

Fall 2007

the 4 1 1 News You Can Use About Broward Schools



Team members clean solar panels at the starting line.

Solar Car Competes in, Finishes Cross Country Race

A South Plantation High School student approached advanced placement environmental science and senior research teacher Allan Phipps 18 months ago or so asking for topic ideas for an engineering project. Phipps showed the student a Web site detailing a Dell-Winston solar car competition, and the rest is history.

Hooked immediately, the students and Phipps started writing grants to get seed money and spent the next six months recruiting other students to help with the project. Then they spent another six months designing and researching components. By May of 2006, they had built the frame, and by August they had a rolling chassis. In October it was essentially an electric go-kart, but by December, it had evolved into a full-blown solar car. Phipps and the students traveled to Dallas to watch the 2006 competition, taking lots of pictures and video. "We really did our homework there," explains Phipps, "even discovering what batteries and solar panels the competition was using."

Grant funds and donations helped underwrite the project. "We received a \$10,000 Toyota Tapestry Grant, which helped get the ball rolling," explains Phipps. "BP Solar donated \$7,000 worth of solar panels. All in all, they raised \$40,000 in grant funds and donations from local corporations, parents and students. All that money was needed to help build the car, enter it into the competition and underwrite the expense of bringing eight students and two chaperones along for the two-week cross-country race this past summer. To get the word out there about the event, Phipps and his students took their car – the Solar Knight – to local events and used it as a means to educate the public about solar energy.

The race began in Round Rock, Texas, where Dell Computers is headquartered and it ended 2,080 miles later in Newburgh, New York. A total of nine cars competed in the race. Four recent District graduates and four rising seniors took part in the event. "Let's just say we didn't finish last," Phipps reports. "Our car really hung in there and the students got a real taste of what the competition is all about. They're already talking about ways to rebuild the car to make it lighter and more aerodynamic for next year's race, which will be a distance race held at Texas Motor Speedway."

What did the students learn? "An amazing amount of work went into designing the Solar Knight," explains Phipps. "The students had to learn how to use AutoCad and Inventor; there was a lot of geometry involved in constructing the frame and calculating gear ratios; and they had to figure out the dollar amount of electricity produced by solar panels. They also had to figure out the percentage of solar energy that hit the panels and was subsequently converted into electricity (13%). They even calculated angles to make sure we could make the panels tilt to catch more sunlight when the Solar Knight was parked. We also charged them with keeping track of donors and contributions."

According to Phipps, who's beginning his eighth year of teaching this fall, "I wanted to show them that they could take something they learn in textbooks and apply it to real life. That this 'alternative energy stuff' we read about just isn't in textbooks and on TV screens, but something we could do ourselves. And I want them to go back to teach the community and others that this is something that could be happening very soon."



Allan Phipps

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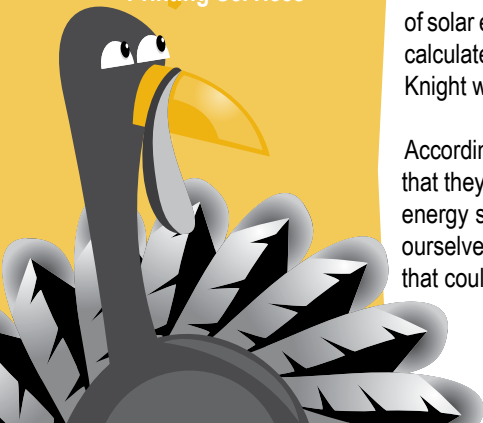
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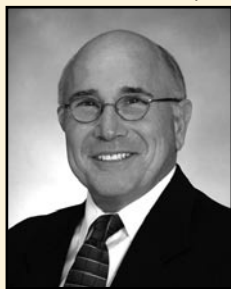


A Message From The Superintendent

As we begin a new school year, I believe it is important for you to know that our school system continues to be ranked among the best in the nation for our student achievement and innovative educational and business initiatives. For the past six consecutive years, the Council of the Great City Schools has singled out Broward County Public Schools for fostering student scores on standardized tests beyond state averages in reading and mathematics. We continue to be a model for the nation's education community on a number of fronts, especially in the area of technology integration in the classroom.

That's the good news. Now for the rest of the story, we continue to be challenged by a lack of adequate resources to carry out our primary mission, which is educating children. Florida continues to languish at the bottom of the nation in per pupil state funding for education. Recent taxpayer relief initiatives from the state legislature and the governor have further cut into the already inadequate funding we need to provide the best and most thorough education possible for every student. As you are aware, we have had to enact several budget cutting initiatives in order to make ends meet and balance our overall operations budget going into the new school year. These cost cutting measures include a controlled hiring freeze; a limitation placed on out of county travel; percentage cuts to non-instructional school and department budgets; and the reassignment of some teachers on task assignments back to classrooms. These measured initiatives were necessary to balance the budget without potentially cutting educational programs and laying off employees as a result of a reduction in anticipated state revenues.

Today, we are working hard both behind the scenes and publicly to make the general public and our elected officials aware of the impact our current financial condition is having on the quality of education for our children. School districts are hardly the only government entities affected by this situation. A number of local municipalities have had to cut back services to meet budget constraints imposed by Tallahassee. One of the public services that are being threatened is school crossing guards. This situation directly impacts the safety and security of students, especially the thousands of children who walk to and from school. We have reminded the municipalities that school crossing guards are their responsibility, as school districts do not have the authority, nor are they funded, to place personnel at intersections to direct vehicular and pedestrian traffic.



James F. Notter
Superintendent

Lastly, I am doing everything I can to insulate students, teachers and classroom instruction from these current financial issues. I call on each and every one of you to assist in this effort by conserving resources wherever possible. Your individual participation in this effort could include actions from shutting off lights and electrical equipment when not needed, to limiting expenditures to required supplies, services and travel. Working as a team, we can make the best of a challenging situation, while continuing to nurture and educate Broward County's children.



Team members pose for a photo at the finish line.

Phipps, who lives in Davie with his wife Hien Nguyen, is excited to be teaching a Solar and Alternative Energies class this year. "Instead of having to recruit students for this project – and many others – we'll have a whole classroom full of willing participants who can help with public relations, communications, planning, etc. We even plan to work on an electric car conversion."

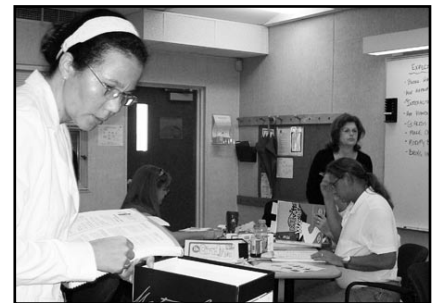
To learn more about the Solar Knight, visit (www.sphssolarknights.com).

Teachers, Specialists Take Part in Training Programs

During the summer, the ESE Department continued to provide training for ESE teachers and Specialists via the 5th annual Summer Teacher's Academy and 2nd annual Summer Institute, both held in June. Keynote speaker at the academy was Dr. Joseph Torgeson, Director of the Florida Center for Reading Research and a distinguished research professor of psychology and education at Florida State University.

More than 225 teachers and 150 ESE specialists participated in the programs. Both events were held at Piper High School, with additional sessions taking place at Rock Island Professional Development Center and Whiddon-Rogers Education Center.

The main focus of the program was to provide the most updated information relating to writing individual educational plans with a variety of relevant sessions to follow. Some of the topics included differentiated instruction, reading, writing, behavior/discipline, classroom technology, transition, AYP, preschool and support facilitation. Program evaluations were overwhelmingly positive for content, follow-up activities and knowledgeable presenters.



ESE teachers participated in the 2nd Annual Summer Institute.

Eight Schools Named Among Newsweek's Top High Schools

A recent issue of Newsweek Magazine included Marjory Stoneman Douglas Nova, Stranahan, Fort Lauderdale, Flanagan, Plantation, Boyd Anderson and Pembroke Pines Charter high schools among the nation's top schools. The rankings were determined by a ratio that takes into account the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Cambridge tests given at a school in May, divided by the number of seniors graduating in May or June. All of the schools had an index of at least 1.000, placing them in the top five percent of public schools, based on this calculation. Overall, 1,350 public high schools nationwide were recognized by the weekly news magazine.

CAB CORNER

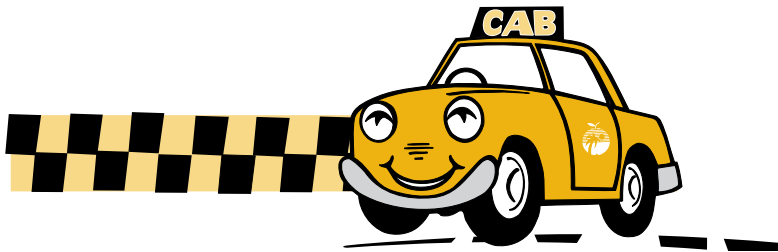
Things to Remember...

Remember to select the correct "Reply" icon. There have been numerous instances when E-mail responses intended for only one or a small number of recipients have been inadvertently sent to a large group. This occurs because the sender unintentionally selects the "Reply to All" icon rather than the "Reply to Sender" icon. This situation can be easily avoided by using the proper icon and by double-checking the address lines of your reply message before sending it. Only those you wish to receive your reply should be listed on the "To" and the "cc" lines of your message. It only takes a few seconds and you can avoid possible embarrassment and the clogging of CAB with messages sent to unintended recipients.

For further CAB learning resources online, visit:
(www.broward.k12.fl.us/cab/learningresources.htm).

Remember that the District's E-mail system (CAB) is intended for school business purposes only. That means E-mail users should not use CAB to convey personal messages or to further private business enterprises or ventures. There are state and federal laws prohibiting the dissemination of E-mail messages that are intended to threaten or intimidate others or to defame the reputation and character of anyone. The District also has its own rules against improper use of E-mail by employees.

For a list of E-mail guidelines, please visit the following Web address:
(www.broward.k12.fl.us/cab/cabdocs/emailguidelines.pdf).



Stranahan High Receives College Board Inspiration Award

Stranahan High School has been recognized by the College Board as one of America's Most Improved High Schools and is a recipient of the group's College Board 2007 Inspiration Award. Stranahan was one of only three schools in the nation to be honored.

Stranahan was honored for improving the academic environment and helping students achieve equitable access to higher education despite social, economic, and cultural challenges. The school received a \$25,000 award to apply toward programs that encourage students to attend college. The award was presented to the school by College Board President and former West Virginia Governor Gaston Caperton during a ceremony in the school's gym. The ceremony was attended by Florida Education Commissioner Jeanine Blumberg, local dignitaries and District officials.

The Inspiration Awards honor those high schools that initiate unique programs and create partnerships among teachers, parents, community organizations, and local businesses to help more students pursue a college education. Stranahan's DragonFest, a school-wide weekly advisory where students learn about college guidelines and postsecondary education, has become a model for other area high schools. Created and guided by teachers, the program encourages excellence with a goal of successful transitions.

Plantation and Flanagan High Schools Earn Top Rocketry Honors

The rocketry teams at Plantation and Charles W. Flanagan high schools earned top honors at the Aerospace Industries Association-sponsored 5th Annual Team America Rocketry Challenge National Finals Fly-Off, held at the Great Meadow Outdoor Center in The Plains, Virginia.

The challenge was to design and build a model rocket carrying one hen egg that would fly to exactly 850 feet, stay aloft for exactly 45 seconds and return to the ground with the egg uncracked. Plantation High School's teams placed sixth (team two) and 16th (team one) overall in the competition, while the team from Charles W. Flanagan High School finished 10th. No other state had two top-10 finishers. One hundred teams from across the nation participated in the event.

Each of the teams finishing in the top ten received individual and school scholarship money, trophies, medals, a personal greeting from Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and an invitation to the nation's capitol. Both District schools also collected partner awards. Charles W. Flanagan's team was recognized for the Best Team Costume, sponsored by the Purdy Corporation, while Plantation High School's team one was honored for having the Largest Registered Team, an award presented by General Electric Company.

Team America Rocketry Challenge 2007 was sponsored by the Aerospace Industries Association and the National Association of Rocketry, with co-sponsorship by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Defense Department, the American Association of Physics Teachers and 38 AIA member companies.



Update Your E-mail Address in PDSS

The District is now using the Professional Development Services System (PDSS) to register and cancel all professional development classes and workshops, so it is important that you verify your E-mail address in PDSS. If your E-mail address is entered incorrectly in the system, you will not receive confirmations when you register for a class or workshop.

Just follow these instructions to verify your E-mail address in PDSS.

1. Go to (www.broward.k12.fl.us/hrd) and click on Registration- PDSS under Quick Links, or go to (www.broward.k12.fl.us/pdss/default2.htm).
2. Click on Manage My Account.
3. Log in.
4. Select Click Here to Update My E-mail Information.
5. If your E-mail address is listed incorrectly, or not listed at all, type in your correct address. Then retype it below to double-check it.
6. Click Update Record.

Don't know your CAB E-mail address? To verify the E-mail address those outside the District must use to send you mail: open CAB; go to BCPS Resources; CAB Resources; Your E-mail Address. The default address listed is the one you should use in PDSS.



Blood Pressure Machine Installed

The Benefits Department, Humana, Inc. and Vista Healthplan have partnered with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation to implement a six-month voluntary program, entitled "BP DownShift," to educate the District's bus drivers about the risks of high blood pressure and to encourage drivers to manage their blood pressure if they are at risk. In 2003, the Department of Transportation's medical guideline for the blood pressure of commercial drivers was made more stringent. It is currently 140/90. Broward County School bus drivers must meet this health standard in order to renew and/or maintain their CDL (Commercial Driver's License) without restriction.

The program began with a Health and Wellness inservice at which time a baseline reading of each driver's blood pressure was taken. Monthly communications will be sent to the participants via the pony and a follow-up blood pressure reading will be taken in February of 2008. Bus drivers who successfully complete the program will be recognized and rewarded for their participation.

An important component of this initiative is the installation of a blood pressure machine in the drivers' lounge at the Central Terminal. Any Broward County School District employee can sit at the machine and have his or her blood pressure taken in less than three minutes. There are also cards provided so that employees can track their blood pressure history and "know their numbers," at all times. If the machine is widely utilized, there are plans to install one at each of the other four Pupil Transportation terminals throughout the county.

To inquire about available on-site wellness services available, please contact the Benefits office at 754-321-3100.

School Capacity Meetings to Discuss Future Class Size

The annual boundary process begins in the fall, as all school communities review alternative student enrollment options for meeting 2008-09 class size reduction goals at the individual classroom level. Although most school boundaries do not change from year to year, boundaries and class size reduction strategies are reviewed annually.

Principals will be scheduling community meetings during the months of August and September to discuss enrollment and capacity options. Participation and input are encouraged. To participate in these meetings, please contact your school principal. The annual boundary process provides multiple opportunities for public input regarding each school's boundary. If you are unable to attend boundary process meetings, you may ask questions or submit input at the School Boundaries Web site (www.browardschools.com/schoolboundaries). If you do not have access to the Internet, contact the School Boundaries office at 754-321-2480.

Betty Reilly Proves Better Late Than Never

An 80-Year Gets Her GED and Enrolls in College

Betty Reilly grew up during the Depression. Her father – a baker and pastry chef – lost his business in the crash of '29. Growing up in New York City where family finances caused her to move from one affordable apartment to the next, she attended numerous elementary and high schools. In 1943, at the height of World War II, 17-year-old Betty's father broke his hand and she had to go to work to help support her family. She continued her studies at night school, completing her coursework but was unable to take her final exams because she contracted hepatitis A and was sidelined for almost a year. By then, she had met her future husband and her focus changed; together they raised five children.

In 1967, Betty and her family moved to Florida. In 1989, her husband passed away and Betty had to return to the workforce. When applying for jobs, Betty would always check the "high school diploma" box on applications, assuming she had her degree. It wasn't until she applied at Westside Regional Library and called New York to obtain a copy of her diploma that she found out that she hadn't actually graduated.

Then, while riding the bus, Betty saw a sign at Bair Middle School promoting the GED program. "I called Judy Pine at the school and she was a wonderful fisherman; she caught this fish and hooked it deep!" Betty went in immediately and took the placement test. "An 800 is the highest mark you can get; I got an 800 on reading and language and only one wrong on science and social studies, but I bombed math! I couldn't even remember how to divide a fraction!" says Betty. So she studied and Judy thought she was ready to retake the math test, but Betty didn't want to just pass it, she wanted to excel in it. So she took the time to learn everything and finally passed her test in March. At the age of 80, Betty had earned her GED.

While studying at the school, Betty helped some of her fellow GED students with their essays. Judy took notice of this and asked Betty to become a volunteer tutor. "I was so proud!" says Betty. She enrolled in Broward Community College with a Pell Grant and has applied for scholarships to help offset the costs. She begins her class work at BCC this fall!

Betty will be spending at least one day a week tutoring students for the GED. "I feel so alive in there," she says. "I actually feel like I'm getting younger and that I'm winding up, rather than winding down. If I could go back at 80, then anyone can go back and learn. It's never too late and I want to be an example of that."

Bit Of History

When the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that public schools must integrate in 1954, Superintendent O.K. Phillips vowed that Broward's schools would remain segregated. But in 1961, Chester Seabury walked through the doors of Stranahan High school. He was the first black student allowed to attend a white public school in the county and, in 1963, he became the first black student in the county to graduate from a previously all white school. In 1977, cross-county busing to integrate all of Broward's public schools began.

Learn more about the history of Broward County Public Schools at (www.browardschools.com/history).

District Honors Outstanding Mentors, Volunteers And Business Partners

In May, the District honored those who dedicate their time and effort to benefit District students and help to improve education in Broward County Public Schools. The Community Involvement Awards event took place at the Broward County Convention Center honoring top mentors, volunteers and business partners.

Mentors Of The Year

Elementary Level – Jeremy Paulin, Harbordale Elementary School
Secondary Level – Aimee Zekofsky, Apollo Middle
Outstanding Mentoring Team of the Year – Lisa Aronson & Angel Clark, Atlantic Technical Center

Volunteers Of The Year

Outstanding Adult Volunteer of the Year – Kimberly Brannin-Pappas, Broadview Elementary School
Outstanding Student Volunteer of the Year – Daniel Balmori, Western High School
Outstanding Senior Volunteer of the Year – Dr. Earl Driscoll, Crystal Lake Middle School
Outstanding Program Organizer of the Year – Laurel R-Love, Sandpiper Elementary School

District Partnerships

Outstanding District Partnerships of the Year - The Miami Dolphins; The Sun-Sentinel
District Partnerships of Merit - BankAtlantic; Comcast; Pediatric Associates; Winn Dixie

School-based Partnerships

Outstanding School-Based Partnerships of the Year - Elementary Level
Hollywood Central Elementary with First Presbyterian Church
North Fork Elementary with Holland & Knight LLP
Sandpiper Elementary with Nova Southeastern University, College of Pharmacy

Outstanding School-Based Partnership of the Year – Middle School Level
Sawgrass Springs Middle and Coral Glades High with Sawgrass Nature Center and Wildlife Animal Hospital

Outstanding School-Based Partnership of the Year – High School Level
South Plantation High with South Florida Water Management District

Outstanding School-Based Partnership of the Year – Adult, Technical and Special Education Centers
Whispering Pines Center with Memorial Healthcare Systems

School-Based Partnerships of Merit – Elementary Level
Broadview Elementary with Sunshine Child Programs; Broadview Elementary with University Hospital and Medical Center; Country Hills Elementary with Big Brothers Big Sisters; Dolphin Bay Elementary with ATA Blackbelt Academy; Eagle Point with American Café; Flamingo Elementary with Western High; Hollywood Park Elementary with Southwest Airlines; Indian Trace Elementary with the 17th Judicial Circuit; Norcrest Elementary with North Broward Medical Center; Virginia Shuman Young Elementary with O.R. Colan Associates; Wilton Manors Elementary with City of Wilton Manors

School-Based Partnerships of Merit – Middle School Level
New River Middle Marine Magnet with the Marine Industries Association of

South Florida; New River Middle with Nova Southeastern University, Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship; H.D. Perry Middle School with Eastern Financial Florida Credit Union; Rickards Middle with Outback Steakhouse; Seminole Middle with City of Plantation

School-Based Partnerships of Merit – High School Level

Coconut Creek High with Northwest Medical Center; Cooper City High with City of Cooper City; Cooper City High with Plantation Courtyard by Marriott; Northeast High with the City of Oakland Park, Parks and Recreation Department; Plantation High with the Internal Revenue Service; Stoneman Douglas High with Multiple Partners; Stranahan High with Broward County Government, Broward Community College, North Broward Hospital District and CH2M Hill

School-Based Partnerships of Merit – Adult, Technical and Special Education Centers Level

Bright Horizons Center with BankAtlantic; Whiddon-Rogers Education Center with Nova Southeastern University

Broward County Public Schools thanks the following sponsors for their commitment to the students, families and communities of Broward County.

Platinum Sponsors - Fischler School of Education & Human Services, Nova Southeastern University; Sunshine Child Programs

Silver Sponsors - After School Programs, Inc.; BankAtlantic; BrightStar Credit Union; Comcast; Miami Dolphins; Moss & Associates; Skanska USA Building; Soreff JCC After School Program; YMCA of Broward

Copper Sponsors - Commerce Bank; Florida Marlins; Hinson Office Supply; Humana; Pepsi Americas; Publix Super Markets

Bronze Sponsors - Holland & Knight LLP; Vista Healthplans



Driftwood Middle School, Pompano Beach High Honored By Magnet Schools Of America

Driftwood Middle School and Pompano Beach High School received Magnet Schools of Merit awards, presented by the Magnet Schools of America (MSA) organization. The awards are presented to the top magnet schools in the United States, based on their commitment to high academic standards, curriculum innovation, successful desegregation/diversity efforts and the consistent delivery of quality services to all school stakeholders.

Driftwood Middle School also received the organization's National Magnet School of Distinction award for the fifth time. Driftwood Middle was the first magnet school in the nation to have a health and wellness theme. The program has served as a model for schools across the state and nation interested in creating similar themes. Driftwood is one of only 59 magnet schools to receive the award.

Both Driftwood Middle and Pompano Beach High School, which specializes in International Affairs and Information Technology, were honored at the 25th Magnet Schools of America Conference, held in Las Vegas.

School Board In Action

Portions Of Northeast Fourth Avenue Renamed "Flying L Drive"

The Board passed a resolution of support for the renaming of portions of Northeast Fourth Avenue as "Flying L Drive." Fort Lauderdale High School is the oldest high school in Broward County and its "Flying L" mascot, a large-winged blue L with an arrow through the center, was first displayed at a 1917 state track meet.

Weather Tracking Station Sensors Purchased

The Board approved the purchase of weather station sensors and camera equipment to be utilized in conjunction with the District's weather detection alert notification system (WeatherBug). The new equipment

will be installed on various school hurricane shelter locations to optimize sensing of impending storms and provide live camera views for physical verification of current weather conditions.

Shortage Of Media Specialists Addressed

The Board approved a partnership agreement with Florida State University (FSU) designed to address a severe shortage of school library media specialists. Through the partnership, Florida State University Learning Systems Institute will assist with recruiting and educating six teacher leaders who will become school library leaders through the 1-2-3 LEAD (leaders educated to make a difference) Project.

This column is designed to update you about actions taken at recent meetings and other activities of the Broward County School Board.

Thank You!

Facilities Service Personnel Deserve Thanks

Over the summer months, facilities service personnel at all the District facilities have been hard at work getting ready for the new school year. Making repairs, stripping floors and other duties have required that some facilities personnel teams put in 15-hour days. They have gone above and beyond the call of duty to be certain their school is ready for students. All the District's dedicated Facilities Service Personnel deserve our thanks.



Broward School Beat Takes Home Two Silver Telly Awards

Broward School Beat (BSB), BECON TV's Emmy Award-winning series, was recently honored with two Silver Telly Awards. Founded in 1978, the Telly Awards honor outstanding local, regional and cable television programs. Of the 13,000+ entries received this year in 2007, only seven percent earned the organization's highest honor, the Silver Telly.

Broward School Beat is a 30-minute, news magazine television program that highlights the positive stories happening everyday in Broward County Public Schools.

"I feel very honored to have won," says Jim Guarasci, the program's producer. "While many people at BECON-TV help to make this show a success, it's the teachers and students of Broward County Public Schools who deserve a great deal of the credit. They truly make my job easy because they are doing incredible things and it is my pleasure to highlight their achievements on *Broward School Beat*."

Multicultural Department Receives Award for Helping to Acclimate Refugees

Broward County Public Schools' Multicultural Department recently received the ASPIRA Leadership Through Education Award from the organization's Broward County Division. The name ASPIRA is derived from the Spanish word "aspirar," which means to aspire, and it reflects the organization's mission: to develop better educated, more community conscious Latino and minority youth.

ASPIRA honored the department for its MOSAIC (Multicultural Opportunities for Social, Academic and Intergenerational Competence) project. Through the project, the department collaborates with the Broward County Library and other community organizations (including ASPIRA) to provide after-school academic, literacy, life skills and technology outreach programs to K-12th grade refugee students and their families. Department staff also provided training to library staff and community partners on accessing online academic and student services resources through the District's Web site (www.browardschools.com) and by teaching academic content areas to refugee children and youth.

Refugee parents participate by attending workshops to become informed and involved in their children's academic achievement and personal growth. Parents also learn about library and District and community programs that focus upon refugee families' needs.

District Receives Energy Leadership Award

Rob Jindracek, Manager, Energy Conservation & Utility Management Department, was presented with an Energy Leadership Award on behalf of Broward County Public Schools at the 18th Annual United States Energy Association's Energy Efficiency Forum, held in Washington, D.C. Jindracek was one of two recipients of the Public Service award, recognizing a current or former federal or state government official (non-elected) who has addressed energy efficiency in government operations and has served as an advocate of energy efficiency. "This award belongs to Broward County Public Schools and is a representation of the District and the Board's commitment to energy conservation," Jindracek said. Jindracek's department is responsible for ensuring energy efficient operations and maintaining building automation and security systems at more than 260 school facilities in Broward County. Members of the department, charged with managing an annual utility budget exceeding \$70 million, have successfully led programs to reduce the District's utility bills by \$10.25 million.

Special Ceremonies

Hallandale Elementary School Hosts Dedication Ceremony

Superintendent James F. Notter, District 1 School Board Member Eleanor Sobel, Hallandale Mayor Joy Cooper and City Commissioner Dottie Ross were among those administrators and city officials who joined students, faculty, staff and parents of Hallandale Elementary School to officially dedicate and celebrate Hallandale Elementary School's "new" replacement school facility. The event included a time capsule presentation and ribbon-cutting ceremony. Hallandale Elementary School was the first school in Broward County to implement a modified, year-round, multi-track educational calendar. The new school facility – which was constructed on 10 acres at a cost of nearly \$19,500,000 – is home to 1,250 students and also boasts new softball, baseball and soccer fields.

Sunrise Middle School and Norcrest Elementary Celebrate 50th Anniversaries

Sunrise Middle School – which originally opened its doors in 1957 as a junior high school – marked its 50th anniversary recently with a community-wide celebration dubbed, "Celebrating 50 Years of Shining Stars." Students, faculty, staff, parents and District officials and administrators joined by City of Fort Lauderdale Mayor Jim Naugle, Sunrise Middle School alumni, friends and community members to commemorate this occasion.

Norcrest Elementary School in Pompano Beach – which first opened its doors to the community in 1957 – marked its 50th anniversary with an all-school, all-community celebration. Held on the school's P.E. field, the event included entertainment and performances by the school's chorus groups and chime ringers as well as a tree dedication ceremony and a "Reflection of the '60s" slide show. School Board member Dr. Robert D. Parks attended, as did numerous Pompano Beach civic and community leaders. The celebration also included a presentation by Dr. Frank J. Cavaioli, professor emeritus and author of Pompano Beach – a history of the city of Pompano Beach.

Groundbreaking Celebrations Held For Two Pompano Beach Schools

The District celebrated two groundbreaking ceremonies in Pompano Beach recently, the first for Pompano Beach Middle School and the second for Cypress Run Education Center.

Pompano Beach Middle School's ceremony marked the beginning of an extensive remodeling, renovation and campus expansion project. At an estimated cost of \$12 million, the first phase of the three-phase construction overhaul will feature a new cafeteria, kitchen and multipurpose building and an eight-classroom modular addition. Later phases of the project are scheduled to include a remodeled television production facility for the communications and broadcast arts magnet school; music and band classrooms; and art, technology, and family and consumer science labs. When completed, the project will also have a playfield and sports complex, including a new running track, baseball field, tennis courts, basketball courts and equipment storage.

Cypress Run Education Center broke ground on its long-awaited new facility, which will replace the present portable site. Cypress Run is a disciplinary school that strives to provide quality education to students in a positive learning environment; it currently serves students in grades six through 12, however, the new replacement school is designed to expand educational opportunities to students in grades K through 12. The new \$14 million two-story facility will be built on nearly six acres. The 60,000 square foot school will house 21 classrooms, 240 student stations and labs for culinary, science, art, agricultural and technology.

JROTC Cadets Attend Summer Leadership Development Camp



More than 300 Broward County Public Schools Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) cadets spent a week at the Boy Scout Camp Tannah Keeta Scout Reservation in northern Palm Beach County for the JROTC Summer Leadership Development Camp (a/k/a Camp Challenge).

Male and female cadets from 23 high schools participated in character, leadership and team building activities throughout the six-day camp experience, enabling the cadets to experience various leadership positions. In addition to providing an opportunity for individual leadership growth, students participated in physical fitness training and activities, such as rappelling, ropes courses, land navigation, water survival and a leadership reaction course. All of the training is designed to boost an individual cadet's confidence and pride in accomplishment.

"Camp Challenge is a high adventure experience exercise for our cadets," explains Colonel James Armstrong, District JROTC coordinator. "It's the annual opportunity for our cadets to interact with their counterparts from other schools in a field setting and it's the prime time for them to display their talents and skills. The mission of the camp is to build self-confidence and personal character and to motivate these young people to become better citizens."

Teachers Recognized for Use of Technology

The District recognized 32 teachers who submitted award-winning or honorable mention technology projects at the Fifth Annual Virtual Technology Recognition Project Celebration, held at the Kathleen C. Wright Administration Center. Teachers submitted standards-based, curriculum-driven, technology-rich projects for judging. In addition to recognizing the winning teacher projects, selected projects created by students in those teachers' classrooms will be highlighted during the program via multi-media presentations. Students attending the program will also be recognized. Both teacher and student projects will be posted on the Broward Enterprise Education (teacher) Portal (BEEP) so they can serve as models for other teachers in the District. Teachers with winning projects will receive technology-based prizes to be used in their classrooms. The Virtual Technology Recognition Project has continued to grow over the past five years, with 75 projects submitted this year.

Virtual Technology Project Top 10 Winners

Charlotta Rody, Cross Creek School
Cheryl Zuckerman, Dillard High School
Margie Rohrbach & Dr. Margery Marcus, Atlantic Technical High School
Robyn Burke & Carrie Hale, Indian Ridge Middle School
Christina Lambard, Westglades Middle School
David Schulman, Pioneer Middle School
Valerie Vazquez, Indian Ridge Middle School
Heather Most & Malecia Lee, Nob Hill Elementary
Joseph Fursetzer, Coral Springs Elementary
Sheri Dominguez, Palmview Elementary



Yvette Fernández

Parent Outreach Specialist Honored

Yvette Fernández, Parent Outreach Specialist in the Multicultural & ESOL Program Services Education Department, was recently recognized at the 6th Annual Hispanic Women of Distinction Charity Awards Luncheon, held at the Signature Grand. More than 800 guests attended the luncheon to honor 12 distinguished women of Hispanic ethnicity for their significant contributions to the community while maintaining their culture and traditions.

Fernández is a firm believer that immigrant students and their families must be assisted as they navigate through a new culture and secure an education. "I'm fortunate to be able to assist them in realizing their dreams," Fernández said. In collaboration with the ESOL Leadership Council, she has been able to increase the flow of information to parents by launching a parent Web site (www.browardesolparents.com) in Spanish, Haitian-Creole and Portuguese that enables immigrant families to access a myriad of resources to fulfill their students' needs.



Dr. Thomas Blomberg, Dean and Sheldon L. Messinger Professor of Criminology, Florida State University congratulates Region 5 Juvenile Justice Teacher of the Year, Nancy Smith.

Whiddon-Rogers Educator Named 2006 Regional Juvenile Justice Teacher of the Year

Nancy Smith, an alternative education teacher at Whiddon-Rogers Education Center, was named 2006 Regional Juvenile Justice Teacher of the Year. This honor recognizes the contributions of classroom teachers in Department of

Juvenile Justice (DJJ) facilities who demonstrate a superior capacity to inspire a love of learning in students of all backgrounds and ability levels.

National Foundation Recognizes District's Fostering Student Success Program

Broward County Public Schools has been recognized by Casey Family Programs, a Seattle-based foundation charged with providing and improving foster care for its outstanding Fostering Student Success Program.

Recognizing that foster children are at inherently greater risk of not being successful academically, the program is designed to specifically support the educational stability and achievement of students in foster care. It addresses such issues as identification of foster care students, information sharing mechanisms, educational stability, transportation, identification of ESE students, surrogate parent needs and the reduction of barriers to school registration.

Overseen by the Dropout Prevention Department, the Fostering Student Success Program is a collaborative effort with other District departments, including Pupil Transportation, Food and Nutrition Services and Student Support Services/ESE. External partners in the effort include the Florida Department of Children and Families, ChildNet and WorkForce One.

Sports-Oriented Rewards Motivate Students to Read

The "Tickets to Reading Rewards" (TTRR) program is a motivational activity for middle school students, sponsored by the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC). Students all over the nation are encouraged to read books to earn prizes during the contest period, which began on January 16th and ended May 4th. Twenty-one Broward middle schools and two centers participated. Based upon the number of books they read, students received a one-year subscription to *Sports Illustrated for Kids*, sports equipment and even medals and trophies. A foster student at Whispering Pines School was so thrilled to have received "mail" that he brought the first issue of the magazine in to school to show his teacher the day after he received it! For information on this project, call Barbara Theis at 754-321-7670.

Nova High Teacher Attends National Seminars

Nova High School teacher Michelle Sammartino loves her job and she loves to travel. She had the pleasure of combining both loves this summer when she was chosen as one of 30 educators nationwide to attend summer seminars through the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and one of 50 selected to attend the Landmarks of American History Workshops offered by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The topic of the summer seminar, held at Stanford University, was Interpreting the Constitution. The NEH workshop, held at the FDR Presidential Library in Hyde Park, New York, focused on FDR and the World Crisis, 1933 – 1945.



Noelle A. Mecoli, Demographer Specialist is congratulated by Jack Dangermond, President of ESRI and his wife, Laura, co-founder of ESRI.

District Demographer Places Second at Competition

Two maps created by Noelle Mecoli, a Demographer Specialist in the School Boundaries Department, took second place in the "most unique" mapping category at the Environmental Systems Research Institute's International User Conference held in San Diego in June. More than 800 maps were entered in

the competition, which drew 14,000 attendees from all over the world. Students of the Caribbean was the theme Mecoli chose for her maps, which showed the diversity of students who attend Broward County Public Schools from nations in and around the Caribbean Sea. She made the original version and a version that looked "antique."

Video Conferencing Program Yields Japan/U.S. Student Friendships

BECON Distance Learning recently held a reception to celebrate the visit of four Japanese high school students who formed friendships with Broward students through a recent videoconferencing program. Since 2001, Broward County high school students have had the opportunity to interact virtually with a group of students at Takizawa High School in Chiba, Japan. The students gather monthly to exchange information and make presentations on their respective cultures. Each month, the teens are given a different theme, covering everything from music to holidays to the prices of goods in each country. The two-way interaction provides a completely unique and engaging way of learning about different cultures. A translator helps with communication.

For more information on BECON's broadcast or instructional programming, visit (www.becon.tv) or call 754-321-1000.



Henry L. Brown

Administrator Named to International Advisory Board

Henry L. Brown, Assistant Principal at Hallandale Adult & Community Center, was recently selected to serve on the International Advisory Board for FCR-STEM (Florida Center for Research in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics). FCR-STEM is a newly created multi-disciplinary research center funded by the Florida Legislature to help improve the state's K-12 teaching and learning in science, mathematics and technology and prepare students – not only for higher education – but also careers in those fields.

Brown was Broward's Teacher of the Year and the State of Florida's Teacher of the Year in 2002. He was also a finalist for National Teacher of the Year.

Virginia Shuman Young Earns Grant

Virginia Shuman Young Elementary recently received the National School and Business Partnerships Award, created by The Council for Corporate and School Partnerships. The award recognizes the school's partnership with O.R. Colan Associates and its Pay It Forward/Peace Education initiative. The school will receive a \$10,000 grant to further support this partnership effort.

The partnership between the school and O.R. Colan Associates focuses on the goal of peace and character education. O.R. Colan Associates committed to join with the school to create a project dedicated to implementing the peace curriculum of Dr. Maria Montessori. They worked together to establish a Peace Garden, featuring a peace meditation labyrinth and a peace pole. The school's students, parents, teachers and staff utilize the garden for a variety of special events, reflections, meditations and ceremonies. The company also purchased a variety of "peace" books for the school's media center and made a financial contribution to assist families in need within the school community. The partnership has impacted student achievement and school improvement by decreasing inappropriate behavior – including bullying – and increasing the students' understanding of positive character traits.



Evelyn A. Nelson

Distance Learning Teacher Earns Excellence Award

BECON distance learning teacher Dr. Evelyn Nelson has been honored with a Platinum 2007 Excellence in Distance Learning Teaching Award, presented by the United States Distance Learning Association. This award is the premier form of recognition for the distance learning industry.

The honor is the latest of many for Dr. Nelson, a Sunrise resident with more than 30 years of teaching experience. She teaches elementary language arts and Social Studies through literature-based videoconferencing programs. Her unique lesson plans use music and art to make the material exciting for students.

BCPS Soccer League

Cheer on your co-workers!

Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Nova High School

Season runs September 14 through December 15

For more information, contact Jaime Gentile via CAB E-mail.

Up Close and Personal With ...



Debra Oistacher Career Placement Facilitator

Work location: Atlantic Technical Center and Technical High School

Broward County Public Schools employee since: 1986

Most memorable work accomplishment: Assisting a quadriplegic high school student enter the drafting program and successfully complete the program; he was subsequently able to enter the private employment sector

Why I became a teacher: My junior high history teacher inspired me to be a teacher; she was a strict, no nonsense teacher who made history come alive for me. Movies such as To Sir With Love and Up The Down Staircase inspired me to teach in inner city schools

I'm motivated by: Enthusiasm, positive energy, humor and by assisting others to be successful

If I hadn't chosen teaching as a profession, I would be: A comedy writer for Mad Magazine, Saturday Night Live or the Daily Report with Jon Stewart

What I like most about my job: The sense of accomplishment and teamwork. Our team provides ESE students ages 18-21 that have earned their special diploma assistance an opportunity to successfully transition from school to post-school adult life utilizing on-the-job training opportunities within the community. My job is a dream come true!

I'm currently reading: *Fish! Tales: Real-Life Stories to Help You Transform Your Workplace And Your Life*

Favorite saying: If life gives you lemons, make lemonade

If I won the lottery: I would provide financial security for my family and expanding opportunities for others through philanthropic ventures

Something you probably didn't know about me: I was the Oklahoma Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies State Coordinator and helped to write and pass two prenatal healthcare bills at the state level.

Three words that describe me best: Optimistic, enthusiastic and determined

Favorite movie: To Kill a Mockingbird

Best advice I ever received: Came from my father, who advised me to look at a situation through the eyes of others and try to consider their ideals and feelings

Nominated for this profile by: Angela Amberg and others in the Career Placement Team at Atlantic Technical Center

Teaching and Leadership Center Awarded \$2.3 Million Grant

Broward County Public Schools is the recipient of the prestigious United States Department of Education's Transition to Teaching (TTT) grant for the third time in seven years. Of the 117 applicants nationwide, Broward has been honored as one of only two districts in Florida for its strategically innovative services to non-education trained professionals changing careers and entering the education profession. The five-year \$2.3 million grant – written in collaboration with the Grants Administration Department – will be administered through the Human Resources Division's Teaching and Leadership Center (TLC).

The grant initiative, entitled Project PROMISE (Partners Responding with Options furthering the Mission to Increase Success for Educators), creates a model Alternative Certification Center at the Teaching and Leadership Center that serves as a comprehensive resource for all of the District's alternative certification candidates. Project PROMISE provides a coordinated plan to both prepare and provide professional certification routes to 375 quality mid-career professionals and recent college graduates who will teach in Broward's high-need schools in the critical subject areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science and special education.

Project PROMISE also focuses on improving teacher candidate selection through the use of a validated and reliable selection tool, and providing innovative pre-induction and induction services with strong mentoring activities specific to the needs of non-traditional candidates. Project PROMISE will begin delivering services in October 2007 in collaboration with its higher education partners (Florida Atlantic University's College of Education and Nova Southeastern University) and community partners IBM and WorkForce One. To learn more about Project PROMISE, visit (www.coe.fau.edu/tlc).

Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence named Laureate and Finalist



Bob Carrigan, President, IDG Communications and Chairman of the Computerworld Honors Program Chairmen's Committee congratulates Phyllis Chasser, Ph.D., Senior Data Warehouse Analyst.

Broward County Public Schools was named as a "Laureate" for 2007 in the Computerworld Honors Program, and was also a finalist in the Education and Academia Category for the 21st Century Achievement Awards, awarded by the Computerworld Information Technology Awards Foundation. Laureate medals were presented and the finalists announced at events held at the Andrew Mellon Auditorium in Washington, DC.

The District was recognized for its Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence. Business intelligence (BI) is a business management term, which refers to applications and technologies that are used to gather, provide access to and analyze data and information about company operations. Broward uses the data warehouse as a BI tool to help students.

Portable Media Player Project Extends Learning Environment



Pictured (l to r) are Daryl Diamond, Ph.D., Maurice Rancourt, and Tony Dutra

An innovative project dubbed IDEA (Individual Device Enabling Access) was developed and implemented last year at New River Middle School's magnet for marine science. The goal of IDEA is to promote innovative instruction through the integration of technology that improves the academic performance of students. The program involves training gifted students to load

educational software and course content on portable media players and then have those students train Exceptional Student Education (ESE) and English Language Learners (ELL) students to use the devices as well as mentor them on the best ways to use the devices to improve their academic performance.

The mentoring component allowed administrators to monitor the reading proficiency improvements of both the ELL and ESE students through the use of the media players and the corresponding software. By the end of the testing period, reading proficiency among the ESE students improved by 30 words per minute.

Developed by Dr. Daryl Diamond, Assistant Director of the Enterprise Change Management team of the District's BRITE Project, and Tony Dutra, Hallandale Adult Community Center's Lead Teacher in the Technology infused Program, IDEA came to fruition with the help of Maurice Rancourt of the Education Technology Services (ETS) department.

An ARCHOS portable media player was selected for the project. It is similar to a video iPod but it has a larger screen. The device has recording capabilities and can read PDF documents.

Gifted/magnet students were trained by the technology staff at ETS and further supported by individual curriculum/technology personnel, including Rebecca Smith at New River Middle School, who mentored them through the entire process.

The team presented the project and its findings at the United States Distance Learning Association National Conference held in Kansas City in May, and Diamond, Dutra and Rancourt were also selected to present the study at the Just Read, Florida! state conference held in August in Orlando.

The IDEA project will continue in the 2007/08 school year at Hallandale Adult Community Center offering a new approach to technology infusion with middle school students, and at Dillard High School in sign language classes.

Each year, members of the Computerworld Honors Chairmen's Committee, a group of 100 Chairmen/CEOs from leading global Information Technology companies, nominate organizations they feel demonstrate extraordinary use of information technology.

Broward County Public Schools has been committed to better serving schools and the community through the use of technology for more than a decade. By developing its Data Warehouse and Virtual Counselor interface, the District has created a business intelligence solution that gives teachers, school administrators and district personnel the ability to understand the potential of every child, tailor educational pathways, and engage in more meaningful dialogue with students and their families.

Appointments & Reassignments

May 8, 2007 - The Board approved the following appointment: **Julie Franciosi-Jackson**, Interim Assistant Principal, New Renaissance Middle.

May 22, 2007 - The Board approved the following appointments: **Deanna Greist**, Specialist, Dropout Prevention/Program Development and Improvement and **Kevin Jackson**, Area Supervisor I, Maintenance.

June 5, 2007 - The Board approved the following appointments: **Karl Bartch**, BECON Station Manager; **Rodolfo Brambier**, Process Analyst, ERP (Business Warehouse/Payroll Reporting); **Antonio Brihm**, Supervisor, Payroll; **Cynthia Wade**, Manager, ERP (Finance); **Karl Yeats**, Specialist, Testing and **Bette Zippin**, Director, Professional Development Support. *Interim Principals:* **Michael Breslaw**, Deerfield Beach Elementary; **Angela Brown**, Pine Ridge Education Center; **Lisa George**, Lauderhill Paul Turner Elementary; **Tammy Gilbert**, Silver Lakes Elementary; **Pamela Govoni**, Lloyd Estates Elementary; **James Griffin**, Rock Island Elementary; **Lewis Jackson**, Sunshine Elementary; **Kelvin Lee**, Lanier-James Education Center; **David Levine**, Liberty Elementary; **Jon Marlow**, Deerfield Beach High; **Bradford Mattair**, Parkway Middle; **Amanda Miles**, Coral Park Elementary; **Harold "Chip" Osborn**, Hollywood Hills High; **Elaine Saef**, Panther Run Elementary; **JoEllen Scott**, Bayview Elementary; **Kathryn Sullivan**, Silver Lakes Middle; **Theodore Toomer**, Markham Elementary and **Jonathan Williams**, Northeast High.

June 19, 2007 - The Board approved the following appointments: **Lindiwe Ashton** and **Danielle Kerry**, Specialist, Employee Relations; **Darren Jones**, Interim Principal, McNicol Middle; *Interim Assistant Principals:* **Michelle Alvarez**, New Renaissance Middle; **Ducarmel Augustin**, Lauderdale Lakes Middle; **Steven Carruth**, Lyons Creek Middle; **Latonya Cooper**, Norcrest Elementary; **Vincent Dawes**, Forest Hills Elementary; **Darlene Escudero**, Panther Run Elementary; **Maria Formoso**, Deerfield Beach High; **Angel Gomez**, Coconut Creek High; **Nicole Grosvenor**, Pompano Beach Middle; **Julio Gonzalez**, McArthur High; **Gastring Harrigan**, Pine Ridge Alternative Center; **William Hartner**, Charles Drew Elementary; **Christine Henschel**, Cypress Bay High; **Cornelia Hoff**, Hollywood Hills High; **Troy Holding**, Hallandale Elementary; **Melissa Holtz**, Bennett Elementary; **Leena Itty**, Margate Middle; **Craig Lehaupt**, North Andrews Gardens Elementary; **Christina Monroe**, Whispering Pines School; **Angie Moodliyar**, Griffin Elementary; **Shawyn Newman**, Everglades High; **Thomas Santino**, Flanagan High; **Vanessa Schnur**, Broadview Elementary; **Jackson Self**, Orange Brook Elementary; **Taina Sierra**, New River Middle; **Chelsea Smith**, North Fork Elementary; **Terry Tait**, Attucks Middle; **Heidi Thomas**, Blanche Ely High; **Andrew Thornberry**, Ramblewood Elementary; **Amy Winder**, North Side Elementary and **Nichele Williams**, Silver Lakes Middle.

The Board also approved the following reassignments: *Assistant Principals:* **Gary Adkins**, Rickards Middle; **Bernard Bell**, Coral Springs High; **Raheela Bello**, Nova Middle; **Colleen Burke**, Miramar High; **Clarissa Coddington**, Bair Middle; **Thomas Correa**, Cooper City High; **Katherine Donovan**, Sawgrass Springs Middle; **Monty Escabi**, South Plantation High; **Thomas Fegers**, New River Middle; **Frances Fuce-Ollivierre**, Lloyd Estates Elementary; **Rhoda Gawlowski**, Indian Ridge Middle; **Katherine Good**, Coral Park Elementary; **Horace Hamm**, Lyons Creek Middle; **Pamela Huxhold**, Deerfield Beach Elementary; **David Johnson**, New Renaissance Middle; **Susan Kincaid**, Gulfstream Middle; **Donald Lee**, Oakland Park Elementary; **Lisa Mays**, Rock Island Elementary; **John Murphy**, Coral Springs High; **Keith Peters**, Lauderhill Paul Turner Elementary; **Michael Ramirez**, Blanche Ely High; **Suzanne Romanoff**, Floranada Elementary; **Cheryl Rubin**, Plantation Middle; **David Suarez**, Nob Hill Elementary; **Pura Tamayo**, Coconut Creek High; **Marshall Thomas**, Stoneman Douglas High; **Pamela Voss**, Coral Springs High and **Lorenzo Wood**, Blanche Ely High. *Interim Assistant Principals:* **Donna Boruch**, Larkdale Elementary; **Ben Reeves**, Millennium Middle and **Paul Satty**, Coral Glades High.

Construction Career Day Scheduled

The Broward County School District will be participating in the annual Construction Career Days (CCD) from October 29th through October 31st. This national event is sponsored by the Florida Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the highway construction/consulting industry. It's designed to improve the image and understanding of the excellent careers available in this industry.

CCD will introduce students to road and bridge construction career opportunities in a hands-on learning lab environment. The event serves as an interactive "career fair extravaganza" where students can observe demonstrations and experience industry work elements such as surveying and engineering.

More than 500 11th - and 12th - graders will take part for four hours during one of the three-days during the event, which will take place at the Bergeron Rodeo Arena in Davie. Transportation and lunch will be provided free of charge to all students and chaperones. Each participating high school is responsible for providing chaperone and substitute coverage, adhering to School Board Policy 6303 regarding chaperones.

Principals' designees should E-mail School to Career Coordinator Deborah Wells with the preferred date and total number of students that will participate in the Construction Fair by October 15th. She may also be contacted her for more information at 754-321-2536.

Students To Experience Workplace

Broward County Public Schools will once again facilitate the annual Groundhog Job Shadowing event from January 28th through February 1st, 2008. Designed for high school juniors and seniors, job shadowing is a national effort to enrich the lives of students by acquainting them with the world of work through on-the-job experiences and a school curriculum that ties academics to the workplace. The initiative is designed to give students an up-close look at the world of work by experiencing a normal workday on the job that answers their age-old question, "Why do I have to learn this?"

The Groundhog Job Shadowing initiative is designed to:

- demonstrate the connection between academics and careers, encouraging students to learn by making their class work more relevant;
- build community partnerships between schools and businesses that enhance the educational experience of all students;
- introduce students to the requirements of professions and industries to help them prepare to join the workforce of the 21st century;
- encourage an ongoing relationship between young people and caring adults; and
- ensure that students in need of additional services or programs are linked to other appropriate services/organizations/agencies.

Principals' designees must submit the names of juniors and seniors interested in participating in this event by November 30th. The School to Career Department is looking forward to working with all schools as it launches its young people toward college, careers and beyond. For more information, please contact School to Career's Coordinator Deborah Wells at 754-321-2536.

Attendance Policy Changes

Regular school attendance is vitally important to a student's academic achievement. For that reason and, in order to meet a requirement set by the state that school districts establish a definition of a "pattern of non-attendance," changes to the District's attendance policy were adopted by Broward's School Board at its July 24th meeting.

It is very important for parents to carefully review and sign the copy of the Code of Student Conduct they receive at the beginning of the school year. Information regarding attendance policy changes is also posted on the District's Web site (www.browardschools.com). Additional information can be found on the School Social Work and Attendance Department's Web site (www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentsupport/school_social_work_services/contacts.html). Parents with questions about the policy changes should contact their home school or the School Social Work and Attendance Department, 754-321-2490.

We Want to Hear From You

Communications & Media Relations welcomes and looks forward to your response to our District newsletter. Based on your feedback, we'll make sure that we focus on topics and stories that matter to you. If you have news, ideas or suggestions to share with us for stories and features in future issues, please let us know by completing and returning this form. We also welcome your ideas and suggestions on ways we can improve Broward County Public Schools.

You can fax the completed form to 754-321-2318, send it via "pony" to Communications & Media Relations Department, KCW, 7th Floor or mail it to Communications & Media Relations Department, Broward County Public Schools, 600 S.E. 3rd Avenue, 7th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. You can also contact us through our Intranet page at ([web/communications](#)). Thanks for reading *The 411 - News You Can Use About Broward Schools*.

Please print or type:

Name _____ School/Division/Department _____
 Phone (Day) _____ (After School) _____ (Fax) _____
 Principal/Administrator _____
 Comments/Suggestions/Ideas _____

My suggestion for a future employee profile in the "Up Close and Personal With" section is:

Employee's Name _____ School/Division/Department _____

Communications & Media Relations
 600 SE 3rd Avenue, 7th Floor
 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
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Making Plans?

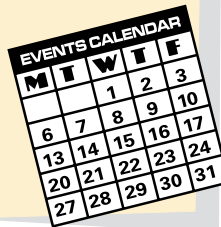
Remember to check the District Events Calendar

As the District continues to grow, planning major events with dates, times and locations that don't conflict becomes a bigger challenge - which is why the District Events Calendar was created.

The purpose of the calendar is to publish the dates of events that our School Board members, the Superintendent or Senior Management may be expected to attend within the county, and to avoid conflicting dates or times for events where their attendance is anticipated or required.

Before planning any major event - please consult the District Events Calendar. It's a valuable tool and it's right at your fingertips on the Intranet at [web/communications](#).

If you have an event you'd like to have placed on the calendar, please contact the Communications & Media Relations Department at 754-321-2300 - certain restrictions apply.



the 411

News You Can Use About Broward Schools

This newsletter is published four times each year by, for and about the employees of Broward County Public Schools. It is also available on the District Web site (www.browardschools.com). We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you have information or story ideas you would like to submit for consideration, please complete the form on the top of this page or E-mail your submission to the Communications & Media Relations Department via the Intranet: ([web/communications](#))



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