

# Earthkeeper's Voice

Volume 6, Issue 3

Title I School

November 2024

### Message from the Principal,

Mrs. Katherine Good, Principal Welcome Back!  
Parents,

It's Thankful November! We continue to "Dive into Learning" in so many great ways. We have completed the first quarter. As we continue to follow our "Dive into Learning" theme and we continue to plan some great things around our theme to ensure that we achieve academic success. It is a true pleasure to be the principal at Fairway Elementary. Our teachers and students are working hard on their commitment to academic excellence and their dedication to student achievement will be the primary focus for the entire Fairway community. **Please remember that our school hours are from 8:10 a.m. to 2:10 p.m.** Please make sure you are on time for arrival and dismissal.

This year, our goal is to increase our student achievement and be a "B" school, promote character education with our students, and assist our struggling students with additional resources. **Parents can help us achieve this goal by attending parent meetings, joining the SAC/PTO organization and ensuring that students come to school every day on time.** Research has shown that when schools develop strong partnerships with parents, students reap the benefit academically and socially.

**Please don't forget that we are a uniform school.** All students must be in uniform daily. Take the opportunity to purchase Fairway t-shirts to be worn on field trip days for safety and easy identification. Students may also wear the t-shirts on Fridays to show their school pride. Please help us to enforce our uniform policies. Uniforms help us recognize our students in case of an emergency. It also allows students to concentrate on academics instead of the latest fashion trends.

### Title I News

Please know that you can view our updated School Improvement Plan on our website after September 1, 2024. Please make sure that you sign your Parent Compact Plan. Please know that you can access the Fairway's Parental and Family Engagement Plan at <https://www.browardschools.com/fairway> under School News. Thank you to all the parents and families that came to our Fall Literacy Night. Please make sure to fill out the Title I Parent Survey. Your feedback is very important to us.

Mrs. Katherine Good, Proud Principal

### PTO News



**Be a Partner in your child's education!**

**Support PTO. PTO is looking for Board members. It is crucial to have board seats filled to continue to plan activities for our scholars.**

### How to Work With Your Child's Teacher

1. **Get to know your child's teacher(s)**, and the earlier the better. Don't wait for a special program if there is a problem or if your child has any special needs. It helps teachers to know everything they can about your child.
2. **Share important information** that can make it easier for teachers to understand your child. Sometimes things that happen at home can affect how children learn.
3. **Find out what's expected.** Ask about homework and other special assignments.
4. **Join the parent-teacher organization.** Be sure to volunteer for at least one thing during the year. That way, you'll be making things better for your child .....and for all children in the school

### School Counselor News

#### Harvest Drive

Please continue to bring canned goods and non perishable items for our District's Harvest Drive. We will be helping families in need during the Thanksgiving holiday.

#### Character Trait-November-Citizenship



**Be a Star Volunteer in Broward County Public Schools**

**Apply on - Line Today!**

Go to:

[www.getinvolvedineducation.com](http://www.getinvolvedineducation.com)

**Your personal information is protected**

The School Board of Broward County, Florida , prohibits any policy or procedure that discriminates on the basis of national origin, marital status, race, religion or sexual orientation. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act should call the Office of Equal Opportunities at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine TTY 754-321-2158.

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**Procedures and Rules**

**Arrival & Dismissal-** Students need to arrive at school NO LATER than 8:05 a.m. Students need to be picked up no later than 2:10 p.m. at assigned dismissal areas.

**AGENDA BOOKS:** Agenda books keep your child aware of important dates/homework assignments, and are used as a communication tool between the teacher and the parent. Please check your child’s agenda booklet daily.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance at school often determines pupil progress. Students should attend school daily and arrive on time. In the event of an absence, a call is required beginning with the first day and continuing with all subsequent days. Remember, the IMT (Information Management Technician must be notified of your child’s absence within 48 hours of the absence. Please make sure you call 754-323-5650-Mrs. Duckworth.

**CONFERENCES:** Conferences ensure better understanding among the teachers, students, and parents. A parent or teacher may request a conference at any time. Please call the school to arrange for a convenient time to talk to your child’s teacher.

**DROP OFF/PICK UP AREAS:** For the safety of our students, parents are asked to pick up primary students (K-2) on the west side of the school, (entering from Fairway Blvd). and intermediate students (3-5) on the east side of the school (entering from Harbor Blvd.).

Students may be dropped off from 7:40- 8:10 in the primary or intermediate areas. Dropping off students in the Bus Loading Zone is prohibited.

**GATES CLOSED AND LOCKED:**

The gates in the bus loop will be open from 8:10-8:30. In the morning the gates will be locked at a.m. If your child arrives late to school, the child must be escorted by an adult and signed in, If you need to enter the campus any time after 8:10 a.m. the campus monitor will assist.

The gates in the afternoon on both Primary and Intermediate car loops will close

**EARLY DISMISSAL/SIGN OUT:** According to School Board Policy, students are not permitted to be picked up 30 minutes prior to the end of the school day. The last 30 minutes are very critical. Teachers are conducting final review of lessons, distributing important school information, or giving homework assignments. We thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

**EARLY RELEASE DATES:** Early Release Days are February 14.

designated by the School Board of Broward County. On the following days students are dismissed at 12:10 pm:

**HOMEWORK:** Children are encouraged to study at home. Setting aside a definite time each evening for homework will develop good work habits. Routine study time is an excellent plan, particularly if it is done with a parent in a relaxed and positive setting. The classroom teachers will assign homework.

**INTERIM REPORTS:** An interim report is sent home half-way through a reporting quarter to notify parents of progress. If you want to request a conference, or if the teacher requests a conference, please call the school to arrange a convenient time. Please sign the interim report and return it to the school immediately. Interim dates are as follows:

September 27th, November 22nd, February 11th, & April 29th

**PARENT-TEACHER Organization (PTO):** We welcome and encourage your assistance in providing guidance and service to our students, staff and community; including your attendance and participation at PTO meetings, School Advisory Council, and many more activities to come.

**SCHOOL DRESS CODE:** School Uniforms are MANDATORY at Fairway Elementary. It is very important that students are in their uniforms every day. Students MUST wear an ID badge every day. Parents will be notified if your child isn’t in compliance with the dress code policy.

**SCHOOL SAFETY:** Safety is a major priority at Fairway. We have established policies to ensure the safety of our students, staff, parents, and visitors.

It is important to understand that everyone’s safety is compromised when the policies are not followed.

- All visitors are required to report to the front office prepared to show I.D. before entering the school for any reason. Everyone must go through our STAR system. Masks are highly recommended.
- Parents are required to show I.D. before entering the school for teacher-parent conferences, academic awards or graduation events.
- Early Childhood parents must show ID
- Students are not allowed in the school building before 7:30 am. If your child would like breakfast he/she must be in the breakfast line from 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.
- Any change in a student’s usual dismissal procedure must be reported to the student’s teacher in writing prior to the change taking place.
- Please note that we will be conducting monthly fire drills and LOCKDOWN Drills. They are a part of our district safety mandates.



**Important Date(s) To Remember**



**November**

5th-Report Cards on Focus Parent Portal

5th-Planning Day

11th-No school-Holiday

22nd-2nd Quarter Interims

25th-29th-Holiday Break

**Procedures and Rules (Continued)**

**As of Monday, August 19, 2024, the front parking lot and Kindergarten parking lot will close at 8:10 a.m. and students will be dropped off utilizing their regular drop off procedure outlined above.** If you feel your child needs some assistance please use the parking lot off Harbor Blvd. You can walk your child to the gate where safety patrols and staff can assist walking your child to the cafeteria. **No parents will be permitted to walk their child to class after 8/13. Unless parents have a conference scheduled**

As a reminder, no parent may access the front drop off. Any parent escorting their child must leave their child at the front door or kindergarten side of the school and your child will enter the school on their own. There will be staff on post as of 8:10 a.m.

*Parents who have scheduled conferences with teachers or need to speak to a member of support staff or administration may do so by going directly to the front office. Administration is always available. **Your driver's license or passport** is required when you enter, as all visitors must be scanned through our Raptor system in the front office to ensure our students' safety at all times.*

We will be continuing our practice of using email alerts to keep in constant contact with our parents. Special events, field trips, and other reminders and announcements will be sent to you via email, phone, and through the Broward Schools App and Parentlink. All Back to School Forms will be completed ON-LINE through the Focus Portal. Fairway Elementary will be collecting hard copies of emergency contact forms which will be in your child first day packet. If you need assistance filling out forms on-line, please stop by the front office and we will be happy to help you.

Further, Fairway communication will be via parentlink, remind and social media, follow us on Instagram, and Twitter for up to date information.

Please make sure that all free and reduced lunch applications are submitted on-line as soon as possible. Breakfast and lunch are free however the applications still need to be filled out. The website is [www.applyforlunch.com](http://www.applyforlunch.com). If you need any assistance in completing the application, feel free to come to the school and we are happy to help you. Please remember that families that are not approved for free or reduced lunch benefits will be paying full price for lunch until approved. However, we will never leave a child without having a lunch. It is very important that parents check their child's account balance regularly as we want to ensure that all students receive a full lunch every day.

As a reminder, Fairway Elementary has universal free breakfast and lunch for all students. Breakfast is served daily from 7:45 -8:25 a.m. in the cafeteria. Students must arrive in the cafeteria no later than 8:20 a.m. in order to be served. If children arrive after 8:20 a.m. they will get a "grab and go breakfast."

**Birthday Celebrations-Parents please know that from PREK-through 5<sup>th</sup> grade we do not all Birthday Celebrations in the classroom, in the cafeteria and outside areas. This is due to many food allergies and the fact that we can't bring out side food into the school and cafeteria.**

Our school theme for this year is "Dive in Learning" We know the 2024-2025 school year will be FANTASTIC!

It is truly an honor to serve the parents and students of Fairway Elementary. I am truly PROUD to be the principal. I look forward to another year leading this amazing school. As always, feel free to email or call me with any questions you may have. I can be reached at 754-323-5650 or [Kathy.good@browardschools.com](mailto:Kathy.good@browardschools.com)

**Please make sure to sign up for the FOCUS parent portal. Directions are attached. Once you sign up for your account you can do all your back to school forms online. Please complete your re-enrollment forms online. [CLICK HERE](#)**

Proud to be an Earthkeeper,  
Katherine Good, Principal

**START NOW!!! Remind your child the importance of coming to school prepared to learn; good nights sleep, a healthy breakfast, and words of encouragement from parents are an excellent beginning to every day!**



## Parent Portal Login to Focus (with VC account) and Downloading the BCPS Connect App



### Parent Login to Focus

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.**



Enter your Username and Password.

**THIS IS NOT YOUR STUDENT'S LOGIN INFORMATION.**

Click the orange Log In button.

The Portal page will display.



Student schedules, grades, attendance, discipline, announcements, and more can be accessed from the Portal by using the menus and tabs on the home page.



## Parent Portal Login to Focus (with VC account) and Downloading the BCPS Connect App



### Download the Mobile App

Focus' BCPS Connect App provides teachers, students, and parents a streamlined way to access student information.

Go to Google Play or Apple Store and search for the BCPS Connect App.

Add the App to your preferred mobile device.

Login using your Parent Portal credentials.



The BCPS Connect App will open to a default Overview screen of each child's schedule, attendance, grades, and contact info.

Slide the screen to the left to access the News screen, available Links, and Messenger.

For more information, visit us at: <https://www.browardschools.com/focus>

**2024-2025**  
**Annual Title I School Parent and Family Engagement**  
**Survey**



**Parents, we need your input! Please fill out our annual Title 1 Parent and Family engagement survey.**

**Please fill this out no later than December 20, 2024.**

**You can fill it out electronically with the following links: |**

**[Parent Survey](#)**

<https://title1compliance.com/goodsurvey/?vfqxs=QUNFNzYyNzMtRUUwRS00QjQzLThENTEtQTZEODVDNUU5NjQ3KzE2NDE=>



**Thank you,**  
**Fairway Elementary Administration**