



**COLLIER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DEPARTMENT  
5775 Osceola Trail  
Naples, Florida 34109  
(239) 377-0180  
E-mail: [landonjo@collierschools.com](mailto:landonjo@collierschools.com)  
On the Web: [www.collierschools.com](http://www.collierschools.com)  
On TV: The Education Channel, cable 99

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**NEWS RELEASE – “CCPS LAUNCHES SMILES ACROSS AMERICA TODAY”**

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile visited Mike Davis Elementary School (MDE) today to launch the Smiles Across America Program. Dr. Kamela Patton, Superintendent of Collier County Public Schools, participated in today’s launch ceremony, along with half a dozen MDE second grade students.

The Smiles Across America Program will allow 500 second grade children at five Collier County schools to visit the Care Mobile again this year. Each second grade student will receive dental exams with dental sealants on permanent teeth at no cost, thanks to a partnership with Collier Health Services (CHS) and Oral Health America. The sealants will be applied by University of Florida dental students and by CHS Dental Director, Dr. Kelley Johnson, who will also be providing direct supervision of the students. The five elementary schools that will participate are Lake Trafford, Manatee, Mike Davis, Parkside, and Pinecrest.

The Collier County Smiles Across America Partnership is made possible by two grants - \$50,000 from the Wal-Mart Foundation and \$20,000 from Oral Health America.

(More)



Dr. Kamela Patton, administrators from participating schools and various organizations, and Mike Davis Elementary School second grade students come together to launch the Collier County Smiles Across America program.