

HEATHER POMPER BRINKWORTH SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER DISTRICT 3

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I would like to take a moment to send my well-wishes to all District 3 students, staff and residents. The events of the last couple of weeks in the wake of first Hurricane Harvey hitting Texas, Hurricane Irma and all it brought to the entire State of Florida, and then Hurricane Maria and its devastating impact on Puerto Rico and the islands of the Caribbean, are nothing short of mind-boggling. I pray you and your loved ones are able to make a quick and complete recovery. At this time assessments and repairs are taking place all over the Broward School District. While immediate attention has been given to getting schools up and running, the safety of our students is our primary concern. Please be patient as priority items are addressed but if there continue to be lingering concerns contact me at my office number, 754-321-2003, so that I can bring them to the attention of appropriate personnel.

The school year has barely begun and everyone will be diligently bringing academics and activities back on schedule. As of the 2nd day enrollment count we had 228,178 public school students registered. This is an increase of 1590 students from last year.

District 3 Happenings

- Congratulations to Michael J. Fero and Jayanne Forrest of *Fort Lauderdale High* who have been named as two of Broward County's 53 public school students named as *semifinalists* in the *2018 National Merit Scholarship Program*. 90 percent of semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing and half of finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship. Good Work Michael and Jayanne!
- On October 21st *Stephen Foster Elementary*, under the guidance of Principal Grimaldo, and in collaboration with the City of Fort Lauderdale, their PTO, and the Riverland Village community, will host a *Little Free Library* decorating event. For six months they have been working to increase community participation by supporting students and promoting reading outside of school, including working with the Riverland Library to implement a summer tutoring program. The purpose of the *Little Free Libraries* and their placement throughout the community is to allow children to have access to books in the community, outside of their school setting.
- *Richards Middle School* is excited to be able to offer a *Speech and Debate* track in all three grades this year. 6th graders will work with Ms. Samuel on foundational skills in Speech and Debate. Ms. Wilkins the 7th grade Speech teacher will be preparing students to participate in District-wide Speech competitions this year, and Ms. LaPlant, Debate Coach, will be taking the Debate students to many

- District competitions this year. Both Speech and Debate in 7th and 8th grades are High School credit courses.
- Broward Schools Awarded \$227,000 Grant to Increase Robotics Instruction and Resources awarded by NASA and the Robotics Education & Competition (REC) Foundation, these funds will be used to provide robotics equipment, materials and teacher professional development for all District schools; and during the first year, 2017/18, the new robotic equipment and resources will enhance STEM+Computer Science opportunities at 56 schools across the District. District 3 schools participating are: Bayview, Floranada, Lloyd Estates, and North Side elementaries; Rickards Middle and Northeast High School.
- *The 1Million Project* Sprint and the Sprint Foundation have partnered to make free devices and services available to schools to benefit 1 million low-income high school students across the country. 12.500 BCPS students from 17 high schools will receive free internet access, smart phones and other devices through the course of the next five years.
- Congratulations to the D3 2017 BEF Scholarship Winners- Fort Lauderdale High

 Kiara Baptiste, Kevin Hautigan, Abigail Michel, Ebony Parks, Shianna Peterson,
 Amber Rampersaud, Joshua Smith; Northeast High Ciara Brito, Franchesca Cyriaque; Stranahan High- Latricia Bazile, Naiola Francois, Osline jean, Keondra Lyn, Kiara McClam(2x), Corrie Watt (2x). We all wish each of you a first year of college success!

I know we are all looking forward to a return to normal. Let's get started!!

Heather Pomper Brinkworth



