



Established 1915
BROWARD
County Public Schools

Department of Legislative Affairs • Telephone: 754-321-2608



The following positions represent the official legislative priorities of the School Board. The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Board Chair, is authorized to advocate for additional legislation to support the District's financial sustainability and operational effectiveness.

2026 State Legislative Priorities

Strengthening District Operations and Capital Resources	- Support legislation that advances fairness, consistency, and accountability for all entities receiving public dollars, ensuring fairness and impartiality across funding models for traditional public schools, home school, public charter schools, and private schools, so that all have a fair and competitive opportunity. - Advocate for legislation that ensures fair compensation for the use of district-owned facilities by charter schools, preserves School Board authority to assess equitable rental or leasing fees, supports responsible stewardship of public assets, and maintains local discretion in granting rights of refusal and managing the disposition of surplus properties. - Support legislation to expand industry certification opportunities for students, including, but not limited to, leadership and soft skill coursework.
Academic Excellence for All Students	Support the removal of statutory limitations that tie Title I eligibility thresholds to prior-year district levels or the statewide percentage of economically disadvantaged students, to allow local flexibility in expanding support to more schools in need.
Retaining a High-Quality Instructional Workforce	- Support legislation that extends eligibility for state-funded incentive programs to preschool teachers, ensures competitive compensation and performance-based bonuses for the instructional workforce, and promotes long-term recruitment and retention of high-quality educators. - Support legislation establishing paid family leave benefits for school district employees, recognizing that such policies improve recruitment and retention, promote employee well-being, and contribute to greater stability and continuity in the classroom environment for students.
Investing in Public Education: Budget, Finance, and FEFP Priorities	- Support legislation that addresses the District's structural funding gap, as evidenced by FY 2025–26 revenues of \$4.676 billion against expenditures of \$5.399 billion, resulting in a \$722 million shortfall that must be offset through reserves and transfers. - Support legislation that increases overall education funding to meet or exceed the national average for per-pupil expenditures and minimize impact to school districts from any proposed property tax reform. - Support dedicated funding to ensure a full-time licensed nurse in every school. - Advocate for maintaining the Required Local Effort rate to ensure stable and sufficient local funding for BCPS, supporting FEFP enhancements, and preserving the Education Enrollment Stabilization Program to prevent proration of funds to school districts.
Commitment to Technology, School Safety, Security, and Mental Health	- Advocate for increased funding and resources for the Safe Schools and Mental Health Assistance Allocations to enhance school safety, security, and Mental Health. This includes strengthening preventive safety measures, enhancing security protocols, supporting ongoing training for the Guardian program, sustaining mandated security personnel in every school, and covering costs associated with agreements with partnering law enforcement agencies for School Resource Officers. - Support legislation permitting any funds allocated under SB 7026, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, that was not utilized for the replacement of Building 12 to be redirected for the construction of a memorial off-site of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. - Support legislation that strengthens the protection of student data, including governance of artificial intelligence in schools, safeguards for accessibility to minors, requirements for age verification and transparency, content filtering standards, and regulations on the collection, storage, and use of student data by technology companies. - Support legislation that provides clear guidance on the use of audio-visual recording in self-contained ESE classrooms, allowing for an annual parent notification, while ensuring student privacy and aligning with increased safety measures.



The School Board of Broward County, Florida Lori Alhadeff • Maura McCarthy Bulman • Adam Cervera, Esq. • Debra Hixon • Dr. Jeff Holness • Sarah Leonardi • Nora Rupert • Rebecca Thompson • Dr. Allen Zeman • Dr. Howard Hepburn, Superintendent of Schools