produce the best possible product.



**SAMANTHA SHERADSKY**

We would like to extend a heartfelt congratulations to Samantha for landing a role as Social Media Coordinator at Danielle Rollins. Congratulations to you Samantha and good luck on your new journey. The BEEE family is so proud of you.

# Congratulations to our departing intern!



# Help Create Impact by donating to Better Environments to Elevate Educators

## YOUR MONEY AT WORK



Your donation will help us organize and conduct professional development programs. These programs will focus on topics that provide teachers with the knowledge and skills to improve their teaching practices and student outcomes.



Your donation will facilitate networking opportunities for educators to connect with their peers and share best practices, create a community of educators who are passionate about improving education, we can foster collaboration and teamwork among teachers.



Your donation will help us provide educational resources such as books, online courses, and instructional materials to assist educators in their professional journey, ensuring that every teacher has the necessary tools to succeed.

## WHY CHOOSE US?

BEEE is led by teachers creating content for teachers that helps retain qualified educators it also benefits students.



### DIAMOND BEEE \$100,000+

- Thank you letter
- Donor Impact Letter
- Brochure Recognition
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- Event Invitations



### POLLINATOR BEEE \$5-499

- Thank you letter
- Donor Impact Letter
- Event Invitations

# September Events

## EVENT 1

### The Educational Fund's Virtual Happy Hour for M-DCPS Educators



**Location:** Virtual

**Date:** September 6, 2023

**Time:** 5 PM - 6 PM

The BEEE team has been invited to a virtual happy hour where educators can network with peers, share ideas, and learn about the free resources and support that The Education Fund provides. There is also a chance to win big prizes!

## EVENT 2

### Paradox Museum's 2nd Annual Teacher's Night



**Location:** Paradox Museum

**Date:** September 16, 2023

**Time:** 7 PM - 9 PM

The BEEE team has been invited to a FREE Teacher's Appreciation event at Paradox Museum meant for all teachers and school support staff alike.