

Back to School at the Cove: Frequently Asked Questions

We are excited to welcome all our Falcons back to school for the 2024-2025 school year! We want our Falcons to be ready to go on the first day, therefore, we've compiled a list of commonly asked questions and answers to assist our Falcon families.

Q: When is the first day of school?

A: The first day of school for the 2024-2025 school year is Monday, August 12th, 2024.

Q: How does my student get their schedule?

A: Schedules will be available Friday, August 9th, 2024, utilizing FOCUS.

Students will also be provided with a copy of their schedule on the first day of school and we will have staff all throughout the school to help students get to their first period class on the first day of school.

Q: At what time does school start and end?

A: School hours are from 9:25am-3:55pm.

Students may arrive as early as 8:55am.

Parents are kindly asked not to drop students off on school grounds prior 8:55am as there is NO security and NO adult supervision prior to that time.

Q: At what time do students get out on Early Release days?

A: Early Release dismissal is 1:55pm. There is only **one** Early Release Day scheduled for this school year on Friday, February 14, 2025.

Q: Is there a cut off time for signing out students early?

A: Yes, Falcon Cove Middle School has specific cut-off times for signing out your child if being picked up early from school. 3:30pm on a regular school day and 1:25pm on Early Release days.

Q: Where is the child pick-up/drop-off location?

A: The pick-up/drop-off location is accessed via Gate 5 on Vista Park Blvd. You'll pass Vista Park and follow the road all the way down into the Falcon Cove entrance. Next, pull into the carline to drop off your child at the front of the school. Please pull all the way forward! Do not try to enter the campus off of Bonaventure Blvd. as that entrance is for Busses only.



Q: Can I drop off food and other items during the day for my student?

A: No, we must respect the teaching and learning environment of all our students, and we will not call into the classrooms to drop off food, etc. Please plan accordingly with your student prior to entering the campus and remember breakfast and lunch are provided free to all students.

Q: What is Falcon Cove Middle School's website address?

A: www.falconcovemiddle.net

Q: How do I update/change my address and emergency contact information?

A: Every parent needs to fill out the Back to School Forms by accessing the Back to School Wizard that is available at www.falconcove.net or by clicking here!

Q: Does Broward County Public School offer school bus transportation services to students?

A: Yes, school bus transportation services are offered and available through the BCPS Student Transportation & Fleet Services Department.

All current or eligible students using bus transportation for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year must register for a bus assignment.

www.browardschools.com/register2ride

To qualify for school bus transportation the student's residential address must be outside of a two-mile radius from school. Please allow 2-4 school days from the time of registration for bus information to appear on Virtual Counselor.

Q: Does Falcon Cove Middle School have a Dress Code?

A: Yes, Falcon Cove Middle School follows the Broward County Public School's dress code that is mandatory and enforced. Please review the dress code policy here.

Q: Do you have lockers?

A: No, students must bring their backpacks to school every day to secure their personal belongings.

Q: What is the cost for my child's lunch?

A: Free breakfast and lunch is provided for all enrolled students for the 2024-2025 school year. Parents need to fill out the forms to participate in this program. Students may also bring his/her own lunch each day to eat if they prefer.

Q: Can I pay for student obligations (i.e. lost textbooks, field trips, yearbook, band, etc.) online?

A: Yes, student obligations can be paid online via the BCPS's E-Store Payment System. E-store may be accessed at https://estore.browardschools.com.

Q: What is the Broward County Public Schools website address and phone number?

A: Broward County Public Schools website: <u>www.browardschools.com</u>; Phone Number: 754-321-0000.

Q: Does Falcon Cove offer Before and After Care?

A: Yes, Registration will open on 8/1 on https://www.browardschools.com/bascc (directions on how to register are attached) for any student interested in signing up for before or after care at Falcon Cove. Before Care is from 7-9 am in the Media Center and Aftercare is 4-6pm in the Media Center. After you have registered, please continue making online payments to make payments. There is a \$30 registration fee for the first payment only. Students who are attending aftercare will have to include the \$5 activity fee for each payment. Registration must be completed before a student can attend.

Before Care - Between 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. parents will drop off their students in the front of the school and the students will enter utilizing the Single Point Office. Security will be out front at 7am to greet students and parents.

Aftercare - Between 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., parents or other registered/designated adults will pull into the main parking lot of the school, identify themselves to security at Single Point, to pick up their student(s).

Q: What are the requested school supplies? How can I obtain a school supply list?

A: <u>Each teacher will provide students/parents with a recommended school supply list to suit their subject needs</u>. However, below is a list of generally recommended items to get you off to a great start:

Suggested school supplies:

- Pocket folders for each subject
- One 3 ring binder (1 inch, flexible)
- Dividers with 3 tabs
- Loose Leaf Paper (Filler Paper)
- 1 Composition Book-100 Pages
- 1 Spiral Notebook
- Pens (blue, black, red)
- Pencils
- Pencil Sharpener
- Zippered Writing Utensils Holder
- Dry Erase Markers
- 1 Pack Colored Pencils
- Crayons (24 pack)
- Glue stick
- Rulers
- 1 Highlighter
- Pink Erasers
- Copy Paper 8.5" X 11"
- Flash Drive (recommended, but not required)
- Index Cards
- Calculator

Q: Can I access my child's grades online?

A: Yes, parents can access their child's grades and attendance and can setup email alerts online through FOCUS. FOCUS is the district's new Student Information System (SIS) for the 2024/25 school year. This system provides easy access to school information, student schedules, attendance, and grades. To register or activate the Parent Portal, follow the steps at the bottom of this page: https://www.browardschools.com/focus

If you previously had a Virtual Counselor Parent account, you will activate your FOCUS Parent Portal using these steps:

- 1. Go to the Focus login screen at: https://bit.ly/BCPSParentPortal (NOTE: Your credentials for Focus are the same as your credentials for Virtual Counselor).
- 2. Enter your Username and Password (THIS IS NOT YOUR STUDENT'S LOGIN INFORMATION!)
- 3. Click the orange LOG IN button and the Portal page will display. Student schedules, grades, attendance, discipline, announcements, and more can be accessed from the Portal.

If you never had a Virtual Counselor Parent account, you will register for your FOCUS Parent Portal using these steps:

- **Note: Before creating your account, you will need an email address. If you do not have one, you can create a free email account at gmail.com or microsoft.com.
- 1. Log into this site: https://browardschools.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/auth/. Click Create Parent Portal Account.
- 2. Enter all the required fields with your own information and click SUBMIT (Each parent/guardian will need to set up their own individual account).
- 3. Select I would like to "ADD A CHILD who is already enrolled".
- 4. Enter the *Student's ID number* (begins with '06') and Student's birthdate, then Select "*Add Student*".
- 5. To add another student, select "I would like to ADD A CHILD who is already enrolled" and repeat the steps above as necessary. If you are done adding students to the portal, select "I am FINISHED adding students. Please take me to the Portal".

Q: Can I access my child's interim reports and report cards online?

A: Yes, using FOCUS. Interim Reports and Report Cards are posted on FOCUS during the day listed on the BCPS calendar. FOCUS is also used to access other pertinent student information such as test scores, financial obligations, academic history and much more online.

FOCUS is available at https://www.browardschools.com/focus.

Q: How can I become a volunteer?

A: All adult volunteers are asked to complete a new application for the upcoming school year at <u>browardschools.com/volunteerapplication</u>. Students who wish to volunteer may contact the Athletics and Student Activities department at 754-321-1201.

Q: What are the ways that I as a parent can be more involved and informed?

PTA Website: https://falconcove.givebacks.com/. Join the PTA and be on our email list for timely updates on volunteer opportunities and school events!

Q: Does Falcon Cove Middle School offer before/after school extra-curricular activities?

A: YES, Falcon Cove Middle School offers a wide variety of before/after school extra-curricular activities including, but not limited to Academic Clubs, Sports, and Activities. A complete list can be found at www.falconcove.net.

Students interested in being part of a school team must submit all required paperwork, including proof of a current physical prior to trying out. Doctors' visits MUST take place after June 10th, 2023, so that there is no overlap in season/medical clearance. All forms must be submitted on the website www.registermyathlete.com and should NOT be turned into the school.

Please visit this site (www.registermyathlete.com), register your child, and upload all your completed forms. It is best to register your child for ALL sports, in the event they choose to try out for more than one sport.

LET'S HAVE A GREAT YEAR FALCONS!

