NEW SUPERINTENDENT – DR. HOWARD HEPBURN

More that two decades of experience in educational sector.

From classroom teacher to most recent role as BCPS Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning.

NEWSLETTERS + BCPS MUNICIPAL REGISTRY

*School(s) you serve as liaison and/or have involvement:*

*What are you most satisfied with about Broward County schools?*

*What is your main concern regarding Broward County schools?*

*Suggestions on how we can improve Broward County schools?*

REDIFINING OUR SCHOOLS

2/2 Meeting with cities (Mayor Trantalis, City Manager Chavarria)

2/8 Community Conversation at Fort Lauderdale HS

2/12 EAB meeting (Chair Suzanne Dean)

2/15 Community Conversation at J.P. Taravella HS

2/22 Community Conversation at Charles W. Flanagan HS

2/20 School Board Workshop Part 1

4/16 Update

4/29 Town Hall at Hollywood Hills HS

5/1 Town Hall at Dillard HS

5/6 Town Hall at Fort Lauderdale HS

5/7 Town Hall at Charles W. Flanagan HS

5/9 Town Hall at Deerfield Beach HS

5/14 School Board Workshop (Superintendent’s revised recommendations)

5/21 Regular School Board (Superintendent’s revised recommendations)

6/18 Vote on Redefining Our Schools

Factors to be evaluated:

* Enrollment
* Enrollment of Surrounding School
* Competitive Analysis of Non-District Schools
* Neighborhood Demographics
* Facility Conditions
* School Performance
* School Operational Costs
* Survey Data

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART CHANGES & BUDGET

BCPS is being recognized by the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) with its Meritorious Budget Award (MBA) for fiscal year 2023/24. The award honors excellence in budget presentations while also enhancing and promoting school districts’:

* Skills in developing effective budget presentations
* Compliance with clear budget presentation guidelines
* Commitment to community through a reader-friendly budget document
* Adherence to nationally recognized budget presentation standards.

SCHOOL SAFETY

Weapons Detection System: A plan to install walk-through metal detectors at some Broward County Public Schools was approved by school board members, at a total of 10 high schools and other school centers. Two schools - **Flanagan High and Taravella High** - will receive the detectors for summer sessions, and eight more will receive them before school starts in August. BCPS has also expanded random metal detection screenings for everyone's security. Video from our District police explaining the screenings and their consequence.

AUTISM IN FLIGHT WITH JETBLUE AND BROWARD SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The event took place at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, and featured 50 students with autism and their families or guardians participating in a simulated flight to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The students practiced entering the airport, getting boarding passes, going through security, and boarding a plane. The event was the culminating event of several weeks of classroom lessons focused on airport travel.

BCPS MULTILINGUAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The School Board of Broward County established the Multilingual Advisory Committee (MAC), enhancing the District’s ability to promote family and community engagement and advocacy aligned with the Three Pillars of Dual Language Education; preparing students for college and career readiness, develops higher-order thinking skills as students learn a second language and promotes parent choice in their children’s education.

2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

This Legislative Session yielded a **$117.5 billion** budget, with a record of **$28.4 billion** added to the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP).

The budget includes a **$1.8 billion** increase in funding for public schools which will mean a **$240** bump in per-student spending, and **$1.2 billion** for increasing teacher salaries. That amount represents a roughly **$200 million** increase for teacher pay over the current year. Lawmakers also included a **$40 million** increase in school safety funding, bringing the total to **$290 million**, and a **$20 million** boost to school mental-health funding, bringing the total to **$180 million**.

BCPS Unweighted Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Student Funds:

$8,910.14 (3.15% increase).

BCPS Funding Highlights

$800,000 for Adults with Disabilities

$250,000 for Athlete Mentoring Pilot program

$300,000 for SmartPass Pilot Project

Legislation that passed includes:

**HB 3 Online Protection of Minors** Requires 14 and 15-year-olds to have parental consent to have social media platforms.

**HB 523 Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program** Establishes the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program within the Department of Education to recognize high school graduates with exemplary achievements in the arts.

**HB 917 Career and Technical Education** Allows 16 and 17-year-olds to work on residential building instruction and modifies CTE programs.

**HB 931 School Chaplains** Authorizes school districts and charter schools to adopt policies allowing volunteer school chaplains to offer support and services to students.

**HB 1291 Education Preparation Programs** Prohibit educator and school leader preparation programs from including curriculum that distorts historical events or teaches identity politics, and mandates these programs to offer opportunities for critical thinking and competence demonstration.

**HB 1317 Patriotic Organizations** Authorizes school districts to provide patriotic organizations with access to public schools.

**HB 1361 Education** Aims to enhance education through artificial intelligence implementation, expanded eligibility for New Worlds Scholarship Accounts, and creation of University of Florida Lastinger Center for Learning.

**SB 46 Reading Achievement Initiative for Scholastic Excellence Program** Modifies the Reading Achievement Initiative for Scholastic Excellence Program to expand tutoring availability and provide stipends to tutors.

**SB 1264 History of Communism** Mandates instruction in public schools on the history of communism and establishes the Institute for Freedom in the Americas at Miami Dade College.

**SB 1688 Career-themed Courses** Enhances the Florida Career and Professional Education Act by revising strategic plan requirements, annual review data inclusion, and informational provisions to students and parents.

**SB 994 Student Transportation Safety** Enhances safety measures for student transportation by revising the function and use of school bus infraction detection systems.

200 STUDENTS VISIT THE STATE CAPITOL

ESOL students from 14 BCPS middle schools participated in Rally to the Tally for New Floridians, where they toured campuses, visited museums, spoke to legislators in the Florida Senate and House of Representatives, as well as visited the Florida Supreme Court.

This project is organized in collaboration with the Close Up Foundation, Washington, DC and BCPS Bilingual/ESOL Department.

BROWARD YOUTH POLICY SUMMIT

Event that culminates a process that has counted with the participation of 300 English Language Learners/Immigrant High School Students, that are presenting ideas and proposals to influence legislation and shape policy to ultimately improve our communities. Panelists:

***Crime and Criminal Justice:*** Major Renea Peterson***,*** BSO Director Gov. Affairs

***Education:*** Dr. Fabian Cone***,*** Teacher Professional Learning and Growth BCPS

***Energy and Environment:*** Dr. Lisa Milenkovic,STEM+Computer Science, BCPS

***Health:*** Caitlin Stella, CEO Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital and Pediatric

***Youth Issues:*** Cindy Arenberg Seltzer, CEO Children's Services Council

***Infrastructure and Public Services:*** Amanda Christon, Broward MPO

2024 ELECTIONS

93 schools to be used as polling sites, 10 in Fort Lauderdale ( 11% ):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 6 Elementary Schools | 3 Middle Schools | 1 High School |
| DillardFloranadaHarbordaleStephen Foster Sunland Park AcademyThurgood Marshall  | New River Sunrise William Dandy  | Stranahan |

3/19: Presidential Primary Preference Election

8/20: Primary Election

11/5: General Election (Teacher Planning Day)

STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

Students who are 16 or 17 can preregister to vote, and 18-year-olds can register to vote if they are a legal U.S. Citizens. Students should check with their school to get the exact date of their Voter Registration Drive."

Fort Lauderdale, Sheridan Technical, and Stranahan HS

CTACE EVENT WITH GREATER FORT LAUDERDALE ALLIANCE

BCPS Career, Technical, Adult and Community Education Department hosted the 7th Annual Claim Your Future Showcase had nearly 1000 BCPS students from the Career and Technical Ed. programs. The event included mock interviews, an executive panel discussion, and a showcase of local businesses.

PARENT UNIVERSITY: FOCUS STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Webinars on website

The District is implementing our new Student Information System (SIS), Focus School Software, which will be fully live for the 2024-2025 school year. The FOCUS SIS represents a strategic shift in how we manage, analyze, and utilize our students’ data. Focus SIS Project Task Force is making remarkable strides towards the planned launch in August 2024.

129 SMART PROJECTS IN CLOSEOUT



SCHOOL CHOICE

The Phase II School Choice application window for the 2024/25 school year takes place from Wednesday, May 1 – Friday, May 17, 2024. Parents and guardians can apply for magnet programs and school reassignments at schools that have available seats.

GRADUATION SCHEDULES

Fort Lauderdale: 6/5 at 7pm at Nova Southeastern University

Sheridan Technical: 6/7 at 7pm at Nova Southeastern University

Stranahan: 6/8 at 7pm at Broward Center for the Performing Arts Center

Students and parents received information from their respective schools regarding cap and gown orders, plans for graduation ceremonies, guest tickets, safety protocols, graduation decorum, and access to livestreaming options for family and friends unable to attend in person.

browardschools.com/2024grads

ELECTED OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN INVITED

HURRICANE SHELTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Broward Schools Emergency Management Division is searching for PAID VOLUNTEERS to staff our hurricane shelters. Volunteers will be offered a secure environment during the hurricane. YOU WILL BE COMPENSATED while contributing to the well-being of the community and assisting those in need during times of disaster.

CALENDAR

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

NATIONAL SPEECH LANGUAGE HEARING MONTH

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER MONTH

HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH

TEACHER APPRECIATON WEEK

5/1 PRINCIPAL’S DAY

5/2 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

5/21 REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

5/29 WORKSHOP (BUDGET)