

ATTENTION: STUDENTS, PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CAREGIVERS

## **ONLY CLEAR BACKPACKS AND BAGS ALLOWED ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES IN THE 2023/24 SCHOOL YEAR**

As part of Broward County Public Schools ongoing efforts to provide safe and secure learning environments, beginning in the 2023/24 school year, **ONLY CLEAR BACKPACKS AND BAGS WILL BE PERMITTED FOR STUDENTS IN ALL GRADES.**

This proactive measure takes effect on the first day of the 2023/24 school year – Monday, August 21, 2023. As of that date, **ONLY** clear backpacks and bags (purses, duffel bags, fanny packs, lunch boxes, etc.) will be allowed on school campuses for students in grades pre-K – 12.

The only exceptions permitted are:

- A small non-transparent pouch for personal hygiene items.
- Thermal food containers carried inside clear lunch boxes.
- School-approved sport-specific carrying case for athletic equipment.
- School-approved instrument-specific carrying case for band equipment.

**All backpacks and bags must be see-through.  
Mesh and colored backpacks are NOT permitted,  
even if they are transparent.**

**Examples of approved backpacks and bags:**



**For more information, visit [browardschools.com/clearbackpacks](https://www.browardschools.com/clearbackpacks).**



**The School Board of Broward County, Florida** Lori Alhadeff, Chair • Debra Hixon, Vice Chair • Torey Alston • Brenda Fam, Esq. • Daniel P. Foganholi  
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## **CLEAR BACKPACKS AND BAGS FOR THE 2023/24 SCHOOL YEAR FAQs**

### **What type of clear backpacks and bags are permitted?**

All backpacks and bags must be clear and made of transparent plastic or vinyl material and must not have any opaque or tinted parts. The backpack or bag may have side mesh pockets, but backpacks made entirely of mesh will not be allowed.

### **What happens if a student has a non-approved backpack or bag?**

Students with non-compliant backpacks will be subject to search and appropriate disciplinary action.

### **What about personal hygiene items?**

A small non-transparent privacy pouch will be allowed for personal hygiene items.

### **What types of lunch boxes are approved?**

All lunch boxes must be clear and made of transparent plastic or vinyl material. Students may bring hot/cold food containers. A thermos for hot/cold drinks is also permitted. These items must be stored in a clear lunch box or clear bag.

### **What types of bags are approved for athletic equipment?**

Student-athletes are required to use clear duffel bags to bring their sporting equipment to school. Exceptions: Bats (softball/baseball) and lacrosse sticks may be carried in their school-approved, sport-specific carrying case.

### **What types of bags are approved for band equipment?**

Band equipment must be carried in a school-approved, instrument-specific carrying case.

### **Do staff members have to use clear backpacks and bags?**

Staff and faculty are exempt from the clear backpack requirement.

### **Do volunteers have to use clear backpacks and bags?**

No, only students are required to follow the clear backpack and bag requirement.

### **Do school visitors have to use clear backpacks and bags?**

Like staff and volunteers, visitors do not have to follow the clear backpack and bag requirement.

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