

# PANTHER POST

PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL

200 NW Douglas Road, Pembroke Pines, FL 33024

754-323-4000

Ms. Shawn Aycock, Principal

August 2024

## Principal's Welcome Message

Dear Panther Families and Community Members,

Greetings! I'm Shawn Aycock, your principal, thrilled to embark on the 2024-2025 school year at Pines Middle School. This year, our theme is Believe to Achieve, and we're committed to empowering every student to reach their full potential. **Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our entire school community, we've raised our school grade to a B!** We're so excited about this progress and can't wait to continue striving for excellence. Building on this success, we're excited to announce the launch of our dedicated **Cambridge Program** wing. This program offers a rigorous and globally-recognized curriculum, fostering a love of learning and preparing students for future academic endeavors.



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### Back-to-School Forms

An important packet is going home with your child on the first day of school. Be sure to read, sign, and return all paperwork during the first week of school to ensure your child's success. For more information: <https://www.browardschools.com/backtoschool>.

### Code of Student Conduct

Parents are responsible for the actions of their children. It is imperative that parents/guardians review information about rights and expectations with their children in the Code of Student Conduct.

<https://www.browardschools.com/codeofconduct>

### Immunizations

Florida Statute 1003.22 states that before entering or attending a Broward County Public School, students must provide a Florida Certificate of Immunizations (DH 680 form) documenting that all immunizations are current and up to date or exemption requirements are met. Contact the front office for location information on free immunizations.

### Attendance

**Parent Responsibility: Excusing an Absence** - Parents will be notified within 48 hours of a reported absence via robocall. It is the parent's responsibility to communicate a reason for absence by phone or through the online form available on the school's website (Contact > Report an Absence) or in the BCPS Mobile App (Directory icon).

### Transportation: Register2Ride

Visit <https://www.browardschools.com/ride> to register for transportation, check route status, and print bus passes. Questions? [register2ride@browardschools.com](mailto:register2ride@browardschools.com) or call 754-321-4499.

### School Clinic Consent

Per HB 1557, students cannot be seen in the clinic without parental consent on file unless in the case of a medical emergency. To ensure your child can be seen in the clinic, be sure to give consent on the Emergency Card in your first week packet.

### Morning Procedures & Supervision

All students will enter through the bus loop entrance double doors starting at 8:30 a.m. An adult will scan student IDs as they enter. All 6<sup>th</sup> graders will report to gymnasium and all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will report to the cafeteria. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be encouraged to have breakfast upon arrival and will not be permitted to exit the gym until classes begin.

### Bell Schedule and Calendars

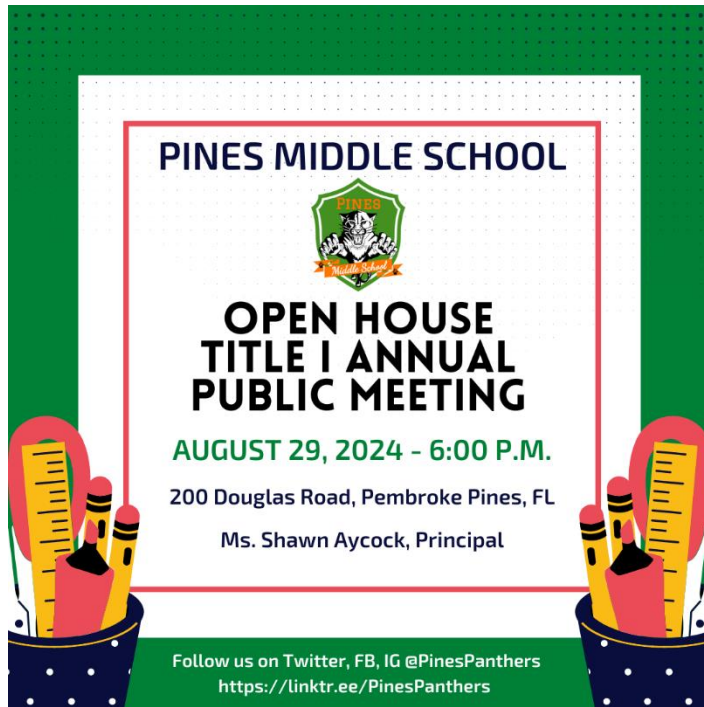
Schedules, Calendars, and more are posted and updated on the Student Canvas course and our website - [www.browardschools.com/pines](https://www.browardschools.com/pines).

### Student ID & Unified Dress Code

Pines Middle School is a unified dress code school. Students must wear IDs at all times. See additional information on pages 3 and 4. **Crocs are not allowed!**

### Open House / Title I Annual Public Meeting

We look forward to welcoming families to our Open House on Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.



### Clubs & Athletics

Calling all students! Look out for announcements from Club Advisors and Athletic Coaches for exciting opportunities to get involved!

### Before & After Care

Pines offers two options for Before & After Care:

- **Hispanic Unity - Unity 4 Teens** – Before & After Care spots are limited and filling quickly. Register: <https://bit.ly/unityforteens>. Info: Casey Garmen at [casey.costello@browardschools.com](mailto:casey.costello@browardschools.com).
- **Be Strong** – After Care Only. Info: Vasti Thomas at [vasti@beststrongintl.org](mailto:vasti@beststrongintl.org).

### Middle School Memories - Yearbooks

Visit our online store to purchase a 2024-2025 Yearbook at early bird pricing. Prices will increase in January. Please contact the front office for more information. Visit our [Online Store](#).



### School Advisory Committee & School Advisory Forum

Our School Advisory Council (SAC) & School Advisory Forum (SAF) meet on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 P.M. All community members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. The first meeting is on September 5, 2024.

### Title I & South Region Advisory Meetings

We look forward to welcoming our stakeholders to all South Region Advisory Meetings and Title I events. The first meeting is September 18, 2024 at 9:15 a.m. in our Media Center.



All stakeholders are encouraged to attend and join PTSA! For more information, [PinesMiddlePTSA@gmail.com](mailto:PinesMiddlePTSA@gmail.com).

### Lines of Communication

We endeavor to keep our stakeholders informed. In addition to morning and afternoon announcements, students have access to Canvas for Global and Student Course Announcements as well as Inbox messages. Parents and guardians receive ParentLinks for phone, email, and text messages. *If you are not receiving our messages, please contact the front office to update your phone and email addresses.* The community has access to our website [www.browardschools.com/pines](http://www.browardschools.com/pines) as well as our social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter) @PinesPanthers to stay aware and involved with all things Pines Middle School.



## Principal's Welcome

(Continued from page 1)

**NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION:** An orientation for sixth graders and new students will be held in our cafeteria on **Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.** It's an excellent chance for you to meet the school's administrators and counselors, familiarize yourself with our policies, and ask any questions you may have. *Returning students may access their schedules via Focus.*

**SAFETY & SUPERVISION** - We officially kick off the new academic year on Monday, August 12, 2024, with school hours from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- **Supervision** - Available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; *students should not arrive on campus before 8:30 a.m.* Please utilize the car loop for drop-offs and pick-ups.
- **Before/After Care** - Families who need to drop their children off to school earlier than 8:30 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m. should consider our Before/After Care Programs.
- **Walgreens** - Please note that **Walgreens is not a designated pick up or drop off site.** In addition to there being no school supervision, Walgreens management has asked us to advise families that students and adults are being issued trespass warnings by Pembroke Pines Police for unsafe and/or inappropriate behavior on their premises. To ensure your child's safety, please plan to pick up/drop off through our car loop, secure bus transportation for your child, or direct your child who walks/rides bike to go directly home after school.
- **If You See Something, Say Something** - Safety remains our #1 priority. For ways to report, visit <https://www.browardschools.com/securitytips>.

**UNIFIED DRESS CODE / ID CARDS** - Students are required to wear unified dress code and ID cards at all times.

- Pines is a unified dress code school. Copies of the unified dress code are included in this newsletter. Unified dress code items can be purchased at any store.
- Temporary IDs will be distributed during the first week of school. After Picture Day on Tuesday, September 5, 2024, students will obtain their permanent ID cards.

- Students incur a \$5 fee/obligation when issued their 5th ID replacement and beyond. Those who do not wear their ID will receive consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and the Discipline Matrix.

**BREAKFAST/LUNCH:** Children need to eat healthy meals to learn. The online application is an easy and convenient way for parents and guardians to complete the multi-child meal benefit application to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch. **Universal free breakfast and lunch will continue this year for all students.** Contact the meal benefits office at 754-321-0250.

**FIRST DAY PACKETS/CODE OF CONDUCT:** Packets containing important documents will be distributed to students on the first day of school. Parents/guardians are asked to review the information on the package and complete/sign and return the required school forms with the child by Friday, August 30, 2024. The Broward County Public Schools Code of Conduct for Middle School Students is available online at: <https://www.browardschools.com/codeofconduct>. Please review this important information with your child.

**OPEN HOUSE / TITLE I ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING:** Mark your calendar. **Open House** for all students will be held on **Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff at Pines Middle School, I express our excitement to serve you and your children this school year. With #TEAM Pines, we're sure to continue fostering an environment of growth, mastery, and unmistakable Panther Pride!

Sincerely,  
*Shawn Aycock*  
Ms. Shawn Aycock  
Principal





## PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Unified Dress Code  
Shawn Aycock, Principal



Pines Middle School is committed to establishing a safe environment where the focus is on academics. It is the intent of the school program that students be dressed and groomed in an appropriate manner that will not interfere with or detract from the educational process.

Research has shown that a unified dress code policy will promote safety, improve discipline, and enhance the learning environment. Visitors on campus will be evident to security, students won't compete with each other with designer clothes, and the focus will be on academic achievement.

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| Tops       | Collared (No logo) "polo" style SOLID color short or long-sleeved shirts.<br><b>Approved colors: Navy Blue, Black Forest Green, Grey and White.</b>    |
| Bottoms:   | "Dockers" style, long straight legged pants, knee length shorts or skirts or appropriate joggers.<br><b>Approved colors: Navy Blue, Black or Khaki</b> |
| Jeans:     | Appropriate Jeans are permitted on <b>FRIDAYS</b> only with a school <b>spirit shirt</b> (not a polo shirt)  |
| Dresses:   | "Polo" style or plain jumper with approved color shirt underneath (Knee length or longer) <b>NO DENIM</b>  |
| Shoes:     | Closed toe and back—NO OPENED TOE OR BACKLESS SHOES<br><b>CROCS are NOT PERMITTED</b>  |
| ID Badges: | Must be on and visible EVERYDAY  |

### Cool Weather Wear

Jackets, coats in any color will be permitted on extremely cold days. For daily classroom use, preferably plain jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts may be worn.

**HOODIES are not permitted to be worn on the head while on campus.**

### INAPPROPRIATE ITEMS AND CLOTHING

- Revealing clothing or clothing that exposes the torso
- Clothing which is not worn appropriately, oversized or low-hanging trousers
- Clothing that exposes the upper thigh
- Sweatpants, jogging attire, leggings, or athletic shorts
- Chains, spikes, bandanas, long dangling belts, gang paraphernalia
- Tattered clothes, clothing with holes or frayed pants or shorts
- Exaggerated or distracting hairstyles and hair colors





## PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL - STUDENT SUCCESS GUIDE

### Block Schedule

Students have a total of 8 classes; 4 periods per day.

- A Days (Orange) = Periods 1-4
- B Days (Green) = Periods 5-8

### Bell Schedule & Odd/Even Calendar

- Visit [www.browardschools.com/pines](http://www.browardschools.com/pines)

### To Email Teachers and Staff:

- Visit [www.browardschools.com/pines](http://www.browardschools.com/pines)
- At the top left of the screen > Click **CONTACT** > Select **SCHOOL STAFF DIRECTORY**
- Select all individuals to email and scroll to the bottom to click **SEND EMAIL** to write your message.

### To Report an Absence:

- Visit [www.browardschools.com/pines](http://www.browardschools.com/pines)
- At the top left of the screen > Click **CONTACT** > Select **REPORT AN ABSENCE**

### Lines of Communication:

- ParentLink Messages (phone, email, text) Not getting messages? Call the office to update your contact info.
- AM/PM In-School announcements
- Canvas (Global Announcements, Student Canvas Course Announcements, Inbox Messages)
- School Website - [www.browardschools.com/pines](http://www.browardschools.com/pines)
- Social Media – Instagram, Facebook, Twitter - @PinesPanthers
- LinkTree - <https://linktr.ee/pinespanthers>

### Counseling Services

- Grade level guidance counselors: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade - Amy Carrabba; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade - Maria Desmond; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Lydia Delbrune
- School Social Worker – [Melanie.Birken@browardschools.com](mailto:Melanie.Birken@browardschools.com)
- Community Family Counseling Services at Flanagan HS – 754-323-0722 (12 free counseling sessions)

### Free Tutoring at Pines – Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO)

- Take advantage of free tutoring available from their teachers. Check announcements or see teachers for availability.





# See Something, Say Something

## Be a Broward Buddy, Report a Tip!

In an emergency, call 911 immediately. To submit a safety or security concern that is not an emergency, please use one of the tip reporting methods provided below. Please remember you can choose to remain anonymous.



### Anonymous Tip Submission Box

Submit a tip easily via our Anonymous Tip Submission Box (**no download required**). Provide as much detail as you can, including names of people involved, physical descriptions, school name, social media handles, etc.



[BrowardSchools.com/SecurityTips](https://www.browardschools.com/SecurityTips)



### Call Us Anytime (Even on Holidays)

Call our District Security Operations Center (DSOC) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays). One of our friendly DSOC Specialists will take your tip over the phone and submit it immediately to our investigators. Please let the DSOC Specialist know if you wish to remain anonymous.

**754-321-3500**



### Send Us an Email

Submit a tip using the email address below. Although your email address is displayed using this tip reporting method, you can choose to remain anonymous by simply requesting it in your message.

[SecurityTips@BrowardSchools.com](mailto:SecurityTips@BrowardSchools.com)

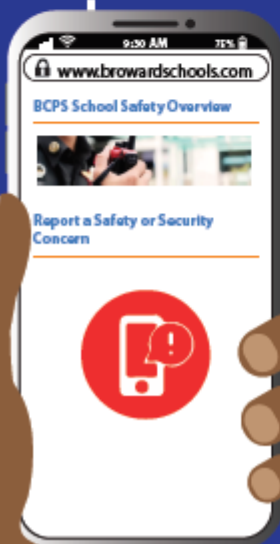


### FortifyFL

Submit a tip via FortifyFL online (**no download required**) or download the app for easier use. Visit FortifyFL using the link below. Your tip will immediately reach law enforcement and Broward Schools investigators.



[GetFortifyFL.com](https://www.getfortifyfl.com)



**BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS & PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PARENT TRAINING INFORMATION – 2024-2025**

Parents and Guardians are an integral part of a school's environment and their child's success. Families are encouraged to participate in the following training designed to educate parents on district policies and school procedures:

**1. Policy 5.9: Anti-Bullying (Grades K-12)**

[Eduvision link](https://bit.ly/parentantibully) - (Direct Link: <https://bit.ly/parentantibully>)  
18-minute video Anti-Bullying Policy 5.9 Training for Parents

**2. Policy 5010: Policy Against Student Dating Violence or Abuse (Grades 6-12)**

[Dating Matters Understanding Teen Dating Violence Prevention](https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/datingmatters/)  
(Direct Link: <https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/datingmatters/>)  
60-minute, interactive online training designed to help educators, youth-serving organizations, and parents understand the risk factors and warning signs associated with teen dating violence.

**3. Schoolwide Positive Behavior Plan (SPBP)**

## PINES MIDDLE SCHOOL

### SCHOOLWIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR PLAN

2024-2025  
RULES & EXPECTATIONS

| School-wide Expectations and Location Rules |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| School-wide EXPECTATIONS                    | Hallway Rules   | Cafeteria Rules   | Schoolwide Rules                                    |
| Respect Yourself and Others                 | Keep your Hands, Body, and Objects to yourself. (HBO) | Follow all directions given by the cafe monitors/adults | Maintain appropriate behavior                       |
| Be Safe                                     | Walk safely to your destination                       | Remain seated   | Report suspicious or dangerous behavior and threats |
| Be Responsible                              | Arrive to class on time and prepared to learn         | Leave your area clean                                   | IDs and dress code must be worn at all times        |

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

Expectation Lessons Taught during the week of:

8/14/24  
1/9/25  
4/3/25

Lessons:  
Rules  
Respect  
Being on Time

**REWARD SYSTEM:**

Each month 10+ students in each grade level with perfect attendance and no referrals for the prior month will be entered into a raffle for an award.