

Pines Middle School

Shawn Aycock, Principal

200 Douglas Road

Pembroke Pines, Florida 33024

phone: 754-323-4000 • fax: 754-323-4085

shawn.aycock@browardschools.com

www.browardschools.com/pines

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July 24, 2024

Dear Panther Families and Community Members,

Greetings! I'm Shawn Aycock, your principal, thrilled to embark on the 2024-2025 school year at Pines Middle School. This year, our theme is *Believe to Achieve*, and we're committed to empowering every student to reach their full potential. We believe in fostering a growth mindset, encouraging students to embrace challenges and persevere through difficulties. Through engaging lessons, dedicated teachers, and a supportive environment, we'll empower students to set ambitious goals and achieve their dreams.

Academic Excellence and the Cambridge Program Launch

Huge news, Pines Middle family! **Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our entire school community, we've raised our school grade to a B!** We're so excited about this progress and can't wait to continue striving for excellence.

Building on this success, we're excited to announce the launch of our dedicated **Cambridge Program** wing. This program offers a rigorous and globally-recognized curriculum, fostering a love of learning and preparing students for future academic endeavors.

Important Dates

- **New Student Orientation:** Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at 9:00 AM (Cafeteria)
- **First Day of School:** Monday, August 12, 2024 (School Hours: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM; Campus Opens at 8:30 AM)
- **Open House / Title I Annual Public Meeting:** Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 6:00 PM
- **School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting:** Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 4:15 PM (Media Center)

New Student Orientation

Orientation for our sixth graders and new students will be held in our cafeteria on **Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at 9:00 AM.** This is an excellent chance for you to meet the school's administrators and counselors, familiarize yourself with our policies, and ask any questions you may have. *Returning seventh and eighth graders may access their schedules via FOCUS.*

Safety & Supervision

We officially kick off the new academic year on **Monday, August 12, 2024**, with school hours from **9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** Supervision will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and students should not arrive on campus before 8:30 a.m. Please utilize the car loop for drop-offs and pick-ups. Please note that Walgreens is not a designated pick up or drop off. Walgreens management has asked us to advise families that students and adults are being issued trespass warnings by Pembroke Pines Police for unsafe and/or inappropriate behavior on their premises. To ensure your child's safety, please plan to pick up/drop off through our car loop, secure bus transportation for your child, or direct your child who walks/rides bike to go directly home after school.

Unified Dress Code / ID Cards

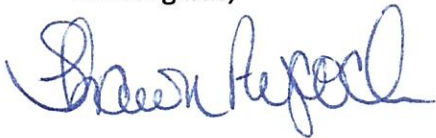
Safety remains our #1 priority. Students are required to wear unified dress code and ID cards at all times. Pines is a unified dress code school. Unified dress code items can be purchased at any store. Temporary IDs will be distributed during the first week of school. After **picture day on Thursday, September 5, 2024**, students will obtain their permanent ID cards. All students are expected to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct and the Discipline Matrix. If students lose or damage their ID cards, replacements, obligations, and discipline will be issued. Students incur a \$5 fee/obligation when issued their 5th ID replacement and beyond. Those who do not wear their ID will receive consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and the Discipline Matrix.

Additional Information

- **Transportation:** Transportation information and bus route updates are available at <https://www.browardschools.com/transportation>.
- **Food and Nutrition:** Breakfast and lunch are free for all students! Please apply for free or reduced-price lunch online at <https://www.myschoolapps.com/>.
- **First Day Packets and Code of Conduct:** Important documents will be distributed to students on the first day. Please review the materials and return completed forms by Friday, August 23, 2024. The Code of Conduct is available online at <https://www.browardschools.com/codeofconduct>.

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff at Pines Middle School, I express our excitement to serve you and your children this school year. With #TEAM Pines, we're sure to continue fostering an environment of growth, mastery, and unmistakable Panther Pride!

Best regards,



Ms. Shawn Aycock
Principal
Pines Middle School

