

# NEWS ALERT



**Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

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## **MIAMI-DADE TEACHER WINS FIRST PLACE IN FEDERAL RESERVE BANK LESSON PLAN CONTEST**

Keith Astuto, a teacher at South Miami Senior High, won a \$1,500 savings bond for his first-place win in the annual *Lesson Plan of the Year* contest held last month by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Astuto's lesson plan competed against others from the bank's four branch offices within the Sixth Federal Reserve District: Birmingham, Ala.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Nashville, Tenn. and New Orleans.

Designed to introduce educators to Federal Reserve materials and resources, the contest challenged middle and high school teachers to develop lesson plans featuring Federal Reserve publications, Web sites or multimedia materials. Astuto's lesson plan, "An Economic SIM-ulus Package," featured the Federal Reserve's video "In Plain English" and focused on Federal Open Market Committee actions to prepare students for a mock briefing of the Atlanta Federal president.

Prior to this win, Astuto won first place at the regional contest in Miami, which was open to educators from 13 counties in South Florida. The top three winners also were from Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Second place went to Daniel Vinat of Felix Varela Senior High School and Third place went to Jaela Vazquez of Cutler Ridge Middle School.

Judges, comprised of Federal Reserve staff and educators, evaluated each entry on certain criteria, including originality, creativity, documentation and use of Federal Reserve materials.

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