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The summer is speeding by and another school year is fast approaching! Graduation time has passed, and another class of BCPS students are making their way into the world! It was, of course, exciting and inspiring, and even a little bittersweet as I can see my children in the future walking the stage as I shake each graduate's hand.

Teachers return for Teacher Planning the week of Aug. 14th, and the first day for students is Aug. 21st. During this summertime break many teachers take courses and classes to enhance their abilities, with students relaxing, or conquering their first summer jobs and volunteering in their communities; and, hopefully, indulging in some good summer reading. My hope is that everyone gets to do something they enjoy during the summer!

We have some changes coming to District 3 schools for the coming year that I would like to share with you. Please extend a warm welcome to *Carolyn Felton*, the new principal of *Virginia Shuman Young Elem.* and *Dr. Henry Brown*, the new principal for *Pine Ridge Ed. Center*. *Danielle Smith* has moved from VSY to *Bennett Elementary* to replace *Principal Carney* who has retired. As of this writing, community meetings are planned for *North Andrews Gardens*, where *Principal Shacter* is leaving for a district position after many years; and *Sheridan Technical High*, where *Bob Boegli* is also retiring. I thank all of our departing principals for their tireless dedication over the years to their schools and students. You will be missed, but you will have new adventures and challenges in the future, and I wish you well.

My last newsletter was devoted to all the wonderful student accomplishments for the school year, so I will use this slow summer time to share further items of interest.

District 3 Happenings

- First and foremost, the FLDOE released the 2016-17 school grades after school dismissed for summer break. My *Congratulations* to the following D3 schools for making marked improvement by increasing their grade by at least one, and sometimes two, levels: *Bennett, Floranada, Harbordale, McNab, North Andrews Gardens, Oakland Park* and *Westwood Heights* all improved substantially. *Fort Lauderdale High School* regained an A for the 2016-17 school year.

As wonderful as this news is, I must share that all of our schools have been working very hard to enhance the educational opportunities for all students. Many D3 schools maintained excellent grades, and our struggling schools have been instituting new initiatives and innovative avenues to encourage and support the students who need that extra helping hand. I continue to urge our community members, organizations and employers to become involved in your local school. Volunteers add an extra component of "caring" to a school setting, serve as invaluable assets, and are greatly appreciated!

- *The Broward Education Foundation* is a direct-support organization of BCPS established to help support innovative teachers with the *IMPACT Grants*, which are

awarded each year; send worthy students to college through their *Scholarship Program*; and administer the *Tools for Schools Program*. This year *BEF* awarded over \$73,000 in scholarship money to 17 District 3 students. In addition, the following D3 teachers were recognized at the June 6th, 2017 City of Fort Lauderdale Commission meeting as **2017 INNOVATIVE TEACHERS!** Congratulations to: Bayview Elem. – Jane Barcelo; Broward Virtual School – Satoko Fisher; Croissant Park Elem., Lyla Boccuzzi, Sara Consler, and Amanda Smith; North Side Elem., Marlen Angulo, Myrline Cemoin, Dana Grant and Beverly Williams; Stephen Foster Elem., Lisa Walkowitz; Sunrise Middle School-Trisha Teelucksingh. 23 D3 schools shopped at *Tools for Schools* for a value received of \$193,331 all of which goes straight to the classroom and our students for badly needed supplies. District-wide the numbers are even higher. **THANK YOU, BEF, FOR ALL YOU DO FOR OUR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS!!!** Read more about BEF's accomplishments at <http://www.browardschools.com/departments/broward-education-foundation>.



- *Rickards Middle* - As you are travelling along Dixie Highway in the vicinity of NE 9th Avenue in Oakland Park, look on the east side of Dixie and you will see the lovely new murals gracing the side of Rickards Middle School. These will truly inspire our children to good citizenship!
- 120 BCPS schools were recently recognized as **Golden** and **Silver School Award Winners** by the FDOE. In District 3 *Floranada Elementary School* received special recognition for 35 consecutive years and *Harbordale Elementary* was recognized for 30 consecutive years of earning the Golden School Award; *Sunrise Middle* won both Golden and Silver Awards. *Bayview*, *McNab*, *North Andrews Gardens*, *Oakland Park* and *Virginia Shuman Young*, as well as *Rickards Middle* and *Seagull School* were also recognized as Golden School awardees. The Golden School Award recognizes elementary, secondary and adult schools that have a volunteer coordinator and a minimum 80 percent of staff who have participated in training related to school volunteerism. The total number of hours of volunteer service must equal twice the number of students enrolled. The Silver School Award recognizes secondary schools whose students volunteer within elementary or community organizations. Volunteer hours must equal at least half the total number of students in the school, with a volunteer coordinator providing training to participating students and faculty.
- BCPS has received the Meritorious Budget Award from the Assoc. of School Business Officials for excellence in budget presentation during the 2016/17 fiscal year. This is the 22nd consecutive year BCPS has received this recognition!
- *Broward Technical Colleges* were No. 1 in the state for Industry Certification Awards with 712 students earning 952 nationally recognized industry certifications, qualifying

Broward for \$683,363 from the state as part of the FLDOE postsecondary Florida Career and Professional Education Act Performance Incentive Funding. This is the second consecutive year Broward students have been No. 1!

- Once again *Fort Lauderdale High School* was the setting for the *District World Languages High School Academic Competition's Opening Ceremonies* on March 4th, 2017; and *Cypress Elementary School* hosted the *District World Languages Elementary Level Opening Ceremonies on May 10th*. This prestigious district-wide competition takes place on an annual basis at various Broward school locations. Thank you Ms. Ribeiro and Ms. Schnur for your generous commitment of time and talent!
- *Congratulations to L. Clara Mabour, Northeast High School* science teacher, named a *Lemelson-MIT Excite Award* winner to attend MIT for invention education and professional development. A former NEHS member of the InvenTeam five years ago that won a \$10,000 grant, Ms. Mabour was one of two student members of the team invited to the White House for the 2013 White House Science Fair, and persuaded President Obama to ride the bicycle that powered their water filtration system. Ms. Mabour now mentors the NEHS InventTeam. Thank you for coming home, Ms. Mabour!
- *"America's Most Challenging High Schools"*- 25 BCPS high schools made the cut! Over 23,000 public high schools are evaluated for successful access to advanced college-level coursework and challenging their students academically. *Congratulations to Stranahan High ranked 935th and Fort Lauderdale High ranked 1,000th*.
- The *Fort Lauderdale High School Class of 1962* commemorated their 55th graduation anniversary by dedicating a historical marker at the site of the original land donated by Frank and Ivy Stranahan for the establishment of Fort Lauderdale's first high school. The site is located just 150' south of Broward Boulevard on the east side of 3rd Avenue, before crossing the bridge. Through the special efforts of Bruce Marino and Mike Self, who worked tirelessly for nearly three years crossing many hurdles from the State and County for permits and permissions, on June 24th the Class of '62 dedicated the marker for the benefit of all City of Fort Lauderdale residents, now and in the future. If you are downtown take a moment to check it out. It's a lovely reminder of the early days.



Mike and Carol Self - Class of '62



Greg Marino & his dad, Bruce Marino, Class of '62

- I encourage everyone to use the last few weeks of summer to read with and to children. Thank you to *Soar with Reading*, a *JetBlue for Good* initiative, for placing FREE book vending machines for children ages 0-14 at 4 locations in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Riverland Library, Edgar P. Mills Multi-Purpose Center, Joseph C. Carter Park, and Osswald Park. Visit before the end of August, and read, read, read!

I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer break, and I look forward to seeing all of you as we begin a new school year in August. Please contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Heather Pomper Brinkworth



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Succeed in Tomorrow's World