

#### **BACK TO SCHOOL ISSUE:**

Theme Student Schedules **School Hours Parking Decals Transportation Back to School Forms FOCUS CLEVER Textbooks Important Dates Food & Nutrition** Safety & Security **Attendance** School Counseling **Gold & Blue Calendar Open House PTSA Schedule Changes** 

> WELCOME BACK!

#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE Dr. Kassandra Fried

Welcome to the 2025–2026 School Year! I am thrilled to welcome back our returning students and extend a heartfelt greeting to all new members of the Lightning family. Cypress Bay continues to shine, ranked in the top 3% of schools nationally and recognized as the top traditional high school in Broward County. This success reflects the passion, dedication, and excellence of our students, staff, and community.

This year, our theme is "Where Lightning Sparks a Legacy." It reminds us that every act of connection, leadership, and learning has the power to leave a lasting impact. Whether it's extending a helping hand, stepping into a new role, or striving for excellence, each of us contributes to the legacy of Cypress Bay.

We are also proud to align with the District's inspiring mission: "From the Dash to the Dream," which calls us to reimagine the future, a future where students lead with confidence, staff feel inspired, and schools serve as the foundation of community progress.

We will continue to focus on literacy through our School Improvement Plan, recognizing it as the cornerstone of all academic growth. Our "Level Up" initiative will again offer students meaningful opportunities to earn college credit and pursue academic acceleration. And through our Check N' Connect sessions, we'll ensure students stay informed and empowered throughout the school year.

Let's embrace the challenges and opportunities ahead with purpose and pride. Together, let's spark something great, and leave a legacy that moves us all closer to the dream.



# WHERE LIGHTNING SPARKS A LEGACY

**CONNECT- LEAD-LEGACY** 

At Cypress Bay, "Where Lightning Sparks a Legacy," we believe one action, one idea, or one person can create meaningful change and continue our shared tradition of excellence.

- Connect Like lightning linking the sky and ground, our actions connect us to one another. A simple gesture, such as reaching out, including someone, or collaborating, can spark unity and support.
- Lead The "spark" represents initiative and excellence. Taking the first step in leadership, academics, or service inspires others and sets the standard for greatness.
- Legacy Our efforts leave a lasting impact. One choice can influence others, shape our school culture, and build a foundation for the future.

Always remember, you have the power to connect, lead, and spark positive change. Be the spark. Leave your legacy.

#### STUDENT SCHEDULES

On Wednesday, August 6th, students will be able to access their schedule on FOCUS via their Clever. On the first day of school, during their first-period class, they will also receive a copy of their official schedule. Junior privilege students will also receive a copy of their schedule during second-period class.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

If you completed registration before the June 27th deadline, your bus route will be effective on the first day of school. Any registrations thereafter will be provided in the order the requests are received by transportation services.

Registration is still open here:
<a href="https://tfsweb.browardschools.com/Ride">https://tfsweb.browardschools.com/Ride</a>

#### SCHOOL HOURS

Teacher hours:
7:15 AM to 2:45 PM
Conferences: M,T,TH,F
7:15 AM to 7:35 AM
Warning Bell 7:30-7:40 AM
Period 1/5 7:40-9:10 AM
Period 2/6 9:17-10:47 AM
Homeroom 10:47-10:57 AM
Period 3/7 11:04-1:08 PM
Period 4/8 1:15-2:45 PM

#### SENIOR PARKING

August 16th: Seniors can paint their parking spots from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Important: The student must pick up the decal in person. All paperwork must be completed.

# MANDATORY BACK TO SCHOOL FORMS

All forms are required to be completed at the start of each school year for each student enrolled in the District. All forms will be completed digitally, utilizing district school-based software FOCUS. The window for completion opens August 4th, and the deadline for parents to complete these forms is August 24th.

\*If you would like our school nurses to be able to see your child in the clinic or be provided any services needed (including basic necessities such as ice or a band-aid). Please select "YES" when asked about Care and Treatment for Illness and Injury,

Instructions on how to access your parent FOCUS account are included in the following pages.

#### **FOCUS**

This system provides easy access to school information, student schedules, attendance, and grades.

- Automatic Enrollment: All students, teachers, and staff will have accounts automatically created for them. That will be accessed via Clever (Parents/guardians will need to create a Parent Portal Account).
- Replacement of Old Systems: Focus has replaced several older systems that are no longer in use, including Virtual Counselor, Ed Plan, and Pinnacle.

Parents are encouraged to activate/register their accounts as soon as possible. Instructions are provided on the next page, and videos on how to access the parent portal can be found at:

https://www.browardschools.com/focus



#### **Enrollment**

#### **Parent Portal Registration & Mobile App**



#### Register for BCPS' Focus Parent Portal

Student's ID Number:

The Focus Parent Portal account gives parents/guardians convenient, secure, anytime, anywhere access to your student's school information.

Note: Before creating your account, you will need an email address. If you do not have one, you can create a free email account at gmail.com or microsoft.com.

#### **Create an Account**

Log into this site or use the QR code:

https://browardschools.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/auth/



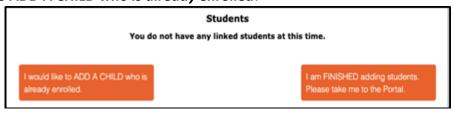
#### Click Create Parent Portal Account.



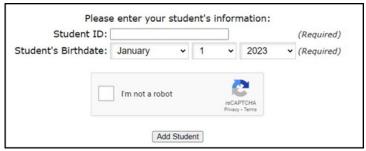
Enter all the required fields with your own information and click *Submit*. (Each parent/guardian will need to set up their own individual account)



Select I would like to ADD A CHILD who is already enrolled.



Enter the Student's ID number (begins with '06') and Student's birthdate, then Select Add Student.





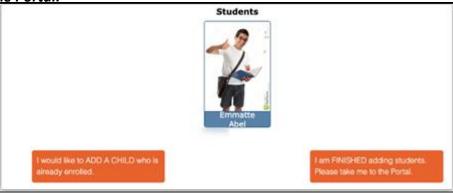
#### **Enrollment**

#### **Parent Portal Registration & Mobile App**



To add another student, select *I* would like to ADD A CHILD who is already enrolled and repeat the steps above as necessary. If you are done adding students to the portal, select *I* am FINISHED adding students.

Please take me to the Portal.



#### **Download the Mobile App**

Focus' **BCPS Connect App** provides teachers, students, and parents a streamlined way to access student information.

Note: Before downloading the app, you must follow the steps to Create an Account found on page 1.

Then go to Google Play or Apple Store and search for **BCPS Connect App**.



#### **CLEVER**

This is the same Single Sign-on Solution already used for over 40 different student applications. Students will continue to go to <a href="mailto:sso.browardschools.com">sso.browardschools.com</a> where they will be taken directly to the new Clever login page below. From this page, users will click on "Log in With Active Directory" where they will be taken to our Active Directory login page, instructions are on the next page.

#### **TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks will be distributed during the second week of school, during each student's class period. Teachers will bring their students to the cafeteria for collection during their designated times. Students will receive the textbook specific to their current class.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Open House: Tuesday, August 26th 6-8:30 pm School Advisory Council & School Advisory

Forum: August 19th at 3:00 pm in the WAVE

End of the 1st Quarter: October 10th

Home Football Games: September 12, 2025 September 19, 2025 September 26, 2025 October 10, 2025 - Homecoming October 17, 2025 October 30, 2025 - Senior Night

#### **FOOD & NUTRITION**

School Year 2025-2026, students will no longer eat lunch at no cost. Breakfast will remain free. Broward County Public Schools families will need to apply to determine their eligibility for free and reduced-price lunches.

The Food and Nutrition Services Department will start accepting online Meal Benefits Applications for the 25-26 school year on Monday, July 14, 2025, at <a href="https://www.myschoolapps.com">www.myschoolapps.com</a>.

## Clever



## Student Single Sign-On Instructions

A single login for all of your online learning programs.

Attention Students: Clever is the same Single Sign-on solution already used for over 40 different student applications. Now, it is easy to get all your learning programs from one "Launch Pad."

#### How do I login to Clever?

1) Go to

http://sso.browardschools.com where you will be taken to the Clever login page to the right. Click on "Log in With Active Directory".



2) You will be taken to the Active Directory login page shown to the right.



3) Your Username: is your Student 06

Number.

4) Your Password: Use your Active Directory password: P+Birthdate (PMM/DD/YYYY) ex. P05/25/2013 (This is the same password used to login to your computer and Single Sign-on.)

#### For support:

Contact your teacher who will work with the technology liaison at your school to get you the help you need!

#### **SAFETY & SECURITY**

BCPS Elevates Campus Safety with CENTEGIX CrisisAlert Badges worn by all staff members.

Broward County Public Schools is proud to introduce the cutting-edge CENTEGIX CrisisAlert system. This advanced wearable technology, aligned with the requirements of Alyssa's Law, reinforces our district's unwavering commitment to protecting every student and staff member. With the simple push of a button, personnel can immediately signal for help during critical situations, including medical emergencies, student altercations, or potential campus threats. Once activated, the system instantly triggers on-site alerts, flashing strobe lights, desktop screen takeovers, and intercom announcements, ensuring swift communication and coordinated response across the entire campus.

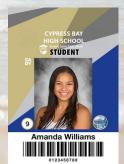
This powerful safety solution enhances real-time awareness and response, placing actionable tools directly in the hands of those on the front lines. CENTEGIX CrisisAlert represents a significant step forward in creating a secure, responsive, and supportive school environment for all.

All students must enter the campus through the main white gate, where they will be screened using metal detectors. Certain items, like laptops, umbrellas, musical instruments, large eyeglass cases, and three-ring binders, will trigger alerts and must be screened separately by security staff. Parents should remind students to bring only necessary items and avoid prohibited items. For more information please visit:

https://www.browardschools.com/metaldetectors

There are various tip reporting methods that we encourage you to use. Please click the following link to access all tip reporting tools: <a href="https://www.browardschools.com/securitytips">https://www.browardschools.com/securitytips</a>

Additional tip reporting tools and information below.



#### **ATTENDANCE**

Regular attendance is a key factor in a child's academic success.

Regular attendance is when a student attends more than 95% of the academic school year; this may include up to 8 absences in a 180-day school year. For all attendance matters, please go to:https://www.browardschools.com/attendance

#### SCHOOL COUNSELING

Counselors are assigned by the students' last name. Counselors can be contacted via email which can be found on our school's website.

#### **Social Workers**

Grace Carreto-Nagales Victoria Skiba

School Psychologist Ilisa Bianco

Family Therapist Annie Vargas





# Cypress Bay High School



## 25/26 GOLD (A) / BLUE (B) DAY CALENDAR

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# Cypress Bay High School



# OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, August 26th 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

18600 Vista Park Blvd. Weston, FL 33332 754-323-0350





# See Something, Say Something

Be a Broward Buddy, Report a Tip!

In an emergency, call 911 immediately. To submit a safety or security concern that is not an emergency, please use one of the tip reporting methods provided below. Please remember you can choose to remain anonymous.



#### **Anonymous Tip Submission Box**

Submit a tip easily via our Anonymous Tip Submission Box (no download required). Provide as much detail as you can, including names of people involved, physical descriptions, school name, social media handles, etc.



BrowardSchools.com/SecurityTips



#### **Call Us Anytime (Even on Holidays)**

Call our District Security Operations Center (DSOC) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays). One of our friendly DSOC Specialists will take your tip over the phone and submit it immediately to our investigators. Please let the DSOC Specialist know if you wish to remain anonymous.

754-321-3500



#### Send Us an Email

Submit a tip using the email address below. Although your email address is displayed using this tip reporting method, you can choose to remain anonymous by simply requesting it in your message.

SecurityTips@BrowardSchools.com



#### **FortifyFL**

Submit a tip via FortifyFL online (no download required) or download the app for easier use. Visit FortifyFL using the link below. Your tip will immediately reach law enforcement and Broward Schools investigators.



<u>GetFortifyFL.com</u>

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The School Board of Broward County, Florida • Lori Alhade • Patricia Good • Debra Hixon • Donna P. Korn • Laurie Rich Levinson • Sarah Leonardi • Ann Murray • Dr. Rosalind Osgood • Nora Rupert • Dr. Vickie L. Cartwright, Interim Superintendent of Schools









# ALYSSA'S ALERT

# **Mobile Duress Alert App**

Alyssa's Alert is a mobile duress alert application that empowers staff members to immediately notify first responders in the event of an emergency. Receive potentially life-saving aid with the push of a button.

### **Speed Crisis Response**

Upon activation\*, local first responders & District personnel receive an immediate notification of the emergency.

### Easy to Use

Select one of the three buttons (shown right) to activate Alyssa's Alert. Assistance will immediately be dispatched to your location.\*\*

### **Stay Connected**

Administrators will be able to push important updates regarding an emergency situation to anyone who has downloaded Alyssa's Alert.

\*Duress buttons can only be activated while physically on school property.

\*\*ONLY first responders may access location information upon button
activation. Under no other circumstances is location information
accessible.





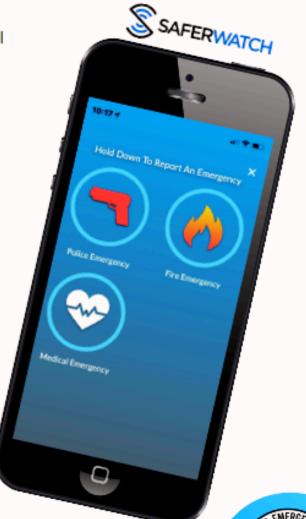




look for this Ican

Search for "SaferWatch"

Visit Learning Across Broward and search for "Alyssa's Alert" under the "Courses" tab to learn more about using Alyssa's Alert in the event of an emergency.



#### **PTSA**

#### Why Your Involvement with the Cypress Bay PTSA Matters

At Cypress Bay, our PTSA is far more than a parent–teacher group; it's a unified community force dedicated to supporting students, empowering families, and strengthening our school's impact. By joining the PTSA through tools like Givebacks.com, you're plugging into a powerful platform of involvement that makes a real difference.(cypressbayptsa.givebacks.com)

#### **Easy Access and Seamless Giving**

When parents and the community come together, great things happen for our students. The Cypress Bay PTSA supports academic programs, student events, teacher appreciation, scholarships, and more.

Joining the Cypress Bay PTSA shows that you believe in the power of collaboration and are ready to support our future leaders. Membership is now open through the Givebacks platform: it's fast, secure, and flexible. Whether you're eager to donate, volunteer, or simply stay connected—there's a place for you here.

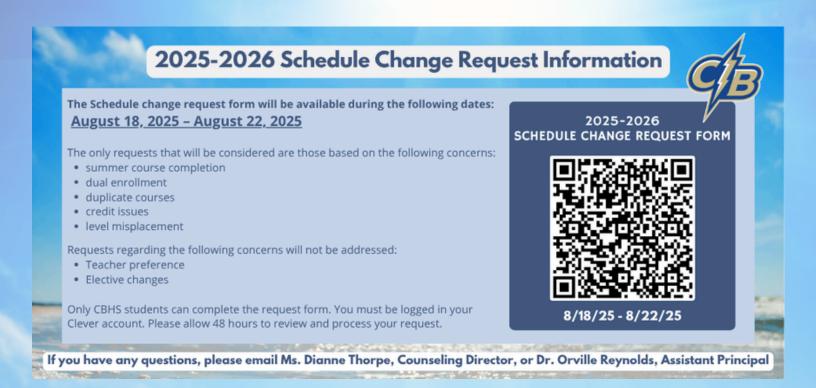
Together, we can shape an exceptional school environment where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

#### Join the PTSA—we need you!

We kindly seek your participation: Parents, teachers, and students have the opportunity to join the PTSA through a contribution of \$18. Just scan the QR code to join!

Your participation makes a meaningful difference for our school and children.





### **Schedule Change Process - Important Reminder**

All students are required to follow the schedule provided to them at the start of the school year. Attending classes as scheduled is critical for accurate attendance, instructional continuity, and campus safety.

If a schedule change is necessary, students must submit a formal request following the school's established process. No student should stop attending a class or begin attending a different one without receiving official approval and a new printed schedule from their counselor or administrator.

Please remember:

Verbal confirmation or teacher permission is not sufficient.
Only students with an officially updated schedule are permitted to switch classes.

This ensures that all students are accounted for and receiving the instruction they need from day one. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our school organized, safe, and focused on learning.

Have an incredible 2025-2026 School Year!