



### Message from Superintendent Dr. Peter B. Licata



I am honored and grateful to serve as Superintendent of Broward County Public Schools. There is a lot to be excited about in the upcoming school year. Our teachers, administrators and staff are focused on providing incredible educational experiences that meet the needs of our diverse learners.

My goal is to ensure our District is student-centered, teacher-supported, and principal-led, with the guiding philosophy that "Every 1 Counts." No matter where a student attends school in Broward County, he or she deserves access to top-tier instruction, facilities and resources. Our District has a strong academic foundation in place, and we are on our way to becoming an "A" rated school district by the state.

I look forward to visiting schools and having opportunities to meet our students, staff, families and community members. Together, we will ensure our students receive a high-quality education to best prepare them for their futures.

Thank you for your support as we kick off the 2023/24 school year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Peter B. Licata

Superintendent, Broward County Public Schools



### It's Electric! BCPS School Buses Are Getting Plugged in!

BCPS is excited to be the first public school District in South Florida to put electric buses on the road, beginning in the 2023/24 school year.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection awarded BCPS a grant of more than \$14.8 million to purchase 60 zero-emission electric buses. The new buses will replace older diesel school buses built in or before 2009. To complete the needed infrastructure, Florida Power & Light Company partnered with BCPS to install charging stations at each of the District's transportation terminals.

In August 2023, 10 electric buses will be on the road – with more added throughout the school year.

For information on school bus transportation, including Register 2 Ride and the Here Comes the Bus website and app, visit [browardschools.com/transportation](https://browardschools.com/transportation).



### Fast Fact

The District's Student Transportation and Fleet Services Department includes more than 1,200 buses, with approximately 950 buses used to transport students during daily routes.



### What's New on the Menu

The BCPS Food and Nutrition Services Department is cooking up healthy, nutritious and tasty meals for the new school year. This year, all District schools will provide free breakfast and lunch. The lunch pilot program at 47 schools is called Universal Free Lunch. Below are some new and returning items to the menu.

#### New Items for Breakfast:

- Early Risers (egg and cheese hash brown)
- Eggoji Waffle
- Mini French Toast Sticks
- Muffin Tops
- Breakfast Pizza
- Jones Sausage (returning to the menu)

#### New Items for Lunch:

- Three Cheese Cavatappi
- Vegan Griller
- Corn Poppers
- Beef Teriyaki Dippers (returning to the menu)
- Chicken Wings (returning to high school menus)
- Poke Bowls (high schools only)

Watch a sneak peek of these new additions at [eduvision.tv/l/?egeOAem](https://eduvision.tv/l/?egeOAem).

Learn more at [browardschools.com/foodservice](https://browardschools.com/foodservice).



## New Magnet Programs

BCPS, through the Applied Learning Department, is launching seven new magnet programs in the 2023/24 school year.

### New Fire Academy at Blanche Ely High School

Students interested in pursuing a career as a firefighter may enroll in the new Fire Academy at Blanche Ely High School. The Fire Academy offers a rigorous curriculum taught by firefighters from the City of Pompano Beach.

The Fire Academy focuses on practical training, including fire suppression techniques, hazardous materials management, rescue operations and incident command systems. Through hands-on simulations, classroom instruction and mentorship from experienced firefighters, students gain valuable insights and experiences in preparation for a successful career as a firefighter. Watch video highlights of the new program at [eduvision.tv/?egRgyme](https://eduvision.tv/?egRgyme).

### Six Schools Offer New Achieving Career Equity for Students (ACES) Magnet Programs

As part of the ACES, the following six schools will offer multiple areas of study for students to help them connect their learning to future career aspirations:

#### Elementary Schools

- Mirror Lake Elementary: Aerospace & Engineering, E-commerce/ Entrepreneurship and Innovative Arts
- Oakland Park Elementary: Aviation, Cybersecurity and Design Academy (digital arts)

#### Middle Schools

- Plantation Middle: Aerospace & Engineering, E-commerce/ Entrepreneurship, Fashion Design and Innovative Arts
- James S. Rickards Middle: Aviation, Cybersecurity and Design Academy (digital arts)

#### High Schools

- Northeast High: Aviation, Cybersecurity and Design Academy (digital arts)
- Plantation High: Aerospace & Engineering, E-commerce/Entrepreneurship, Fashion Design and Innovative Arts

To submit applications for these new magnet programs, as well as magnet programs across the District with available seats, visit [browardschools.com/schoolchoice](https://browardschools.com/schoolchoice). Families can also apply for school reassignments and Nova schools for incoming kindergarten students.

Learn more by visiting [browardschools.com/magnetprograms](https://browardschools.com/magnetprograms).



## Fast Fact

BCPS offers 87 magnet programs and 101 innovative programs Districtwide, each designed around a specific theme and area of interest.



## Coming soon! New Art & Tech Lab and Lending Library to Provide Immersive and Interactive 3-Dimensional Learning Experiences

It's going to be a whole new world! BCPS Applied Learning Department is getting ready to launch a new 3D Art & Tech Lab and a new lending library, thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Both will be centrally located at Nova Middle School.

The 3D Art & Tech Lab will be available for students to work on special projects as they create and manipulate designs in 3D in physical and virtual environments. Through the lending library, teachers Districtwide can "check out" resources for their classrooms – such as virtual, augmented and mixed reality tools, as well as computer-aided design, visualization and 3D printing. The lending library is expected to open in the coming months, followed by the new 3D Art and Tech Lab later this school year.



Visit [browardschools.com/ReadyForYou](https://browardschools.com/ReadyForYou) for more back-to-school information.

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