

# On the Right Track

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## We are #BCPSProud



**Broward County Public Schools (BCPS)**  
continually receives recognition for excellence  
in education.

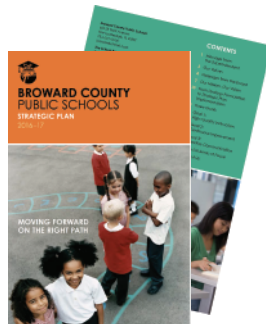
- BCPS earned prestigious Districtwide accreditation for five more years from AdvanceEd, the non-profit, non-partisan organization that conducts rigorous, on-site external reviews of schools and school systems (pre-K – 12th grade). BCPS is proud to be Florida's first fully accredited school system since 1962.

Read the complete accreditation report and learn more about the accreditation process at [browardschools.com/accreditation](http://browardschools.com/accreditation).

- BCPS is named a 2017 Great District for Great Teachers by the National Council on Teacher Quality. The award recognizes school districts for exceptional success at creating and implementing policies and practices that nurture, value and support great teaching.

Learn more at [browardschools.com/greatdistrict](http://browardschools.com/greatdistrict).

- The District's refreshed Strategic Plan is now available on the District's website. The Strategic Plan, Moving Forward on the Right Path, provides information on the District's three primary goals – High-Quality Instruction, Continuous Improvement and Effective Communication, as well as strategic areas of focus and action steps.



Check out the refreshed Strategic Plan at [browardschools.com/stratplan](http://browardschools.com/stratplan).



- The BCPS Title I, Migrant & Special Programs, Title III (Bilingual/ESOL) and Head Start departments hosted their annual Parent Seminar at the Signature Grand on Saturday, January 28, 2017. The theme was: "Family Engagement: Full Steam Ahead!" Over 500 parents attended, and 30 community business partners donated over 80 gifts for door prizes. Keynote speakers and sessions focused on developing forward-thinking students who are ready to compete in a global society, and how parents can help their children succeed in their education.

## Prioritizing Early Learning and Literacy

**BCPS is increasing its strategic emphasis on early learning and literacy to support a solid foundation for our youngest learners.**



**Connecting with Our Community**  
**#BrowardReads**

- BCPS is now part of the National Campaign for Grade Level Reading. The Broward Reads campaign is a collaborative initiative between community stakeholders, including the Broward County School Board, Children's Services Council, United Way of Broward County, Early Learning Coalition, Broward County Commission and multiple community partners. Broward Reads focuses on four critical areas: school readiness, chronic absenteeism, family engagement and preventing the summer learning loss. Broward Reads is also partnering with cities to make grade level reading a priority throughout Broward County.



## BCPS Hosts Statewide Kickoff for Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

BCPS was selected by the state to host the ninth Annual Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! kick-off event on January 23, 2017. This year's theme was "Literacy Changes Our World." Florida First Lady Ann Scott joined the festivities at Fort Lauderdale High School, along with Department of Education and Florida Lottery officials, community dignitaries and, author and prize-winning novelist Brad Meltzer. Students from Fort Lauderdale High School, Bennett Elementary School, Walker Elementary School, Wilton Manors Elementary School and Sunrise Middle School performed during the event.



Fort Lauderdale High School students during Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

## Ensuring Students are College and Career Ready



### BCPS Offers SAT Day for Second Consecutive Year

Ensuring all high school students, regardless of their backgrounds, have an opportunity to take the SAT college entrance exam is a priority for BCPS.

- More than 18,000 BCPS high school juniors will have an opportunity to take the SAT on SAT Day, which is April 5, 2017.
- The SAT is offered at no cost to students during the school day, eliminating the need for students to take the SAT on a Saturday, when transportation or other issues can be a barrier to participation.

For more information, parents and guardians should contact their student's high school guidance counselor.



### Claim Your Future Career Fair

BCPS and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance collaborated on a new career fair, Claim Your Future, held on February 8, 2017. The event was geared toward 11th grade students in the District's Career, Technical, Adult and Community Education programs. The career fair:

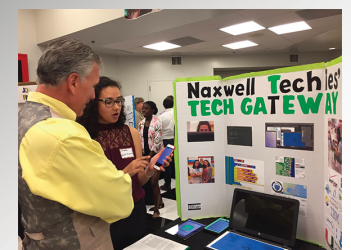
- Provided a unique opportunity for students to meet with industry leaders and discuss the skills necessary to pursue their professional goals.
- Included breakout sessions on topics such as resume writing, business etiquette and mock interviews, with the opportunity to receive feedback from their executive interviewers.
- Showcased a panel discussion with high-level corporate executives.



### TechGateway Initiative

BCPS and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance also teamed up to promote the TechGateway initiative. The initiative raises awareness about the many career opportunities in the technology industry available in Broward County and the South Florida region.

- The TechGateway initiative includes a website, [TechGateway.org](http://TechGateway.org), which highlights more than 2,000 local technology companies, as well as a map showcasing the location of these technology companies across our region.
- Poster-size versions of the TechGateway map are displayed at all of the District's middle and high schools, with associated classroom activities.
- BCPS middle and high school students were invited to participate in a TechGateway App Challenge, allowing them to use their computer science skills to design, storyboard and create an app that incorporates the TechGateway map and initiative to increase awareness about technology companies doing business in South Florida.



TechGateway App Challenge



## Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders

Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders (MTL) is a peer-to-peer mentoring, student leadership and educational reengagement program, which serves youth who are at risk for not graduating and/or remaining in school. The program aims to increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates, particularly among minority males.

BCPS students in the MTL program continue to excel:

- Two MTL students were recipients of the MLK Trailblazer Award, as students who are making an impact in the community.
- Several MTL seniors were offered scholarships at the College and Career Summit on January 26, 2017.
- Eleven MTL students were selected to participate in Broward Days at the state capital (Rally to Tally) event which took place March 13-15, 2017. These students joined other students as lobbyists for the District.
- The number of MTL sites has increased to 21 District elementary, middle and high schools.

## Supporting Our Local Business Community



### New Supplier Diversity Outreach Program

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, demonstrated its ongoing commitment to providing fair and equitable distribution of procurement and contracting opportunities to Broward County's diverse business community by adopting a new Supplier Diversity Outreach Program Policy 3330. The new policy, approved on January 18, 2017, takes effect on July 1, 2017.

### New Supplier Diversity Outreach Program (continued)

Managed by the Office of Procurement & Warehousing Services, the Supplier Diversity Outreach Program is designed to:

- Build capacity in the local business community by providing increased opportunities for underutilized businesses to do business with BCPS;
- Generate growth among local businesses by providing increased preferences to Small/Minority/Women Business Enterprises; and
- Create jobs and career opportunities for local residents.

Learn more at [broward.k12.fl.us/supply/sdop/index.html](http://broward.k12.fl.us/supply/sdop/index.html).

## Focus on Continuous Improvement



### BCPS Workers' Compensation Unit – Providing Excellent Service and Cost Reductions

In September 2013, the BCPS "in-house" self-insured, self-administered Workers' Compensation Unit was created to stabilize the District's unique, medically-driven program and protect it from a volatile insurance industry. Since this time, there has been an average reduction of \$4 million (22%) per year in the total workers' compensation program costs, while maintaining an overall satisfaction rate of 95% (very satisfied/generally satisfied) from injured employees. Major accomplishments for fiscal year 2015/16, compared to fiscal year 2014/15, include:

- Reduction of 219 net claims (11%) in new claims reported
- Reduction of \$1.6 million dollars (14%) in claims costs
- Reduction of 2,084 days (33%) in total lost work days

Additional information is available online at [broward.k12.fl.us/rmt/WorkersCompensationAnnualReports.html](http://broward.k12.fl.us/rmt/WorkersCompensationAnnualReports.html)

Check out Volume 1 and 2 of On the Right Track at:

[browardschools.com/parents-students/parent-student-pages/on-the-right-track](http://browardschools.com/parents-students/parent-student-pages/on-the-right-track)



**browardschools.com**  
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