

# Titan Tribune

August 23, 2024



## IMPORTANT DATES

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No School - 9/2

SAC Meeting - 9/3

FAST PM1 - 9/10 - 9/13

Quarter 1 Interim Reports - 9/27

Makeup Picture Day - 9/30

# From the Desk of Mr. Garranchan....

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I am pleased to report that we've had a strong and positive start to the 2024-2025 school year! Our students have quickly settled into their routines, and we are already seeing great progress in their learning and engagement.

I also want to address the recent lockdown that took place at our school. The safety of our students and staff is our top priority, and I want to assure you that our team responded swiftly and effectively. We followed all safety protocols to ensure that everyone remained safe, and I am grateful for the cooperation of our students and staff during this time. Please know that we continue to review and strengthen our safety measures to maintain a secure environment for our school community

I want to remind everyone of a few important updates:

- Front Gate Opening Time: Starting Monday, 8/26/24, the front gate will open at 8:50 AM.
- Hall Sweeps: Maximizing Instructional Time is one of our top priorities. Beginning Monday, 8/26/24, we will conduct Hall Sweeps to ensure students get to each class on time in an effort to maximize academic excellence.
- Wireless Device Policy: Our wireless device policy will be in full effect. Students are expected to follow all guidelines regarding the use of electronic devices during school hours. Please review these rules with your child to help maintain a focused and productive learning environment.
- FAST PM1 Testing: The administration of FAST PM1 will take place from September 10th to September 13th. It is crucial for all students to be present and prepared for these assessments. Please ensure your child gets plenty of rest and arrives at school on time.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. Let's continue working together to make this a successful year for all our students.

Warm regards,

Rayner Garranchan  
Proud Principal of Nova Middle School



## Parent-Teacher Conference Request

[Click here to request a Parent Teacher Conference](#)

**Nova Middle School**

**Rayner Garranchan, Principal**

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[www.browardschools.com/novamid](http://www.browardschools.com/novamid)

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August 22, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is a progress monitoring system that is administered three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the Benchmarks of Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards throughout this school year. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will participate in the first administration (PM1) of the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) ELA Reading and Mathematics assessments which will be administered on the following days:

- 9/10/24 – 6th Grade ELA Reading
- 9/11/24 – 6th Grade Mathematics
- 9/12/24 – 7th and 8th Grade ELA Reading
- 9/13/24 – 7th and 8th Grade Mathematics

Your student's results from PM1 are for informational purposes only, and you will be provided with information about how to access the results after testing is completed.

FAST assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get easier or more difficult depending on how the student responds, and each student will see different questions from a common item bank. Each test attempt (PM1, PM2, and PM3) will present 35–40 items that will cover the entire test "blueprint," meaning students will encounter items representative of the standards within the subject or grade level. For more information on the test design, please visit <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/>. If you or your student would like to interact with the online testing platform or review FAST ELA Reading and Mathematics sample items at home, sample test materials are available at <https://flfast.org/families.html>.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to access any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing or during breaks (e.g., restroom). If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test may be invalidated.

- **Calculator Policy**—For Grades 7–8 FAST Mathematics, approved handheld scientific calculators may be used. For Grade 6 FAST Mathematics, a handheld four-function calculator may be used.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking the box in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items and passages) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss any testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Brenda Erie at [Brenda.Erie@browardschools.com](mailto:Brenda.Erie@browardschools.com).

For more information about the FAST program, please visit the portal at [FLFAST.org](http://FLFAST.org).

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,



Rayner Garranchan  
Principal



## Focus- Student Information System (SIS)

The Focus Parent Portal is your gateway to staying connected with your student's educational journey in Broward County Public Schools. For the first time, parents/guardians with multiple students will be able to access all their students in one place. The portal will allow you to monitor your student's academic progress, stay informed of upcoming school and district events, and allow you to communicate directly with your student's teachers.

To create a new Parent Portal account, you will need a valid email address. Connecting each of your enrolled students will require the following information:

- Student's full name
- Student's ID number (begins with '06')
- Student's date of birth

Visit <https://www.browardschools.com/focus> for details on how to access the Parent Portal.

**[Click here to complete a Transportation Concern Form](#)**

## Transportation

### *Here Comes the Bus App*

All eligible students that have registered for a bus can download a free and easy-to-use website and application that allows parents to view the location of their child's school bus in real-time on a smartphone, tablet or personal computer.

[Click Here](#) for instructions on how to download, register, and access the app.





# Unified Dress Code

All Nova Middle School students are required to follow the mandatory unified dress code policy. Students must conform to the UDC during all regular school days, including Early Release and Flex Days. Students involved in school sponsored clubs/activities or sports must wear appropriate unified dress code attire or a school issued uniform on game/competition days only.

- Pants/Shorts/Skirts/Skorts - Cotton twill “docker style” in hunter green, yellow/gold, black, white, red, navy blue, gray or khaki. No leggings/jeggings or any type of jean pants or corduroys. Shorts must be longer than the fingertips when held down the side of the body or mid-thigh.
- Shirts - Collared “polo style” in any solid color. Nova Middle's PTSA sells Nova “Spirit Shirts” for each grade level. These Spirit Shirts may be worn on Fridays and are required attire for all field trips.
- Picture ID's - Once student ID's are distributed, all students must wear them either by lanyard or clip.
- Jackets - Jackets must be a solid color. Jackets must be worn with an approved uniform shirt beneath. Students are permitted to wear solid-color vests or cardigan sweaters with the appropriate uniform shirt.
- Shoes - Footwear must be worn at all times. The unified dress code requires close-toed shoes at all times.
- Winter Dress - If the temperature falls below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, students may wear jean pants that do not have holes and/or rips.



# Important Update For K-12 Students

## WIRELESS DEVICE POLICY

# Disconnect To Reconnect

POWER  
OFF



AIRPLANE  
MODE



**WIRELESS DEVICE USE NOT ALLOWED DURING SCHOOL DAY**

**Effective in the 2024/25 School Year**

- ➔ All wireless devices must be powered off or in airplane mode during the school day, from bell to bell, including passing periods and lunch unless authorized for instructional purposes.
- ➔ Wireless devices include cellphones, laptops, smartwatches, tablets, headphones, airpods, and other two-way communication equipment.
- ➔ Students violating policy are subject to disciplinary action.

For more information and FAQs, visit  
[browardschools.com/wirelessdevices](https://browardschools.com/wirelessdevices)

**Devices Include:**



- Cellphone
- Smart Watches
- Earbuds

- Headphones
- Tablets
- Laptops

# NOVA MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 2024-2025 GREEN/GOLD DAY CALENDAR

AUGUST				
M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
<del>5</del>	<del>6</del>	<del>7</del>	<del>8</del>	<del>9</del>
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

OCTOBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
<del>14</del>	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
				1
4	<del>5</del>	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER				
M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

JANUARY				
M	T	W	TH	F
		1	2	3
<del>6</del>	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY				
M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MARCH				
M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	<del>21</del>
24	25	26	27	28
31				

APRIL				
M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

MAY				
M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

JUNE				
M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	<del>4</del>	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

<del></del>	Planning Day	No School
ER	Early Release Day	

1st Quarter Begins 8/12 (43 Days)

2nd Quarter Begins 10/15 (42 Days)

3rd Quarter Begins 1/7 (51 Days)

4th Quarter Begins 4/1 (44 Days)

Green: Periods 1-4

Gold: Periods 5-8

Early Release Time: 2:35PM  
School Time: 9:30AM - 4:20PM





Established 1915

**BROWARD**  
County Public Schools

# See Something, Say Something

## Be a Broward Buddy, Report a Tip!

**In an emergency, call 911 immediately. To submit a safety or security concern that is not an emergency, please use one of the tip reporting methods provided below. Please remember you can choose to remain anonymous.**



### Anonymous Tip Submission Box

Submit a tip easily via our Anonymous Tip Submission Box (**no download required**). Provide as much detail as you can, including names of people involved, physical descriptions, school name, social media handles, etc.



[BrowardSchools.com/SecurityTips](https://www.browardschools.com/SecurityTips)



### Call Us Anytime (Even on Holidays)

Call our District Security Operations Center (DSOC) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays). One of our friendly DSOC Specialists will take your tip over the phone and submit it immediately to our investigators. Please let the DSOC Specialist know if you wish to remain anonymous.

**754-321-3500**



### Send Us an Email

Submit a tip using the email address below. Although your email address is displayed using this tip reporting method, you can choose to remain anonymous by simply requesting it in your message.

[SecurityTips@BrowardSchools.com](mailto:SecurityTips@BrowardSchools.com)

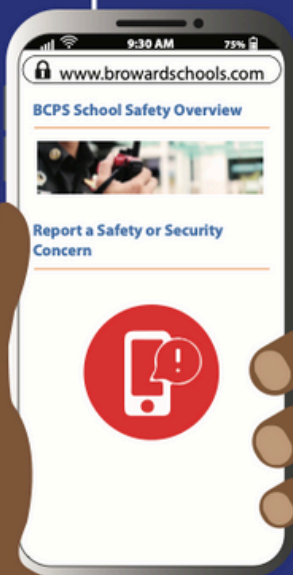


### FortifyFL

Submit a tip via FortifyFL online (**no download required**) or download the app for easier use. Visit FortifyFL using the link below. Your tip will immediately reach law enforcement and Broward Schools investigators.



[GetFortifyFL.com](https://www.getfortifyfl.com)



This project was supported by Grant No. 2019-Y5-BX-0211 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



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