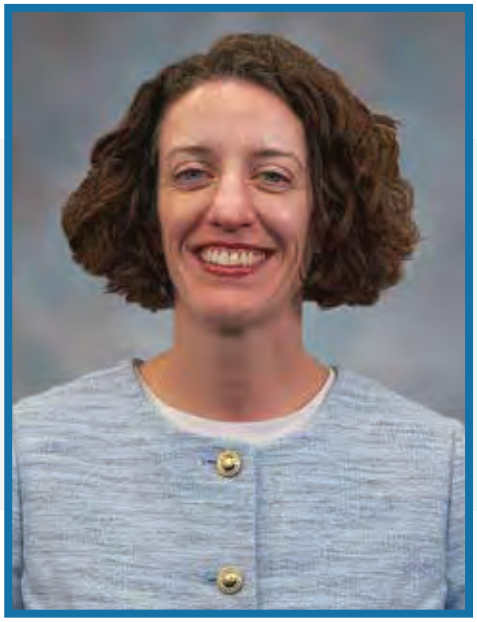
Spring 2026 Edition

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights



Maura McCarthy Bulman
School Board Member
District 1

754-321-2001

@maurabcps

maura.bulman@browardschools.com

facebook.com/
MauraMcCarthyBulmanBCPS/

A Message from Maura McCarthy Bulman District 1 School Board Member

Welcome to the District 1 news and events update!

As we head into the summer season, I'm excited to share our latest District 1 news and events update.

Over the past few months, I've had the opportunity to continue connecting with our schools, communities, and organizations that are doing meaningful work with our students.

In this edition, you'll find highlights that showcase achievements in our classrooms and throughout the community as we wrap up the school year and look ahead to summer.

As always, I welcome your thoughts, ideas, and continued partnership.

Maura McCarthy Bulman

School Board Member, District 1

Established 1915
BROWARD
County Public Schools

A RATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

District 1 Bulletin Highlights

- Speech & Debate Luncheon and Spelling Bee
- JROTC
- Environmental Initiatives
- District 1 Reads!
- Partners: Special Olympics, Overtown Youth Center
- Community Recognition and Events
- Celebrations: Just Do It Awards, Caliber Awards
- School and District Recognition
- Resolutions and Recognitions

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Debate Luncheon & Spelling Bee

Speaking for the Future, 11th Annual Debate Luncheon

What an impressive showcase of what Broward Schools has to offer. Our incredible debate students are shining examples of the dedication, discipline, and critical thinking that define our debate programs across the district.

We were proud to recognize the students, volunteers, and coaches whose hard work makes these achievements possible.

To support debaye initiatives Text DEBATE to 707070, or https://pledge.to/11th-annual-speaking-for-the-future-luncheon









Spelling Bee



Above: I had so much fun at the 2nd Annual Spelling Bee at **Bethune Elementary School.** I always love to see our proud principals and to see the kids shine! Great things are happening in District 1!



Above: With Collins Elementary's Principal Eames, Bethune's Principal Williams and Connie Furze.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps

The JROTC school program's purpose is to educate high school students in leadership roles while making them aware of the benefits of citizenship. Learn more at:
https://www.browardschools.com/programs-and-services/jrotc/the-junior-reserve-officers-training-corps



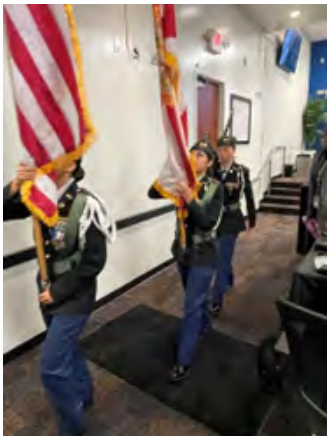


Left: It was a privilege to watch the SBHS Bulldog Battalion undergo its official JROTC Program Accreditation. The Cadets demonstrated their leadership skills, academic performance, organizational planning, and positive contributions to the school and their community. Well done, Bulldogs!



Above: McArthur High School's JROTC at the MLK parade in West Park.





Above: Hollywood Hills High School's JROTC at School Board meeting.



Above: Hallandale High School's JROTC at School Board meeting.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Environmental Initiatives

Driftwood Middle School Cardinals WON the Miami Heat "How Low Can You Go" Challenge for Most Water Reduction!

Congratulations, Cardinals!

Driftwood Middle School won the challenge, was awarded a pep rally with the Heat Hoop Troop and was one of 65 schools that achieved a total reduction of 43,579,000 gallons of water.

The Miami Heat donated hydroponic systems, garden beds, mulch, and Butterfly Garden enhancements that will have a lasting impact on our students.

Thank you to the Miami Heat for this awesome partnership!

For more information on the How Low Can You Go Challenge, check out: **howlowcanyougochallenge.com**



Left: With Ms. Gancitano, Health and Wellness teacher at Driftwood Middle School's gymnasium.



Left: The Garden Club at Driftwood Middle School.

Youth Climate Summit

Honored to have participated in the roundtable conversation at the 8th Annual Youth Climate Summit. The event brought together over 1,200 students from grades 5 to 12, all eager to explore how they can address the challenges of climate change. Our young people in Broward County represent the leaders of tomorrow, and it is reassuring to see the future in such capable hands.

Thank you to all the supporters and exhibitors who were present, sharing their knowledge and providing our students with opportunities to make a meaningful impact.





Above: BCPS Students at the Youth Climate Summit at Pompano Beach High School.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

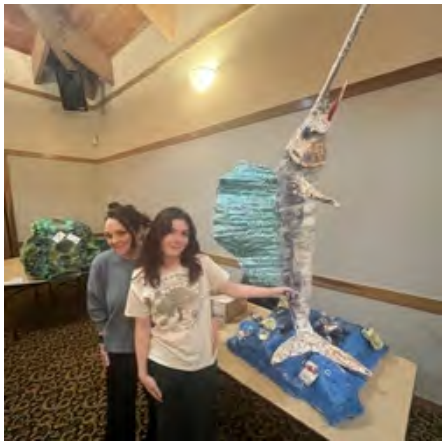
Environmental Initiatives

Earth Day Art Contest

Honored to be a judge for the **Sierra Club's Earth Day Art Contest** and celebration at Anne Kolb Nature Center in Hollywood.

Each piece reflected not only creativity and talent, but also environmental awareness. It is clear that our students care deeply for our planet and its future.

Thank you to the Sierra Club, the organizers, teachers, and families who made this day so special. And congratulations to all the talented students who shared their voices through art.







All photos above show BCPS students with submissions for the Earth Day Contest



Above: images of the Plastic Free Mermaids chapter at BCPS.

Plastic Free Mermaids

The Plastic Free Mermaids at **South Broward High School** are working on a composting and recycling program to improve the waste management issues facing the county. Stay tuned for great things to come with this group and others like it around BCPS! We are working to bring composting and recycling to our schools.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Environmental Initiatives

Water Matters Day







Above and right: Celebrating Water Matters Day and Emerald Award recipients, Beachside Montessori and Hallandale Magnet High School.

At the 24th Annual Water Matters Day, in addition to celebrating the importance of water conservation, I had the honor of presenting prizes to our students for their winning infographic projects. Representing District 1, the Emerald Award was presented to **Beachside Montessori** for their campus landscape lined with native plants, designed to conserve water, and **Hallandale Magnet High School**'s garden that emphasizes eco-friendly ways to grow food.

Congratulations to all of the winners and everyone from Broward County who made this year's Water Matters Day a fun and educational community event!

P-3 Eco-Challenge Awards

The 2026 P3 Eco-Challenge Awards at Long Key Nature Center celebrated students, staff, educators, and schools committed to environmental stewardship and making a meaningful difference for our planet.

Congratulations to this year's Top School Winner from District 1, **Beachside Montessori Village**, and to District 1's **A.C. Perry K-8 f**or earning wins in their categories. We also recognize all nominees and winners and extend our thanks to the sponsors and the Applied Learning Department of BCPS for their support.



Preserving our Planet for Posterity • P3



Above and right Celebrating Beachside Montesorri's P-3 Eco-Challenge Awards win!

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

District 1 Reads!



Jumpstart's Read for the Record!

What a joy reading the book *See Marcus Grow* to the students at **the Quest Center**.

Thanks to Principal Swift, AP Humphrey, and staff for the warm welcome and for serving our Quest Explorers every day.



Above left: With Danielle, Principal Swift, a Quest Explorer and Ms. Thomas. Above right: me reading to students

Super Readers! Broward Reads

Hollywood Hills Elementary gave us a super warm welcome! Every student got a cape, assembled by volunteers, and a book to take home!

To keep up to date about future volunteer opportunities, visit Hands on South Florida at **https://www.handsonsouthflorida.org/**. For additional information about Broward Reads, see **https://browardschools.instructure.com/courses/449656.**



Right: The community came together to fund books, make capes, provide breakfast and resources for volunteer readers.



Above: Volunteers and Orange Brooks's 5000 Role Model students.

Real Men Read

Real Men Read event at **Orange Brook Elementary School.** Thanks to all of the male volunteers for sharing their love of reading with the students and being a positive role model!



Above: Volunteer, Mr. Bulman in the classroom

BULMAN'S BULLETIN
Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Special Olympics

Cheering on the preschoolers at **Gulfstream Early Learning Center** in the Special Olympics was so sweet. They had so much fun with their classmates. The amazing faculty and staff at GELC, volunteers and the Hallandale PD made this a very special day! So happy to be a part of it.







All photos from various Special Olympics events





Above: The Best Buddies Club of South Broward High School





Inclusion Day Field Day at **South Broward HS!** What a beautiful day on the field cheering on the students and recognizing their achievements! Thank you to the Special Olympics, the Best Buddies Club, the teachers, and to ALL who made this event a huge success!

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Overtown Youth Center

I am so excited to announce that **Overtown Youth Center** is expanding to District 1 in Broward County. Beginning this summer, they will offer their services to the community through McNicol Middle School. We are grateful to partner with OYC!



ABOUT OYC MIAMI

The Overtown Youth Center (OYC Miami/Broward) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire, empower, and enrich the lives of youth, adults, and families by providing a comprehensive and long-term approach to strengthening communities. OYC delivers high-quality services through a framework designed to bridge educational, social, health, and economic gaps.

OYC's goal is to advance the socioeconomic trajectory of children and families in the urban core for future generations through **5 Key Pillars of Impact: Education, Enrichment and Exposure, Health, Family, and Economic Sustainability Initiatives.** Through our holistic approach, we believe that ALL children and families can reach their full potential and thrive. Learn more at **www.oycmiami.org**



Above: With Erik Anderson, Dir., Before and Afterschool Care, Tina Brown, OYC Executive Director and Danielle St. Leon



Above: With OYC's Tina Brown, Silfida Jean Baptiste, Brittany Lambert and Principal Benka-Coker and students.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Community Recognition and Events

What a fun Family Night at **Stirling Elementary School!** The teachers, staff, coaches and Principal Arnaez did an amazing job providing fun games and hands-on activities! There were so many Stallion families enjoying the evening and celebrating Math Night! So happy to see everyone there.







With Principal Billins, Major Wright, and AP Valiente

How exciting to visit **Dania Beach Elementary** to meet NFL player and author Major Wright as he shared his character development program with our 3rd through 5th graders! His book *Good Deed Tuesday* is all about uplifting communities through good deeds, kindness, compassion, and education.

The kids had a blast dancing and celebrating kindness.



NFL player Major Wright with students

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Community Recognition and Events





Above: celebrating Olsen Middle School principal Janet Giancarli

City of Dania Beach

During the State of the City Address, Olsen Middle Schools's principal, Janet Giancarli, was honored with the Educational Leadership Award, presented by Mayor Joyce L. Davis! So proud to recognize Ms. Giancarli as one who keeps Dania Beach moving forward. Great things are happening at Olsen Middle School!

Thank you to the City of Dania Beach for a wonderful evening, and congratulations to ALL of the award recipients!

Holocaust Museum

Broward County Public Schools was honored to recognize Craig and Barbara Weiner for their generous donation and transfer of The Craig and Barbara Weiner Holocaust Museum of South Florida to the school district.

I was honored to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Thank you to the Weiners, NSU and BCPS for ensuring the lessons of the Holocaust reach future generations.

Thank you to the students who led the museum tour.



Left: Students from the 5000 Role Models program served as guides for museum tours



Above: A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Holocaust Museum



Above: With Lisa Schuurmans, honored with the Gutterman Family Outstanding Holocaust Educator Award.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN
Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Community Recognition and Events





School Culture & Student Support Department

It was awesome to join the Broward Education Foundation and the 2nd Annual School Culture & Student Support Department's 5K to benefit mentoring and prevention programs at BCPS, such as 5,000 Role Models, Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders and the Athletic Leadership Academy. This event also celebrated the legacy of the late Jason Jenkins, who dedicated years to serving the community through his work with the Miami Dolphins.

https://www.browardschools.com/bcps-departments/school-culture-student-support

Chris Hixon Foundation 5K

Another beautiful morning at the annual Chris Hixon Foundation 5K on Hollywood Beach, celebrating Chris's legacy and the values he stood for: service, kindness, and community. It's always so awesome to spend the morning with friends and family for such a great cause. This 5K event not only honors a hero but also supports student scholarships.

https://chrishixonathleticscholarship.com/





BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Community Recognition and Events





Hollywood Central Prep K-8 Innovation Space

Above: Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, celebrating a new Innovation Space, technology and learning tools, including iPads with Merge XR, 3D design software and 3D printers! Thanks to the College Football Playoff Foundation, the Orange Bowl committee, and sponsors, our students are equipped with a brand new space to inspire and create.



Campus Beautification

We're excited to be a part of beautifying the garden and the entrance of Annabel C. Perry K-8 School. The student led service project will continue. Stay tuned as we keep improving our outdoor spaces. Thanks to BCPS Board Member Rebecca Thompson's interns for spearheading this project, and to everyone who helped out.



Bus Operator and Bus Attendant Conference

Thank you to our dedicated bus operators for all you do to keep our students moving safely every day!

It was great to talk with our transportation providers at Broward County Public Schools' Annual Bus Operator and Bus Attendant Conference, bringing together transportation professionals for training and teamwork.



BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Community Recognition and Events

Sloane Stephens Foundation





Right: Students during tennis lessons at Driftwood Elementary School. Above: With SSF, coaches, Hollywood Commissioners Biederman and Gruber and Principal Stramanak.

I'm so happy to partner with the City of Hollywood and the Sloane Stephens Foundation to bring tennis to our Broward County schools!

This partnership is about more than learning a sport, it is about giving our students opportunities to build confidence, stay active and develop new skills for lifelong fitness. I thank our entire School Board for supporting this initiative, which will positively impact students across our District. We are excited to bring tennis into our schools and appreciate the Sloane Stephens Foundation for investing in our students."

For more information on the Sloane Stephens Foundation, visit **https://www.sloanestephensfoundation.org/**.

50th Anniversary of Hallandale High School's First Florida State Girl's Basketball Champs



Honored to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Hallandale High School's legendary girls' basketball team—the first Florida State Women's Champions.

Champions in 1976 & 1977, these women set the standard for greatness. Thank you to Mayor Cooper, the City of Hallandale Beach, and Principal Peters for an incredible event.

Watch the news story from CBS News Miami here: **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m11Xafie8vU**



BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Community Recognition and Events

Honoring a legacy of impact, dedication, and heart.

Chris Townley, ESE teacher and Special Olympics coach at The Quest Center, received the Hancock Excellence in Education Award at the Extra Yard for Teachers Summit . Presented by the College Football Playoff Foundation, the award recognizes educators who demonstrate exceptional dedication, leadership and impact in education.

Thank you, Mr. Townley, and Congratulations!





McNicol Middle School Mighty Hawks Drone Team



Because of the McNicol Middle School Mighty Hawks Drone Team's exceptional performance this season, they have been invited to the 2026 Drones in School Season Championship at the AUVSI XPONENTIAL Conference in Detroit, Michigan! We are so proud of their achievement and wish them continued success!

Congratulations to principal Benka-Coker, science teacher and team sponsor, Mr. Simon, and the Mighty Hawks! "Making BIG MOVES!"



BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Community Recognition and Events

Black History Showcase





The **Echos of Excellence Black History Showcase at McNicol Middle School** was a fantastic experience. I had so much fun watching the talented students of MMS shine! The student emcees presented a program featuring poetry, songs, a game show, trivia, and dance.

The Elev8 Dance Team and the **Watkins Elementary** Panther Flames Dance Team, as always, delivered exceptional performances. Our dedicated teachers and PTO were recognized for their guidance in this fantastic show.

Valentines for Veterans!



At **Colbert Elementary School,** I joined Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz for her annual Read-aloud with the students. Valentines were made with notes of gratitude and love.

The students at **Hollywood Central Preparatory K-8** also made beautiful cards and took a field trip to personally deliver the valentines to our veterans at the VA Medical Center in Miami. What a meaningful way to pass on gratitude and respect to the next generation.



Holocaust Reflection Contest

Congratulations to Lisa Bowers of **Beachside Montessori Village!**

Out of over 500 submissions, Lisa earned SECOND PLACE in the **Craig and Barbara Weiner Holocaust Reflection Contest at Florida Atlantic University** for her powerful poem, "The Significance of a Star."

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Celebrations

Just Do It Awards. This district-wide celebration honors the abilities of our ESE students from preschool to adults. This includes individual students and peer partners, promoting inclusion and recognizing their hard work.

A heartfelt thanks to everyone involved in our ESE programs (teachers, assistants, and all staff) for their dedication in helping our students reach their full potential. Congratulations to all the award recipients!



Above: Award recipients at the Just Do It, I Did Awards.



Above: Apollo RoboRockets team from Apollo Middle School showed off their robotics skills.







Above: images from the 2026 Community Involvement Awards.

Over 200 volunteers, mentors, businesses, and community leaders were honored for their support and impact on BCPS students at this year's **Community Involvement Awards.**

A special thanks to the sponsors, partners, the talented student performers, and Advisory/Committee members for their generosity, time and energy in support of quality education. Watch a recap of the event at **https://www.eduvision.tv/l?mmAOgDec**

BCPS Career, Technical, Adult & Community Education Awards





The BCPS Career, Technical, Adult & Community Education (CTACE) Department celebrated its 2026 CTE Scholars, recognizing exemplary students for achievement, leadership, and commitment to Career & Technical Education.

To date, CTACE has awarded 19,206 industry certifications and digital tools passed, with additional increases expected through June 3.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

The Caliber Awards

Surprising District 1's Teacher of the Year Finalists

It was so much fun surprising Ms. Colon and Ms. Tinerino at Orange Brook Elementary and Pasadena Lakes Elementary! Let's celebrate the amazing educators who make our school communities stronger every day!

Below and right: surprising Ms. Colon at Orange Brook Elementary School







Above: Dr. Hepburn surprises Ms. Tinerino-Allen at Pasadena Lakes Elementary School.

The 2026 Caliber Awards

The Caliber Awards were held on February 6th, where the Teacher of the Year and the School Related Employee of the Year, Principal and Assistant Principal of the Year were announced.



Dr. Saima Sanaullah of Plantation High School was named Teacher of the Year, and **Principal Cormic Priester of Rock Island Elementary School** was named Principal of the Year. Their leadership, dedication, and commitment to student success reflect the excellence that exists within our district.

Congratulations to Assistant Principal of the Year **Anna Koltunova of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School** and School/District Employee of the Year **Vanderbilt Carpenter III of Deerfield Beach High School.** These honorees exemplify the passion and professionalism that continue to move BCPS forward.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

School and District Recognition

I am incredibly proud of District 1 Magnet Schools honored by Magnet Schools of America as Magnet Schools of Excellence and Distinction. Five District 1 schools received the "Excellence" designation and four schools were named "Schools of Distinction" including **South Broward High** School, which was recognized twice, for both its iCAN and Marine Science programs.

SCHOOL	MSA MERIT AWARD	MAGNET THEME
Apollo Middle School	Magnet School of Excellence	Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)
Driftwood Middle School	Magnet School of Excellence	Health & Wellness
Hallandale Magnet High School	Magnet School of Excellence	Entrepreneurship, STEM and Multimedia Technology
McNicol Middle School	Magnet School of Excellence	Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)
Olsen Middle School	Magnet School of Excellence	Integrated Career & Academic Networks (iCAN)
Attucks Middle School	Magnet School of Distinction	Cambridge Global Communications Academy
Beachside Montessori Village	Magnet School of Distinction	Montessori
Colbert Museum Magnet	Magnet School of Distinction	STEAM Museum
South Broward High School	Magnet School of Distinction	Integrated Career & Academic Networks (iCAN)
South Broward High School	Magnet School of Distinction	Marine Science



Broward County Public Schools is named Cambridge US District of the Year!

BCPS was named Large District of the year for the third time since 2018.

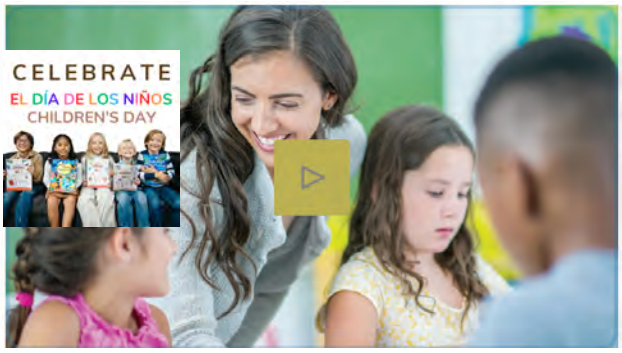
We celebrate these three Florida school systems for expanding access to rigorous Cambridge coursework and delivering strong student outcomes — a testament to their commitment to every student's future.

BULMAN'S BULLETIN

Maura McCarthy Bulman • District 1 - News & Highlights

Resolutions and Recognitions

I am proud to support the following resolutions and recognitions:



El Dia de los Niños

April 30 is Día del Niño, an international holiday recognizing the special role that young people play in our lives. To watch the video, click on the image on the left or visit:

https://www.eduvision.tv/l?mRLmgLgI

Administrative Professionals Day

On April 22nd, BCPS celebrated its Administrative Professionals and I was pleased to support this resolution. To watch the video, click on the image on the right or visit:

https://www.eduvision.tv/l?mRLeyOLI





National Volunteer Month

This month is dedicated to honoring all of the volunteers in our communities as well as encouraging volunteerism throughout the month. Click the image on the left to watch the video, or visit:

https://www.eduvision.tv/l?mRLRODgS