



**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**MORROW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
408 Southwest 76<sup>th</sup> Terrace, North Lauderdale, Florida 33068

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**Subject: Extended Learning Opportunities for the 2019/20 School Year**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We hope you enjoyed the summer break and are now ready to begin another productive school year. As we prepare to welcome students back to class on Wednesday, August 14, 2019, please note that our school hours have changed. For the 2019/20 school year, our new opening and closing times are:

**7:45 am – 2:15 pm**

The new schedule extends the regular school day at Morrow Elementary by thirty minutes, during which students will receive additional intensive reading instruction and enrichment. The extension of instructional time beyond the normal school day is required by Florida law for students who attend the 300 lowest performing elementary schools (in the state) based on the results of the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) for English Language Arts (ELA).

Please note, students who will enter grades four or five in the 2019/20 school year and who scored a Level 4 or 5 on the FSA English Language Arts, may "opt out" of the extended learning time. Students who scored a Level 4 or 5 will be provided enrichment in reading. Parents can contact the principal regarding the option to "opt out" of the enrichment instruction.

We know that you may have questions about the extended instructional time and new school hours. Therefore, we have attached to this letter a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and answers.

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to call our main office at **754-322-7150** or contact the District's Office of Service Quality at (754) 321-3636.

**Broward County Public Schools  
 Extended Learning Opportunities for Lowest 300 Schools  
 Parent & Community Frequently Asked Questions**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<b>Why is my school extending the school day by thirty minutes?</b>	The Florida Legislature requires elementary schools that are identified as being among the lowest 300 in the state for reading performance, to provide one additional hour of reading instruction. House Bill 7055 authorizes the additional hour of reading instruction <b>MAY</b> be provided within the school day. As such, Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) will embed the additional hour within the existing school day. In order to meet the required daily instructional minutes, BCPS must extend the school by 30 minutes. Therefore, the lowest 300 performing elementary school in Broward County will move to a 6.5 hour day.
<b>Why was my school identified?</b>	Schools were identified by the state based on a three-year average of the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) English Language Arts proficiency rates and learning gains.
<b>What will the students do during the extended time?</b>	State law requires an additional hour be used to provide intensive instruction in reading. This intensive instruction will be facilitated through enrichment activities aligned to our current Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Mathematics resources.
<b>Are students required to stay for the extended time?</b>	All kindergarten through fifth grade students at the identified schools, with the exception of any fourth or fifth grade student who scored a Level 4 or 5 on the FSA English Language Arts assessment in the Spring of 2019, are required to be in attendance for the entire school day.
<b>What is the impact to Pre-K and PLACE programs?</b>	Students in these programs will not participate in the additional hour of instruction. Students who participate in District transportation will be transported at their regularly scheduled dismissal time or will be kept on campus in an enrichment program until other students are dismissed/transported.
<b>How will the extended time impact students who ride school buses?</b>	District transportation will transport students in accordance with School Board approved bell schedules at the schools.

<p><b>What is the impact to after school child care programs?</b></p>	<p>After school child care programs are aware of the changes in school opening and closing times and will adjust staffing accordingly. There should be no impact to the parents/students.</p>
<p><b>Question</b></p>	<p><b>Answer</b></p>
<p><b>Do we have to do an extended learning day on Early Release Days?</b></p>	<p>Yes. Standard hours for students on Early Release Days are 4 hours. At our extended learning day schools, the day will be 4.5 hours in length on Early Release Days, with dismissal time two hours earlier than on regular school days.</p>
<p><b>What is the impact to ESE students?</b></p>	<p>ESE students will engage in the additional hour of learning with their regular education peers. All IEP and 504 accommodations, as applicable, will remain in effect.</p>
<p><b>How long will my school have this extended hour?</b></p>	<p>The school will participate in the extended day all year. Participating schools are identified on a yearly basis by the Florida Department of Education.</p>