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Welcome to the third quarter of the school year! I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season, and all of our students' young minds are ready to tackle the new semester. Report cards for the second semester will be issued on January 30<sup>th</sup>, and I know that is always a very exciting time as our high school juniors and seniors gear up for their college applications.

This is the time of year when College and Career Fairs will be happening and I strongly recommend interested students visit these events for important information toward their future endeavors. On February 6<sup>th</sup> the *2019 Claim Your Future Showcase* will be held at the BB&T Center 8:00a.m.-1:00p.m. A partnership between the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and Broward Schools, this event is designed to present opportunities here at home. Area companies will have booth displays, conduct mock interviews with students, or possibly hire your student for a summer internship. Call 954-627-0126 for more information on the event and if you are interested in displaying your company's opportunities. Watch local media for future events!

***District 3 2019 Graduation Schedule:***

Stranahan High	May 31	2:00pm	Broward Center
Northeast High	June 1	7:00pm	Broward Center
Fort Lauderdale High	June 2	7:00pm	Broward Center
Seagull School	June 3	7:00pm	Dillard HS
Sheridan Tech High	June 4	9:00am	NSU
Whidden Rogers	June 4	7:00pm	Lauderhill Performing Arts

Witnessing graduation is one of the most rewarding parts of my job, I love shaking hands with and congratulating our students as they walk the stage to receive their diplomas. Every year the excitement of the students for a job well done renews my faith in our future.

School Safety continues to be of paramount concern to the school district. In order to keep parents informed, evening meetings have been taking place. On November 27<sup>th</sup> a districtwide School Safety Update was held at Piper High. Call my office if you would like notification when additional meetings are scheduled.

The School Board approved an agreement with BSO on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to provide access to real-time video feeds from school surveillance cameras. The access would be used when circumstances present an immediate need for law enforcement or fire safety personnel to respond to protect the health or safety of students and staff.

On December 19<sup>th</sup> the FDOE released **Graduation Rates for the 2017/18 School Year**. Broward County Schools proudly announced that the results show graduation rates for traditional District high schools (excluding centers and charter schools) reached the highest level in seven years at 95.1 percent, which exceeds the 93.8 achieved in 2016/17. *Thank you to all of our students and staff for their hard work district-wide!* See: <http://fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7584/urlt/GradRages1718.pdf>

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE RESIDENTS – PLEASE VOTE ON MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>. On March 12<sup>th</sup> a Special Election will be held to vote on two bond questions. Part of the Parks Bond includes a partnership between the City and the School Board to make school recreational facilities accessible after school hours. No matter where you stand on either of the bond questions, it is of great importance to go to the polls and let your voice be heard.

### District 3 Happenings

- On November 6<sup>th</sup> *Youth Leadership-Broward* was hosted at the KCW Building. Junior students from high schools across Broward County came to the Board Room to learn how policy is made by the Broward School Board for their Government and Education Day. Welcomed by Chris Lagerbloom, City Manager for the City of Fort Lauderdale and myself, as School Board Chair, a presentation on policy development was given by Jeff Moquin, Chief of Staff under Superintendent Runcie. These are our future school and community leaders and I know we will see some of them in the public eye one day!
- On December 5<sup>th</sup> *Northeast High* partnered with Special Olympics Florida to host the *Special Olympics* games, welcoming student-athletes from 12 elementary, middle and high schools across the District for a morning of competition and teamwork. Northeast High student volunteers and athletes helped participants compete successfully in softball and baseball toss, track and field events. *I applaud each of you for your commitment to your fellow students!*
- On December 13<sup>th</sup> I was privileged to attend, and give Board's greetings to, the Junior Reserved Officers Training cadets attending the *Superintendent's JROTC Regimental Ball* at the Signature Grand. I must say this is one of the most impressive events. LTC. Green very proudly announced a few days prior to the Ball that the West Broward Raider Male Team had won the Florida State Championship. Congratulations to all of the outstanding young men and women!
- On January 19<sup>th</sup> District 3 students put their skills to the test during *VEX Robotics Competitions*. During VEX qualifying tournaments, students participate in non-stop, action-packed challenges where they compete with their custom-built VEX robots. D3's Fort Lauderdale, Sheridan Technical and Stranahan high schools attended the first round on December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Miramar Regional Park. The Floranada Bobcats and Lloyd Estates' Kritical ERRR teams competed on January 19<sup>th</sup>. As of today we do not have the results. BUT we all know their robots were AWESOME!!
- A big *Thank You* goes out to the *Northeast High Marching Hurricanes* and the *Air Force JROTC* for leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by performing two musical renditions, including the Star Spangled Banner for the

January 15 School Board meeting via video conference. Of Special Note, Band Director *Schelvin Robinson* is the recipient of the Tom Bishop award given to a band director who has taken over a struggling band program and turned it around, making significant positive strides. Band member Joshua Lewis expressed the appreciation of the band members for the SMART bond projects coming to Northeast, and I congratulate Joshua on attending Florida A & M University next year. **HURRICANES, YOU ROCK!!!!**

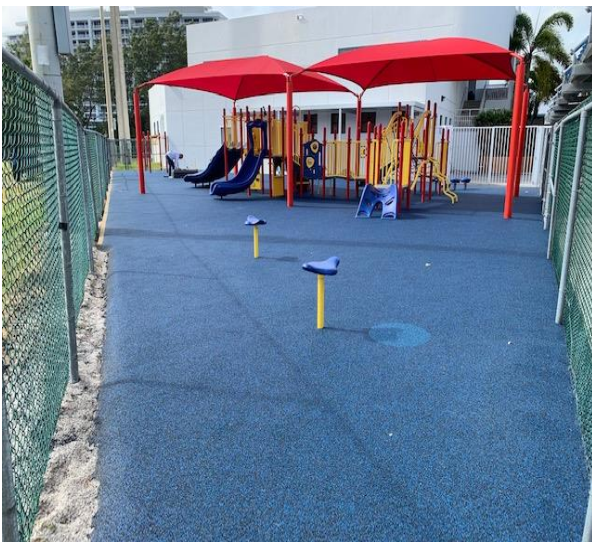
- On January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 the Fort Lauderdale High School Broward Youth Coalition hosted a District 3 “**#KnowTheFacts**” information session at Fort Lauderdale High as an opportunity for parents to hear our youth leaders talk about drug use and related issues. As the School Board’s representative on the *United Way’s Commission on Behavioral Health and Drug Prevention*, I believe *it is of the utmost urgency* to get this message out to our students and educate their parents about the dangers, both legally and physically, of vaping. This initiative is part of the partnership between the United Way and Broward County Schools. District 3 municipal leaders, police chiefs and my School Board colleagues were invited to observe to raise awareness that the training is available and would be beneficial for their high schools. For more information go to [www.drugfreebroward.org](http://www.drugfreebroward.org).
- Principal Whaley proudly reported that *Meadowbrook Elementary* received a \$5,000 grant through the Sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha to refurbish and rededicate the Peace Garden. Sponsored by the PEARLS Foundation and Upsilon Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, a ribbon cutting was held on January 19. Thank you to everyone to made this beautiful garden a reality for the students.
- The long-awaited playground replacement at *Bayview Elementary* was completed over Winter Break. The playground was a successful collaboration between the *PTA and Joe DiMaggio Hospital*; and includes all new equipment, new playground surfacing and two large shade structures. See the photos below.
- February 1<sup>st</sup> brought the annual observation of *Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day* across Broward County. This well-loved national learning day does lead to confusion. BCPS joined neighboring school districts in observing the day earlier than the **National Take Our Daughters and Sons Foundation** due to date conflicts with the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) testing dates. For additional info on this annual event visit [browardschools.com/todswd](http://browardschools.com/todswd) or call your student’s school directly.
- *Sunrise Middle and New River Middle* will be part of a pilot program called “*School is Cool*” which includes the *Reimagining Middle Grades Initiative*. BCPS has partnered with the Community Foundation of Broward to transform the middle school learning experience. Beginning 2018/19 school year through a **\$3,000,000** grant from the **Community Foundation**, matched by BCPS, for a three year period. This pilot program focuses on struggling students in grades six through eight and changes the way curriculum is delivered, placing heavy emphasis on the importance of social and emotional learning, and offering increased support to address the core factors that cause students to become disengaged and/or perform poorly in school. To learn more about *School is Cool*, follow @reimagine\_bcps on Twitter. Thank you, *Community Foundation of Broward!*

- Last but not least, we have **THREE** District 3 finalists at this year's **Caliber Awards**, taking place on February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Broward County Convention Center. The Caliber Awards are the most prestigious awards given in Broward County Schools. **Catherine Lozada** of **Wilton Manors Elementary** and **Lise Clara Mabour** of **Northeast High** are in the running as **Teacher of the Year** finalists and **Mary Barba**, AP for **Sheridan Technical High School** is a finalist for **Assistant Principal of the Year!** I cannot wait for the results, **GOOD LUCK, LADIES!**

*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**

***New Playground at Bayview Elementary!  
Many Thanks to the Bayview PTA  
and Joe DiMaggio Hospital...***



***.... for a gift that will continue  
through the years***



**Superintendent's JROTC Regimental Ball –  
Fort Lauderdale High School Cadets**



**#KnowTheFacts**

**United Way and Broward Youth Coalition**

**#KNOWTHEFACTS**

Electronic cigarettes can be used with marijuana or CBD oil.<sup>1</sup>

02 Nicotine can harm adolescent brain development.<sup>1</sup>

03 Electronic cigarettes can have nicotine levels equal to a pack of cigarettes.<sup>1</sup>

04 66% of teens think that there is "just flavoring" in their electronic cigarettes.<sup>2</sup>

05 21% Florida high school students got their electronic cigarettes from convenience stores and/or gas stations.<sup>3</sup>

06 41% of Broward County high school students said they have used an electronic cigarette.<sup>4</sup>

1. Truth Initiative  
2. National Health Interview Survey  
3. Florida Youth Tobacco Survey 2012  
4. Truth Initiative Survey 2012

