



# Quarterly **Buzz**

The Latest from District 3



**APRIL 30, 2020**

## Update for District 3 and Resources during the Pandemic

None of us could have predicted we would be finishing the 2019-2020 school year via online instruction, and I know for many of us life has been a bit of a roller coaster lately.

I would like to start off this newsletter with gratitude.

- **THANK YOU** to all the educators who have worked so hard to keep students engaged in online learning.
- **THANK YOU** to all the students who have logged in daily to "attend" school and complete assignments.
- **THANK YOU** to the parents and caregivers who serve as critical supports to our students during this time.

My first day message still rings true today . . . every moment matters as we all work together to believe, achieve and succeed!

**HEATHER  
POMPER  
BRINKWORTH  
SCHOOL BOARD  
MEMBER  
DISTRICT 3**



Email

**754-321-2003**



It is hard to believe the month of May is upon us. That means we have roughly four weeks left in the 2019-2020 school year. School and district staff are working hard to conduct many end-of-year

activities and celebrations in some format to create a positive ending for this school year.

For many families this is a transition year, with students moving on to middle school and/or high school and you may have many questions about the process. Both high school and middle school guidance teams are working with the administration of each individual school to conduct scheduling for the 2020-2021 school year. If your student has not been directed to think about which classes and/or electives they are hoping to take next year, now is a good time to think about that. For information on scheduling classes visit your school's website.

- Next week, May 4 – 8, is National Teacher Appreciation Week! We appreciate our teachers every day of the year, but next week the whole country joins us in that effort. Please find time to show our teachers some much needed love and gratitude next week. A complementary e-mail, a hand-written note of thanks, a picture of your student with a homemade sign, an electronic gift card, whatever you are able to do to show your appreciation will be greatly appreciated. Let's make it a special week for our teachers!
- Third quarter report cards were issued electronically last week. You may visit your student's Virtual Counselor page to review it, if you have not already done so. Interim grades for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter will be submitted by teachers on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. Please check <https://bit.ly/2KG71Uk> to view this week's academic calendar update for more information.
- The second school choice window opens on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Explore your options  
**School Choice**

District 3 has many exciting educational opportunities with reassignment seats still available and great programs are available across Broward County Public Schools. If you are still exploring options for your student to attend school next year, be sure to visit the website and apply by May 8.

<https://www.browardschools.com/Page/41692>



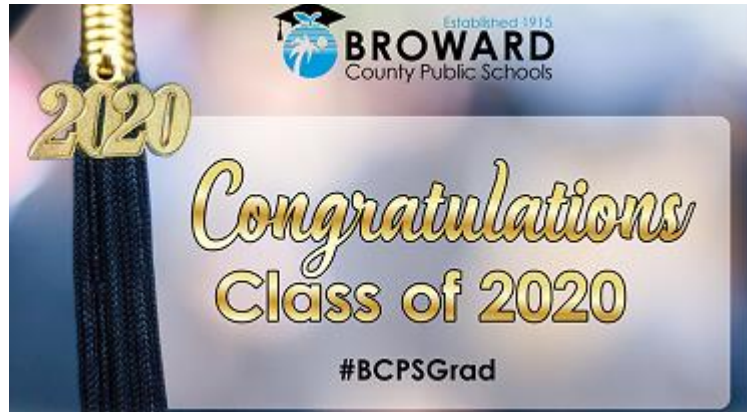
- Our Food and Nutrition Services Department has been working hard to help families in need. Over 500,000 meals have been distributed to date! In order to make it easier for our families, the 51 food distribution sites across Broward County transitioned to a new service model this week. Beginning the week of April 27<sup>th</sup>, multiple days' worth of grab-and-go meals are available for pick up at all 51 sites on Mondays and Wednesdays ONLY from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. If your family is facing food insecurity, I encourage you to visit one of our schools providing meals. Please visit <https://bit.ly/2S2jJ46> for more information and the map of food distribution sites.



- The District recently launched a Help Line to support parents and students with computer devices, programs and applications involved in Distance Learning initiatives.



The Technical Support Line is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



For the Class of 2020 and their families: First, let me say I cannot imagine how frustrated and saddened you all must be, as senior year activities were cancelled in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. My heart breaks for you all, and I along with all of the adults who support students across this district share in your disappointment. Graduation ceremonies are celebrations we all look forward to attending to celebrate our students' successes, and for each individual student it is a time-honored rite of passage.

Unfortunately, we are still under a safer at home order at this time, and even in the coming weeks, as our State and Broward County begin to re-open and allow activities and businesses to serve the public, we have no way of predicting when large gatherings will be permitted. Please know that the District will continue to monitor safety conditions in South Florida around the coronavirus pandemic. If and when the situation changes and it becomes safe for our students to experience traditional commencement ceremonies, I guarantee you, we will be the first to start planning.

The district has already secured alternative graduation dates with our vendors for late July to early August, in case restrictions are lifted. However, we need to plan for what we know now. We desperately want to honor our seniors, and that is why we needed to make an announcement about virtual graduations. We would like to include as much of the "traditional" pomp and circumstance of the graduation ceremony as possible in a virtual ceremony, and that takes planning and time. We have not given up on the hope for an in-person ceremony, but what we are asking is that we plan for the best possible virtual ceremony in the meantime.

As your District 3 School Board member, I look forward to being able to congratulate each member of the Class of 2020 on the accomplishment of graduation from high school. Stay tuned for upcoming announcements about our plans.

In my household, like many across the District, virtual fatigue is setting in. Working from home is one thing but not having any real contact with others outside of a closed circle is difficult for both children and adults alike. That is why I am sharing some resources that can help provide new and exciting opportunities for learning and exploring and reduce stress and anxiety. See the links at the end of this newsletter for resources and remember to create fun memories in the midst of this difficult situation.

I encourage everyone to stay up-to-date on the latest news related to the BCPS response to the Coronavirus pandemic by regularly visiting [www.browardschools.com/coronavirus](http://www.browardschools.com/coronavirus).

As always it is both my honor and privilege to serve as your District 3 School Board Member, and I am happy to receive your questions, concerns and feedback so we can continue to work together. My e-mail address is [heather.brinkworth@browardschools.com](mailto:heather.brinkworth@browardschools.com) or you may leave a message on our office line at 754-321-2003.

Stay safe and be well!

Heather

**Heather Pomper Brinkworth**  
**School Board Member District 3**

## Resources to Reduce Stress and Anxiety



Taking care of each other and taking care of ourselves is vitally important as we plan to finish the 2019-2020 school year under the new conditions online learning adds to our daily routine. Working from home, navigating online schoolwork, unexpected financial pressures, being ill and/or worrying about family members who are not well, all add up to an enormous amount of STRESS!

I am happy to share Broward County Public Schools has partnered with Rethink Ed to offer extensive social emotional learning (SEL) resources to students, staff and parents, including lessons, trainings, mental health supports, self-assessments and additional materials related to SEL.

These resources are provided to directly address the fear and anxiety which have emerged due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID19), school campus closures, abrupt changes in routines, a heightened sense of uncertainty, and increased stress levels in both children and adults. SEL provides a foundation for managing emotions, having healthy relationships, understanding and empathizing with others, being responsible and safe, learning to cope with difficult situations, and managing stress, emotions, anxiety, and fear during this unprecedented situation. I encourage you to visit the links provided to access this helpful resource.

- BCPS educators and students can access Rethink Ed resources from their Clever launchpad ([sso.browardschools.com](https://sso.browardschools.com)), by clicking on the Rethink Ed tile in the Request Center to find the app. The resources can be directly accessed at <https://go.rethinkfirst.com/supportbrowardpublicschools>.
- Parents can access Rethink Ed by visiting <https://go.rethinkfirst.com/supportbrowardpublicschools> and scrolling to the bottom of the homepage for information on how to create their own free Rethink Ed account.

A visit to the [Mindfulness page](#) on the District website will also provide you with activities to reduce stress and cultivate well-being.



## Resources for Learning and Exploring



The Museum of Discovery and Science has partnered with Broward County Public Schools to provide engaging, age-appropriate science lessons for students from Pre-K to high school.

### **MODS** CHALLENGE

The MODS Challenge launched April 13 with weekly themes that offer students innovative learning opportunities and insights on specific topics within each thematic week. After 3 weeks, robust and engaging educational material has been presented and posted on the MODS site.

Below is a snapshot of activities for the first three weeks, along with links to assignments and resource videos by grade level.

#### **Week 1 (April 13-17): The Environment and Nature**

[Grades PreK-2: Backyard Wilderness](#)

[Grades 3-5: My Square Backyard](#)

[Grades 6-8: Quadrant Plot Survey](#)

[Grades 9-12: Quadrant Plot Survey](#)

#### **Week 2 (April 20-24): Engineering**

[Grades PreK-2: Be an Engineer!](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: What's an Engineer? Crash Course Kids](#)

[Grades 3-5: Skinny Tower Challenge](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: The Engineering Process Crash Course Kids](#)

[Grades 6-8: Zip Line Challenge](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: Get Hooked on the Extreme Sport of Zip Lining](#)

[Grades 9-12: Trebuchet Challenge](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: Trebuchet Siege Artillery – Battle Castle with Dan Snow](#)

#### **Week 2 (April 20-24): Physical Science.**

[Grades PreK-2: Float a Boat](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: The States of Matter](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: What is Matter?](#)

[Grades 3-5: Pie Pan Convection Cells](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: Best Convection Currents Videos!](#)

➤ [Supplementary Video: Convection Experiment](#)

[Grades 6-8: Action Figure Driver](#)

- [Supplementary Video: Buoyancy – Can you drown in the dead sea?](#)
- [Supplementary Video: Bill Nye – Buoyancy](#)
- [Grades 9-12: Rubber Band Powered Car](#)
- [Supplementary Video: Gravitational Potential and Kinetic Energy](#)
- [Supplementary Video: Work, Energy and Power](#)

**Here are the themes for the next five weeks.**

**Week 4 (May 4-10): Ecosystems**

- Grades PreK-2: Ecosystem in a Bottle
- Grades 3-5: Endangered Everglades Lab
- Grades 6-8: Create a Watershed
- Grades 9-12: Ocean Acidification

**Week 5 (May 11-17): Health and Wellness**

- Grades PreK-2: Health, Wellness and Germs
- Grades 3-5: Health, Wellness and Germs
- Grades 6-8: Health, Wellness and Germs
- Grades 9-12: Wise Bodies

**Week 6 (May 18-24): Space**

- Grades PreK-2: Outrageous Orbit
- Grades 3-5: Oreo Phases of the Moon
- Grades 6-8: Soda Straw Rockets
- Grades 9-12: Alka Rockets

**Week 7 (May 25-31): Animals**

- Grades PreK-2: Animal Tracks
- Grades 3-5: Only Jellies in the Bellies
- Grades 6-8: Edible Coral Polyps
- Grades 9-12: Shark Anatomy Investigation

**Week 8 (June 1-7): Eye of the Storm: Hurricanes and Climate Resilience**

- Grades PreK-2: Stormy Finger Painting
- Grades 3-5: Waterproof the Roof
- Grades 6-8: Rising Water Safe Home
- Grades 9-12: Solar Oven Smores

Please use the link below to access a world of science exploration, from documentary films, to virtual science camps, to pre-school story time on Saturdays – I encourage you to check out all the exciting science for yourself. Additional information is available at <http://mods.org/modschallenge/>.

Join me in thanking the leadership and staff of both the District and the museum for coming together to benefit students in our community.



# SMART Update for District 3

## SMART PROGRAM

AT A GLANCE

PUBLISHED APRIL 2020

**DISTRICT 3**

Please click on image to the left for the April 2020 Smart Program Update for District 3

**SAFETY**  
**MUSIC & ART**  
**ATHLETICS**  
**RENOVATION**  
**TECHNOLOGY**

For a 2020 Plan Update please visit:  
<https://www.smore.com/2smwp>