



Introduction to Alberto M. Carvalho. 1:29 min. Photo & Design: Raymond Elman. Music: Julie Maxwell, Map of Schiaparelli.

Understanding the Value of Art Education: A Video Discussion with Alberto Carvalho, Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools

By Elman + Johnson

Alberto M. Carvalho (b.1965) was born and raised in Lisbon, Portugal. “From the time I was a little boy, I remember being poor, but feeling absolutely rich. I felt rich because every time I left my little apartment, I was greeted by absolute beauty. The architecture, the paintings in museums that I could access for free, the fountains, the poetry, the music that rang throughout the old quarters of Lisbon inspired me every single day. So was I poor? I didn’t feel poor because everything around me made me feel rich.” Carvalho was one of the few people in his family to graduate from high school. He saved enough money to leave Portugal when he was 17 years old and flew to New York City, not speaking a word of English. But he had the fortitude and substance to reinvent himself. A manifestation of the American Dream.

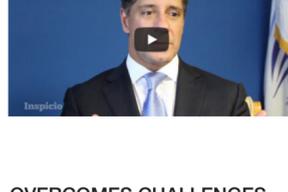
From the Office of the Superintendent:

Alberto M. Carvalho has served as Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), the nation’s fourth largest school system, since September 2008. He is a nationally recognized expert on education transformation, finance, and leadership development. During his tenure, M-DCPS has become one of the nation’s highest-performing urban school systems receiving system-wide accreditation from AdvancEd in 2014. The District has also been named as the 2014 College Board Advanced Placement Equity and Excellence District of the Year, as well as the 2012 winner of the Broad Prize for Urban Education. As a staunch believer in school choice, he has expanded choice options in Miami-Dade to include over 500 offerings including programs in fine arts and performing arts, biotechnology, engineering, robotics, aviation, forensic sciences, and many others.

An instructional leader at heart, Mr. Carvalho is also the proud founder and self-appointed principal of the award-winning iPrep Academy which has become a model of robust 21st century learning in the age of innovation and technology. Recognized by his peers as a leader, he has served as President of the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents; been selected as Florida’s 2014 Superintendent of the Year, as well as the 2014 National Superintendent of the Year; was named by Scholastic Administrator as one of “The Fantastic Five” educators making a difference in America; and is the 2016 winner of the 2016 Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education, as well as the Magnet Schools of America 2016 Superintendent of the Year. He has recently been appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Education to serve a four-year term on the National Assessment Governing Board. Mr. Carvalho has been awarded many honorary degrees including a Doctor of Public Service by Florida International University; Doctor of Humane Letters by both Barry University and Florida Memorial University; and a Doctor of Pedagogy, Honoris Causa from Nova Southeastern University. He has been honored by the President of Portugal with the “Ordem de Mérito Civil” and by Mexico with the “Othli Award”.

The videos below are organized by topic and run between 30 seconds and 4 minutes. Click on any video. You must be connected to the Internet to view the videos.

EXPOSURE TO BROAD INFLUENCES: 1:31 min.



Where did you grow up and what was your earliest awareness of art in any form?

OVERCOMES CHALLENGES TO SUCCEED: 0:56 sec.



How old were you when you came to the United States and what was your evolution?

SEIZES OPPORTUNITIES: 1:27 min.



What was your evolution from teacher to the top of the school system?

CREATIVE FLEXIBILITY: 1:44 min.



What was it like to prepare for and read Hyam Plutzik’s poems in front of a full orchestra at the New World Center?

OVERCOMES CHALLENGES TO SUCCEED: 2:10 min.



Describe a challenging situation with a successful outcome.

CRITICAL THINKING: 3:22 min.



Most of the South Florida arts institutions have community outreach programs. What does that look like from the perspective of the school system?

UNDERSTANDS THE COMMUNITY: 1:50 min.



How do you motivate parents to be involved in their child’s education?

COLLABORATION: 1:54 min.



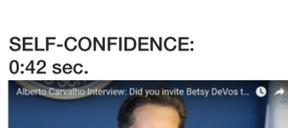
How would you describe your relationship with education unions?

ETERNAL OPTIMIST: 2:07 min.



What impact will Betsy DeVos, the new Secretary of Education, have on the Miami-Dade school system?

SELF-CONFIDENCE: 0:42 sec.



Did you invite the new Secretary of Education to visit the Miami-Dade school system?

UNDERSTANDS THE BUSINESS OF EDUCATION: 0:55 sec.



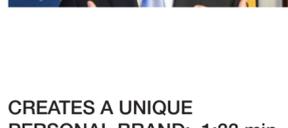
What are the main sources of funds for the Miami-Dade school system?

CRITICAL THINKING: 1:09 min.



What is your view of the seemingly constant political effort to change the American education system?

CREATES A UNIQUE PERSONAL BRAND: 1:33 min.



Where do the arts fit in your vision of a meaningful education?