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Thanks to everyone who voted during the primary election on August 28<sup>th</sup>. The voters support and passage of the ½ mill tax referendum for the next four years is of critical importance to maintaining and enhancing the public education system in Broward County. The funds will be available the beginning of the 2019/20 school year, and will benefit the areas of teacher compensation, increased security staff and School Resource Officers, and expanding services provided by guidance counsellors, social workers and behavioral staff. My colleagues and I on the School Board know every penny is important to our residents, and will do all in our power to be diligent watchdogs of the public's interest.

There was concern expressed by the public regarding schools being used as polling places while school was in session. The District's Legislative Affairs Office provided us with information to share that while our role is mandated by state statute (F.S.101.71 (5)), the school district recognized the sensitive nature of campus security and visitors on campus. Several new procedures were instituted to improve security. In addition, regular school security staff includes an armed school resource or safe school officers at every school. On Election Day we brought in additional temporary personnel to augment regular security staff to help monitor voters as they entered and exited school polling locations to vote. Broward County Public Schools calendar is set for schools to be closed for students on Election Day, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

With the commencement of the new school year, **SMART OFC** update meetings for the community are again being scheduled for Stranahan High and Northeast High School. These meetings will be held every other month, following the school's SAC meeting, beginning at 6:30pm. The first was held on September 12<sup>th</sup> at **Stranahan High**, and I believe the presentation has been greatly improved. See photos below of the beautiful **pool renovations** at Stranahan, which has been long-delayed and greatly anticipated. Renovation of the pool will be completed by the end of September, followed by inspection by the Health Department, and an anticipated ribbon-cutting in early October! **Single Point of Entry** is now 100% complete; **Security enhancements** are currently pending delivery of items, with completion targeted for Q4 2018. **Construction began** on Buildings 5 and 28 on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, to be completed in Q1 2019. Building 6 and 19 will begin Q1 2019. Remaining projects are scheduled for completion in Q4 2020. For a complete copy of the presentation, please email or call my office and we will be happy to provide it.

As of this writing, **Northeast High School's** SMART Office of Facilities & Construction (OFC) meeting will be held Monday evening, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. With the increased allocation of funds to the Northeast projects, I anticipate very

favorable reports in the months ahead. We are finally rolling with the improvements our students so desperately need! I intend to monitor progress, and will continue to address the issues of all the District 3 schools. For a complete copy of either of the OFC presentations, please email or call my office, and we will be happy to provide it.

### District 3 Happenings

- ***Northeast High School*** continues to have reason to celebrate! Northeast's Lemelson MIT InvenTeam has been accepted into the Microsoft #MakeWhatsNext Patent Program with the mosquito disruptor device they invented. Northeast HS students and staff continue working to make a difference not only in the local community, but hopefully through this support, their impact will reach a global scale. Congratulations and good luck! The hallways of North Hall recently received a fresh coat of paint thanks to volunteers from the City of Oakland Park and Rotary Club. Thank you to all those individuals and organizations who continue supporting the NEHS Hurricanes!
- ***Rickards Middle School's*** very own School Resource Officer (SRO) Deputy Omar Osbourne was featured in an NBC6 story by Reporter Ari Odzer titled "A Day in the Life of a School Resource Officer". If you have not seen the story, or you want to learn more about the role SROs play in our community schools, I encourage you to check it out. I had the opportunity recently to sit down with Deputy Osborne, staff members of the school leadership team, and two amazing students to discuss school safety and listen to ideas. Keeping lines of communication open is more important than ever before, and I thank everyone at Rickards MS, including Deputy Osborne for doing just that.
- ***McNab Elementary*** is proud to have both 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students competing in Debate this year. Broward County Public Schools is home to the largest Debate Initiative in the nation with programs this year in 70 elementary schools, and all middle and high schools. Principal Palacio shared her excitement about the debate program at McNab ES, and I look forward to hearing about our students' successes this school year.
- ***Bayview Elementary*** is proud to be a literacy leader! Ms. Frost reports several teachers will be donning their jammies to provide a rotation of "Reading Lounges" for the students and their families to participate in interactive read-alouds. ***Bedtime Stories at Bayview*** is a new program this year making reading fun!
- ***A Resolution in Support of International Overdose Awareness Day August 31, 2018*** – Addiction and overdose do not discriminate. Having impacted too many families across our nation, our state and especially our local community, I feel it was my duty and privilege to present, together with my colleague Dr. Rosalind Osgood, Board member for District 5, this yearly resolution to aid in the education of our students to the dangers of opiate use and abuse. The presentation was given at the August 21<sup>st</sup> Regular School Board Meeting, and is available for viewing at: <https://eduvision.tv/l?eALLtg>.
- On September 12, the ***Second Annual BCPS Attendance Symposium*** was held at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. The event focused on reducing chronic absenteeism, developing community partnerships to support attendance,

and increasing students' academic achievements. If you would like to access the data, go to our Student Assessment and Research Department (SAR) website at : <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/34771>. A short video will also be posted on the District's Attendance page by the time you read this.

- **Whiddon Rogers Education Center**, under Mr. Wylie Howard, is very proud of their first group of students completing the *Private Security Officer program*. They met the qualifications and passed the test for a Security Class D license, and can now obtain employment in the field or continue at post-secondary institutions. *Congratulations Everyone on Your Success!* (see photo below)
- *Kudos to North Side Elementary!!* I received a "WOW" email from one of the city officers assign to North Side at the conclusion their Code Yellow and Code Red drill for the outstanding manner in which everyone performed. I cannot go into details, but students, staff and teachers put their training to use in a most effective manner. His compliments to the trainer, and Ms. Porcena, you can be proud!
- **Wilton Manors Elementary School**, under the leadership of Melissa Holtz, has been named a *National School by Magnet Schools of America!* WME is the only authorized Baccalaureate Primary Years Program in Broward County. The certification process recognizes the highest quality education based on diversity, innovation curriculum and development, academic excellence, high quality instruction-community partnerships. *Congratulations, Everyone!*
- **Memorial Healthcare** teamed up with BCPS to provide life-saving training to staff at all schools to respond to traumatic injuries. On August 31<sup>st</sup> WSVN, Local 10, Telemundo and BECON-TV provided coverage of their *Stop the Bleeding* training with Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue at **New River Middle School**. A harsh but necessary reality in today's world. Thank you, **Memorial Healthcare**.
- **Ms. Gillian Munter**, Literacy Coach for Stephen Foster Elementary School, has been named *Broward County Literacy Coach of the Year!!!* Ms. Munter's enthusiasm and passion for literacy shines out, and this award is well-deserved!
- *NASA gives boost to Broward's Robotics Programs with a \$227,000 grant!* Dr. Lisa Milenkovic, supervisor of STEM and Computer Sciences for the District reported 60 more schools will now be included, making a total of 113 schools participating in the program. In year two of a four year grant, the plan is to add more schools each year. Through the VEX Robotics competition, students spend the year designing and building robots to complete the challenge they are given. This grant provides a robot for each school. Each elementary school gets one that's for the lower level. Middle school actually gets two. Thank you, NASA!
- *Up and Coming! Construction Career Days* is an annual event presented by the CTACE Office under direction of Ms. Enid Valdez, at the Bergeron Rodeo grounds. Taking place October 23 and 24, high school students are provided an opportunity to participate and interact with industry partners, operate heavy machinery, and experience hands-on activities in the field of Construction. Additionally, students will be able to navigate the BCPS Career Launch Document to learn about pathways, scholarships and industry certifications. Students are always excited to attend this event!
- On **October 5<sup>th</sup>** BCPS will host the first annual *Educating All Students with Excellence (Ease) Conference* at the Signature Grand. Originally planned for

Pompano High, this event has drawn so much interest it has been moved to a larger venue at the Signature Grand to accommodate everyone. Designed to bring parents, school administrators, general and special education teachers, and service providers together for a day filled with informative, educational and awareness-building sessions on a broad range of special education topics to promote inclusive practices for students with disabilities. If you are interested and missed this year's conference, mark your calendar for next year and call my office next September to get the exact date.

*I hope you have enjoyed reading about our amazing schools and their amazing teachers and students. It is my pleasure to serve the citizens and students of District 3. 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***

***Stranahan High School's New Pool***



***On Deck, Dragons!***



***Meeting a future Olympian Dragon!***



***Mr. Runcie and Mrs. Brinkworth  
touring the new facility***



## 1<sup>st</sup> Graduates of the Whiddon Rogers Private Security Officer Program

Whiddon-Rogers Education Center is to become a nationally recognized school of innovative educational alternatives designed to prepare students for college and careers.



## Remember 1<sup>st</sup> Day Words

