Ricardo Delgado's Welding Class

Robert Morgan Educational Center July 2012



Ricardo Delgado, teacher, first person on the left, and his welding students. Artistic expression is encouraged in this class.









These students have ridden their bikes in parades.

They would custom make bikes for those who are interested.







Examples of finished and unfinished grills made to order.

The green grill is made from a discarded hot water heater.



Robert Morgan Educational Center students are proud of their school!



Mr. Delgado and his robotic video/multimedia center

A "Green Class" Sets High Standards for M-DCPS Adult Programs

The welding class at **Robert Morgan Educational Center** and the teacher, **Mr. Ricardo Delgado**, inspire and motivate students to find a purpose in life. Here is an instructor who comes to M-DCPS with impeccable credentials and life experience. The students know it through his actions and encouragement to stretch to them to their limits. Creativity and practical use of "throw-aways" give the students an earth-healthy approach to the skills they are learning. Mr. Delgado is on target in meeting the demands of 21st century skills which include; collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking.

Ricardo Delgado's resume and story are impressive:

He was part of the Freedom Flight from Cuba in 1965. He was raised in California and lived there for thirty five years before moving to South West Miami where he has resided for the past 12 years.

The years that he worked in the aerospace industry provided him experience with the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy as a government contractor working on fuel tanks, aerial refueling systems, and rocket launchers for F-16 and F-18 fighter jets.

His knowledge in welding took him to assignments in Kayseri, Turkey and Taipei, Taiwan. He has also worked in robotic welding as a programmer, technician and instructor.

Mr. Delgado's mission now is to educate students in a field that has a multitude of opportunities. His students exhibit their accomplishments with pride knowing that the accolades come not only from their proud teacher but from their community as well. Upon visiting the class one can see; sculptures from odds and ends that should be in an art museum; cool bicycles that are six feet long and four feet tall with flashing lights and airbrushed designs; barbecues made from recycled hot water heaters; and even an old car body that is being converted into a barbecue pit / cooler. In the class, Mr. Delgado has a robotic video/multimedia center made from a "trashed patient lift cart" that plays clips of Jay Leno and his welding crew working on the latest car invention. These projects are practical, inspirational, and make good use of "junk".

The students' products are for sale or a customer can go to this class and request custom work. One student said, "If I had this teacher and this class in high school I probably would not have dropped out and I would have my own shop by now."

For further information about this program and others at Robert Morgan Educational Center, go to:

http://www.dadeschools.net/schools/schoolinformation/school_details.asp?id=8911

ROBERT MORGAN EDUCATIONAL CENTER

18180 SW 122ND AVENUE MIAMI, FL 33177 Ph: (305)253-9920

Written by Karen Johnson, September, 2012 School Operations – Division of Adult and Workforce Education Karen_johnson@dadeschools.net