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**BROWARD**  
County Public Schools

# NewsRelease

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## **BCPS and Community Partners Resign the Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline**

On October 5, 2016, the School Board of Broward County, Florida, Broward County Public Schools and its community partners signed for the second time, the Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline. This presidential style ceremonial signing took place at the Kathleen C. Wright Administrative building, in an effort to renew the commitment to close the schoolhouse to jailhouse pipeline.

The Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline symbolizes the support for Broward Schools' efforts to reduce suspensions, expulsions and arrests (particularly among youth of color) from all of the groups, which are signatories and/or mentioned in the Agreement.



The contents of the Agreement reflect and align with School Board Policy 5.8 (Code of Student Conduct) and School Board Policy 5006 (Suspension and Expulsion) and was signed and implemented for the first time on November 5, 2013.

The Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline establishes guidelines and processes for handling non-violent misdemeanor offenses on school campuses to eliminate the schoolhouse to jailhouse pipeline. It outlines for school personnel when it is necessary to involve law enforcement and when non-violent offenses can be handled through school resources and programs, such as the PROMISE (Preventing Recidivism through Opportunities, Mentoring, Interventions, Support and Education) program.

The PROMISE program is a Broward County intervention-based initiative designed to address the needs of students who commit non-violent infractions that previously could have resulted in the student being arrested and entering the juvenile justice system. The program emphasizes intervention and prevention. Through the PROMISE program, students receive behavioral supports, counseling and mentoring in an environment focused on helping them make better life choices.

“Through this Collaborative Agreement, our school District has the opportunity to change the trajectory of students’ lives and provide the right support systems to lead them into success,” said Superintendent Robert W. Runcie. “It is our goal to give each student a high-quality education, and this second signing for the Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline gives students a second chance to fulfill their individual hopes and dreams. I applaud all of our community partners for helping make this Collaborative Agreement a reality, once again.”

<More>

This Agreement and its content has been approved by the Office of the General Counsel. This Agreement will be executed by all signatories after School Board approval. There is no financial impact to the District.

To view a video of the Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline signing, visit: <https://eduvision.tv/l?ADtyOS>

To learn more about Broward County's PROMISE program, visit: [browardprevention.org/about-opp/promise/](http://browardprevention.org/about-opp/promise/)

Additional information on national efforts to end the schoolhouse to jailhouse pipeline is available through the Advancement Project, please visit [advancementproject.org/content/home](http://advancementproject.org/content/home).

*Pictured above: School Board Members, Superintendent Robert W. Runcie, and District Community Partners*

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#### **ABOUT BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**“Committed to educating all students to reach their highest potential.”** Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is the sixth largest school district in the nation and the second largest in the state of Florida. BCPS is Florida's first fully accredited school system since 1962. BCPS has over 271,000 students and approximately 175,000 adult students in 236 schools, centers and technical colleges, and 101 charter schools. BCPS serves a diverse student population, with students representing 208 different countries and 181 different languages. To learn more, visit [browardschools.com](http://browardschools.com). Follow BCPS on Twitter [@browardschools](https://twitter.com/browardschools) and Facebook at [facebook.com/browardschools](https://facebook.com/browardschools), and download the free BCPS mobile app.

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