



Established 1915
BROWARD
County Public Schools

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



2026 State Legislative Priorities

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 and operational effectiveness.

RESOURCE PRIORITY

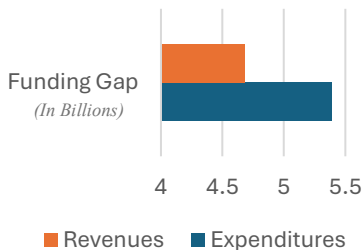
Strengthening District Operations and Capital Resources



Advocate for legislation that ensures fair compensation for charter use of district-owned facilities; preserves School Board authority to assess rental and leasing fees; supports responsible stewardship of public assets; and maintains local discretion in granting rights of refusal and managing the disposition of surplus properties—while also promoting fairness, accountability, and consistency across funding models for all entities receiving public dollars (traditional public, home school, public charter, and private schools) so each has a fair and competitive opportunity. Support legislation to expand industry certification opportunities for students, including, but not limited to, leadership and soft skill coursework.

FUNDING PRIORITY

Investing in Public Education: Budget, Finance, and FEFP Priorities



Support legislation that addresses the District's structural funding gap—reflected in FY 2025–26 revenues of \$4.676 billion against expenditures of \$5.399 billion, resulting in a \$722 million shortfall requiring reserves and transfers—while increasing overall education funding to meet or exceed the national per-pupil average and minimizing the impact of property tax reform. Further, support dedicated funding to ensure a full-time licensed nurse in every school, and advocate for maintaining the Required Local Effort rate to provide stable and sufficient local funding for BCPS, protect FEFP enhancements, and preserve the Education Enrollment Stabilization Program to prevent proration of district funds.

PROTECTIONS PRIORITY

Commitment to Technology, School Safety, and Mental Health



Advocate for increased funding and resources for the Safe Schools and Mental Health Assistance Allocations to strengthen preventive safety measures, enhance security protocols, sustain mandated security personnel in every school, support training for the Guardian program, and cover costs associated with School Resource Officers. Support legislation permitting any funds allocated under SB 7026, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, that were not used for the replacement of Building 12 to be redirected toward the construction of an off-site memorial. In addition, support legislation that strengthens the protection of student data—including governance of artificial intelligence in schools,

safeguards for minors, requirements for age verification and transparency, content filtering, and regulations on the collection, storage, and use of data by technology companies—and provide 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 alignment with safety measures.

STAFFING PRIORITY

Retaining a High-Quality Instructional Workforce

Support legislation that ensures competitive compensation and performance-based bonuses for the instructional workforce, and promotes long-term recruitment and retention of high-quality educators, while also establishing paid family leave benefits for school district employees to strengthen recruitment and retention, promote employee well-being, and provide greater stability and continuity in the classroom for students.



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