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It seems like I blinked and the 2018-19 school year is drawing to a close. As students and staff across Broward County count the days until summer break, I want to thank the community members and volunteers who have contributed to student success. I strongly believe it takes a community to provide the support students need to reach their highest potential. I look forward to officiating and congratulating the students at upcoming graduations for District 3 high schools, Fort Lauderdale High, Northeast High, Stranahan High and Sheridan Technical High School. These are perhaps the most rewarding moments of being a School Board member. I especially enjoy having an opportunity to share my thoughts with the students, and provide encouragement for the journey they are about to embark on.

For our younger students and parents in search of summer activities to engage their intellectual abilities, go to <https://www.browardschools.com/summerprograms>. You will also find a listing for summer camps and academic enrichment programs. For students who have been identified as in need of remediation, *Third Grade Summer Academy* begins on Monday, June 24, 2019, and ends on Thursday, July 25, 2019.

Lastly, I have three appointment vacancies to fill for the coming year on the Diversity Committee, Human Relations Committee and Facilities Task Force. Interested residents please call my office at 754-321-2003, so we may get a little information on your background and provide details such as committee purpose, meeting location, dates and times. Here are a few of the highlights from the District 3 high schools this quarter:

### **District 3 Happenings**

- *News from Northeast High –On the Academic Front:* NEHS is offering two Embry Riddle Aeronautical University dual enrollment courses next year. Student will have the opportunity to earn 6 college credits and sit for certification for a professional, FAA approved drone pilot's license. *NEHS's passing rate for Cambridge AICE was 91% last year!* Everyone is excited about the Rock Star teachers and students who made this happen! *Speaking of Rock Stars – check out* <https://t.co/oMUuGV5zpH> , an Educator Case Study by Lemelson-MIT on NEHS's very own **Clara Mabour**, former student and InvenTeam member of the very first team that went on to win a \$10,000 grant, and who came home to teach at her alma mater and lead her own InvenTeam! This article is simply awe inspiring as to what can be accomplished with determination. Finally, May 15<sup>th</sup> the **STEAM IDEAS FESTIVAL 2019** took place at NEHS featuring speakers Dr. David Kolesky, Materials Engineer, of Harvard University, former NEHS alumni,

speaking on 3D Printing Human Tissues; and former alumni Dr. Chelsea Bennice, "Octo Girl", Octopus Researcher. *In Athletics:* The Girls Track team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the State with several athletes earning individual state titles and breaking a few school records! School records were set in the girls 4/100m relay, girls 4x4m relay and girls 800m run. The Girls 4x4m relay missed the state meet record by .027 sec. Top performers: *Jan'taijah Ford*-earned her 5<sup>th</sup> individual state title winning the Girls 400m and 200m. She is headed to the University of Southern Cal to compete in track. *Amaya Thomas* - 8<sup>th</sup> in Girls 100m and 9<sup>th</sup> in 300m Hurdles; *Jahyna Hill* – 6<sup>th</sup> girls 800m, (setting a school record), and 4x400 relay State champion; *Rainaa Grant*- 4x400m relay State champion (new school record); *Samiya Harrison* - 4x100m relay State runner-up (new school record); *Giovanni Cunningham* – 4x100m relay State runner-up (new school record); *Janae Thomas*- 4x100m relay state runner-up (new school record); *Bertine Eugines*- 4x100m relay state runner-up (new school record)*Kesona Hanson* – 12<sup>th</sup> place 100m Hurdles; *Sarai Warrick* – 4.800m- 16<sup>th</sup> place; *Tasia Small* – 4x800m 16<sup>th</sup> place; *Tasia Benjamin*- 4x800m – 16<sup>th</sup> place; *Briana Williams*- 4x100m relay state runner-up (new school record) & 4x400m State champion. Congratulations to each of you! Congratulations to everyone at *Northeast High* for a fantastic year of achievement!

- ***News from Fort Lauderdale High -CAMBRIDGE PROGRAM TOP OF THE WORLD AWARD*** can you imagine it, just think about it. This is how Watson Lubin ended his school year, by earning the highest score in the world on the Global Perspectives & Research exam at the AS level. It was my pleasure to recognize Watson and his fellow Cambridge awardees from across the county with a special presentation at the May 21<sup>st</sup> School Board meeting. I am so proud of these students. Congratulations to the *Flying L's Boys Soccer* team that made it all the way to the State Championship Game in 2019. Even though they lost to Auburndale in double overtime, it was an amazing season. The team had three players earn 1st Team All County and Coach Murhino Snipe was named the Broward County Coach of the Year for Boys Soccer. The team loses only 2 seniors and looks forward to playing in the State Championship game again next year. A special thank you goes out to the City of Fort Lauderdale for recognizing the team's achievements at a recent city commission meeting.
- ***News from Stranahan High - Congratulations to the Stranahan Dragons Boys' Basketball Team!!*** On March 7<sup>th</sup> in Lakeland Florida the Boys Team took home the Class 6A championship winning against St Petersburg Lakeland 63-54. The school's first title in 44 years! The School Board recognized the Stranahan Boys Team along with the Blanche Ely Girls Team for their accomplishments with a special presentation at the May 21<sup>st</sup> School Board meeting. Thank you goes out to the Broward County Commission who also recognized the Dragons at a recent county commission meeting. Everyone in the community was thrilled to see the boys' success after having worked so hard all year with Coach Williams. This was an especially sweet victory for Coach Williams, who helped bring home the championship after playing as a student for the late Coach Keith Skinner at Stranahan himself. *I can't wait until next year when these scholar athletes hit the court!*
- A tremendous thank you is in order for the *Miami Dolphins* and *Baptist Health South Florida* whose generous donation of equipment to the Stranahan Dragons' Football Team and Girls Flag Football Team came as a big surprise. These students work very hard in both academics and athletics. It's a pleasure to

see them receive new equipment to help them in their efforts. THANK YOU ALL!

- The 32<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Scholar Athlete Banquet- South Banquet* was held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Signature Grand. Designated scholar athletes from southern high schools in the county were honored. Among these top performers representing Stranahan High were Aryane Aurelien, Jairo Isac Enamorado Lopez, Kayla Lowry; Danielle Miller, Kenneth Peyton, Joanalicia Ramirez and Kenyara Thompson. Each of these outstanding scholar athletes is college-bound. Jairo Lopez and Kayla Lowry were named scholarship winners!
- The 32<sup>nd</sup> *Annual Scholar Athlete Banquet- North Banquet* was held April 29th at Heron Bay. Representing Fort Lauderdale High were Scholar Athletes Anthony Alfonso, Peyton Carpen, Sophia Clemmensen, Hannah Coan, Demetris Dorceus, Desmond Dorceus and Olivia Johnson. Each of these students has applied to college with Demetris and Desmond slated to attend the United States Air Force Academy. Olivia Johnson and Hannah Coan both won scholarships and Coach TJ Lawrence won for Athletic Director! The Flying L's were impressively represented!! **Northeast High School** was represented by Scholar Athletes, Kaitlin Bakley, Sage Fulop, Trinity Fulop, Brandon Patrick, Amaya Thoms, Ashley Thomas and Trevor White. Each of these outstanding scholar athletes is college-bound with Kaitlin Bakley and Amaya Thomas being named as scholarship winners.

Although I have concentrated on our amazing high schools, I have a mountain of additional news to share. For the sake of brevity I will save it for my July/August article, when school is on break, and we can give proper attention to our deserving staff and students at all the other schools who accomplished so much this school year!

I wish you all a safe and fun summer break. Remember to mark your calendars for the first day of school for students next year, Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing each of you next school year.

*Please remember, if you have any questions or concerns call my office at 754-321-2003, and I will do my best to assist you.*

***Heather Pomper Brinkworth***