



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

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ROBERT W. RUNCIE
Superintendent of Schools

**The School Board of
Broward County, Florida**

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March 14, 2019

Dear Broward County Public Schools families, staff and community,

After input from our community and thoughtful discussion by our School Board, the School Board voted on March 5 in favor of my continued leadership as Superintendent. Thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts, in person or otherwise, and to Board members for their support of my work in Broward County Public Schools. As I continue as your Superintendent, I look forward to working with the School Board, and with all of you, to do what is best for the children of Broward County.

This past year, I have worked diligently to make our schools safer, and we are moving toward having the safest schools in Florida. Undoubtedly, we will become a model for the nation, having been ground zero for addressing school safety as a result of the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018. Now is the time to come together and work collaboratively to show our nation how a community can deal with tragedy and work in unity for a better tomorrow. That is what our children expect to see from the adults in their lives. They look to us to uncover a path to a better future - a future in which communities operate in harmony, collaboration, cooperation and love.

Safety in our schools has been and will always be a top priority. As we continue to move forward, we remain committed to our core mission of delivering an excellent education to all our students while keeping them safe. Every day I think about how the work we do is impacting the young minds of students all over this county. I look forward to seeing them blossom into distinguished teachers, business people, politicians, scientists, community leaders, and other great contributors to our society. That is why there is a special place in my heart for the myriad of innovative programs we offer to support their aspirations and creativity, such as our performing and visual arts, environmental science, computer science, speech and debate, chess, Cambridge and International Baccalaureate, career and technical education programs with industry certifications and so many others.

The tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School could have happened anywhere, but it happened here in Broward County. I feel the enormity of the loss every day, and I will be forever changed by it. Consequently, I am determined to stay focused on the work that I am doing in Broward because I refuse to let the tragedy, or the pain left in its wake, defeat us. I am more committed than ever to serving this community and bringing 100 percent of my effort every day to the School Board as we work together to give our children a world-class education in a safe environment.

I believe we have been given a unique opportunity to create an appropriate legacy for those who were lost and injured; a legacy not just bound in hardening our schools or having debates on whether teachers should be armed with guns, but one that defines us as a community. This is the moment that we come together and do what is in the best interest of our students. It is going to take all of us working collectively to create a brighter future for our children, and I look forward to working with you to create that future.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Runcie
Superintendent of Schools