THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026 9:00 AM
Kathleen C. Wright Building
600 Southeast Third Avenue, Board Room
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

AGENDA FOR BOARD WORKSHOP

BOARD WORKSHOP CAN BE VIEWED VIA LIVE STREAM OVER THE INTERNET ON THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE (www.browardschools.com).

Revised 4/7/26

Public speakers will be permitted three minutes each to address a topic prior to Board Members' discussion on the topic. The times for items on the agenda are only estimates. The actual start times for these topics may vary up to an hour or more depending on the nature of the items and the length of the Board discussions and public comments. The meeting will also be live streamed. **Public Written Agenda Comments - Members of the public may submit public written comments by selecting the eComments tab at the following District webpage: https://www.browardschools.com/Page/55263. Public Written Agenda Comments must be submitted no later than 1:00 p.m. the day before the published date of the School Board Meeting or Workshop. Anonymous comments will not be accepted; therefore, written comments must include the person's name, city of residence, and zip code. Written agenda comments may not exceed a maximum of twenty-two hundred and fifty (2250) characters.** Pursuant to School Board Policy 1020, the public may speak a total of twelve (12) minutes during any single meeting, not including committee reports. Additionally, in the event a large group of individuals (ten (10) or more) sign-up to speak on any one agenda item, the Board Chair has the authority to adjust the time limit for each speaker to speak less than the three (3) minutes usually permitted or limit the overall time speakers will be heard on that item.

Free guest parking is available at the southeast 3rd Avenue parking lot on all School Board meeting dates.

TOPICS

1. **9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. – Student Experience Data Dialogue**

   Presentation.pdf

2. **11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. – COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   Audit Committee
   Broward County Association of Student Councils and Student Advisor to the Board
   District Advisory Council
   North Area
   Central Area

South Area
Diversity Committee
ESE Advisory Council
ESOL Leadership Council
Facilities Task Force
Gifted Advisory Council
Green Advisory Committee
Human Relations Committee
Multilingual Advisory Committee
Parent Community Involvement Task Force
Small Business Advisory Committee
Technology Advisory Committee

3. 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M. – Student Transportation Update
ADDED

Presentation.pdf

4. ~~2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M. – Meal Benefits Update~~
WITHDRAWN

ADJOURNMENT

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321-2150 or email eeo@browardschools.com.

Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at 754-321-2150 or email eeo@browardschools.com. Language Interpretation/Translation Services are available for the public upon request to the Bilingual/ESOL Department by emailing ESOLRequests@browardschools.com.

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made at a meeting(s) announced by this Notice with respect to any matter considered at such meeting(s) will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may need that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which records testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Telephone conferencing or other telecommunications technology may be used in conducting this public meeting to permit absent Board Members to participate in discussions, to be heard by other School Board Members and the public, and to hear discussions taking place during the meeting.

Notice is hereby given that two or more Board Members of The School Board of Broward County, Florida, may be participating.







Division of Strategy and Innovation

Student Experience Data Dialogue

School Board Workshop
April 14, 2026



Presented by:
Dr. Valerie S. Wanza, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer
Landyn A. Spellberg, Student Advisor to the School Board
Jea'Cier J. Leon, Alternate Student Advisor to the School Board

Established 1915 BROWARD County Public Schools | A RATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Agenda

Overview of Student Feedback Initiatives

- Dr. Valerie S. Wanza, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer
- Student Advisors to the School Board

Data Dialogue – Quarter 1 Student Feedback Survey

- Student Advisors to the School Board
- Quarterly Student & School Board Feedback Session Participants

Data Dialogue – Quarter 2 Student Feedback Survey

- Student Advisors to the School Board
- Quarterly Student & School Board Feedback Session Participants

Data Dialogue – Quarter 3 Student Feedback Survey

- Student Advisors to the School Board
- Quarterly Student & School Board Feedback Session Participants

School Board Questions and Answers

A Comprehensive Strategy of Student Feedback

INITIATIVES

Student Voice
School Year 2024-25 and Prior

- Annual Customer Service Survey
- Speak Up, Speak Out Sessions
- Superintendent's Student Advisory Council
- Superintendent's Priority to Increase Student Voice in Decision Making

Superintendent's Student Engagement Initiative
School Year 2025-26

- Annual Customer Service Survey (all levels)
- Principal Engagement Packet
- Speak Up, Speak Out Sessions (non-traditional schools)
- Superintendent's Student Advisory Council
- Quarterly Joint Student and School Board Feedback Sessions
- Quarterly Student Feedback Surveys (high school only)
- Various School-Based Initiatives

Sustaining & Scaling
School Year 2026-27 and Beyond

- Continuation of SY 25-26 Initiatives
- Elementary School Pilot Programs
- Expansion of Quarterly Student Feedback Surveys to Middle Schools
- Increased Support Structures for School-Based Administrators

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

36
Speak Up, Speak Out Sessions

1000+
Student Participants in Speak Up, Speak Out Sessions

31,895
High School Student Responses to BCPS Customer Service Survey

44
Participating Schools in the Superintendent's Student Engagement Initiative

146,641
Total Survey Submissions across Quarters 1, 2, and 3

78%
Average Response Rate across Quarters 2 and 3*

8+ hours
Quarterly Student and School Board Feedback Sessions

Plug-and-Play Resources
The Principal Engagement Packet includes resources for principals to establish Principal Student Advisory Boards

School Created Questions
Enhancement of school created questions in the survey

Data Analysis
Collaboration with the Teaching & Learning Division

Regionalized Pilot Schools
Expansion into elementary and middle schools

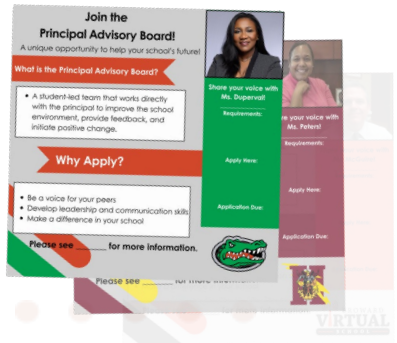
*Quarters 2 and 3 included an expectation for schools to survey at least 75% of their benchmark enrollment.

A Look Into the Initiative

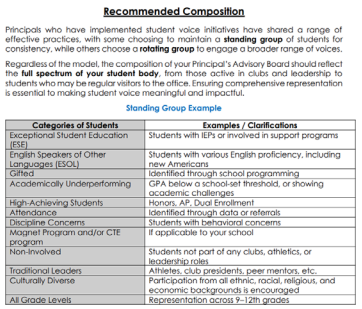
The Principal Engagement Packet

- School principals are extremely busy, and they have reported in large numbers that time is a key barrier to collecting student input. **This packet helps to close that gap by making it easier to establish Principal Student Advisory Boards.**
- The Principal Engagement Packet (PEP) includes:
  - Overview of a Principal Student Advisory Board (PSAB)
  - Recommended student application resources *(including plug-and-play forms)*
  - Recommended composition
  - Interactive conversation guides
  - Pre-made social media graphics *(including principal headshot, logo, and school colors)*
  - Sample agenda

Highlights from the Principal Engagement Packet



Pre-made recruitment graphics



Recommended Composition

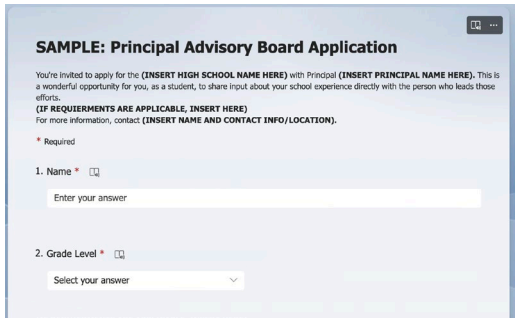
Principals who have implemented student voice initiatives have shared a range of effective practices, with some choosing to maintain a **standing group** of students for consistency, while others choose a **rotating group** to engage a broader range of voices.

Regardless of the model, the composition of your Principal's Advisory Board should reflect the **full spectrum of your student body**, from those active in clubs and leadership to students who may be regular visitors to the office. Ensuring comprehensive representation is essential to making student voice meaningful and impactful.

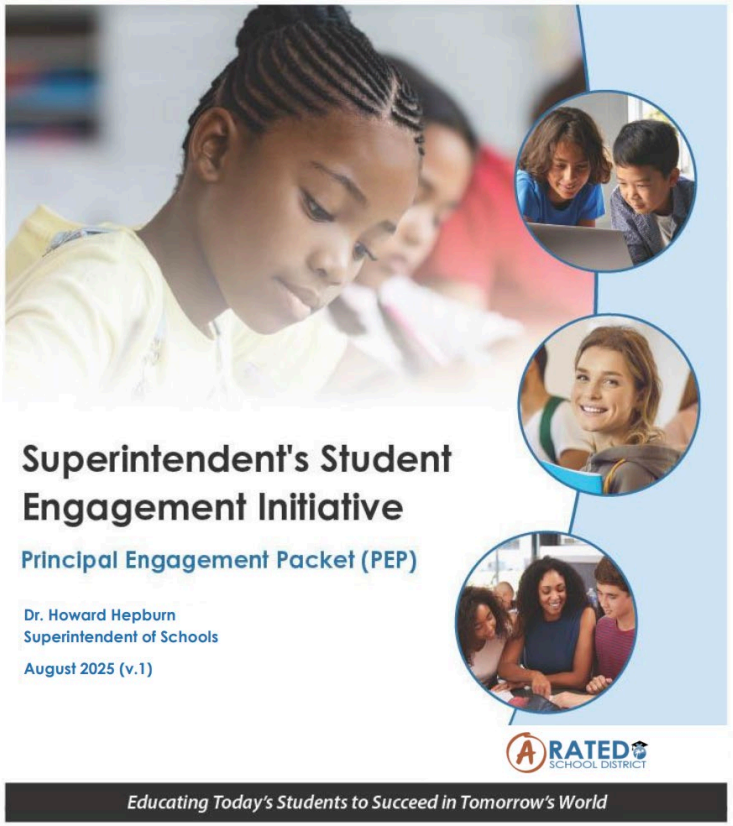
Standing Group Example

Categories of Students	Examples / Clarifications
Exceptional Student Education (ESE)	Students with IEPs or involved in support programs
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	Students with various English proficiency, including new Americans
Gifted	Identified through school programming
Academically Underperforming	GPA below a school-set threshold, or showing academic challenges
High-Achieving Students	Honors, AP, Dual Enrollment
Attendance	Identified through data or referrals
Discipline Concerns	Students with behavioral concerns
Magnet Program and/or CTE program	If applicable to your school
Non-Involved	Students not part of any clubs, athletics, or leadership roles
Traditional Leaders	Athletes, club presidents, peer mentors, etc.
Culturally Diverse	Participation from all ethnic, racial, religious, and economic backgrounds is encouraged
All Grade Levels	Representation across 9–12th grades

Recommended composition guide



Sample application form

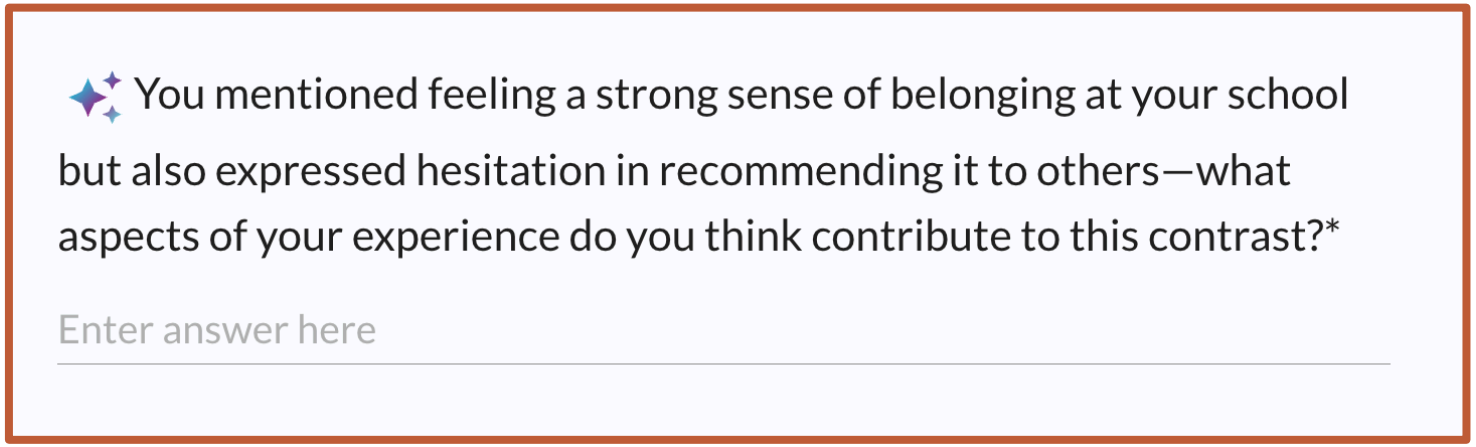


A Look Into the Initiative

The Quarterly Student Feedback Survey

- The survey is administered through the ThoughtExchange platform, **using the survey feature** of the tool. This is a different tool than the exchange feature where participants can view each other's thoughts.
- All survey submissions are **anonymous**, with demographic questions being optional.
- The survey asks **five Likert-scale questions**, with varying open-ended responses across quarters.
- The average completion time for the Quarterly Student Feedback Survey is **two minutes.**
- 92% of administrators who completed the administration satisfaction survey reported that they **are using the feedback to make changes in their schools.**

Click here to view a preview of the survey.



Example of the AI-powered survey tool that asks students follow-up questions, based on their responses to Likert-scale questions

Data Dialogue

1 Application released to all BCPS middle and high school students

- Posted on students' Canvas dashboard
- Posted on PIVOT (for principal access)
- Sent to all middle and high parents via ParentLink

2 Applications reviewed for set criteria

- Students may not have been externally suspended at any point in the 2025-26 school year (excluding students in non-traditional schools)
- Principals reviewed applications

3 Students and parents/guardians notified of selection

- Selected students completed field trip forms and media releases
- Selected students and parents/guardians attend a pre-meeting

Data Dialogue

- The following slides will present **the District-wide average of student respondents who selected "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" to each respective survey questions.** These may be referred to as **"Favorability Scores."**

- The student participants in the data dialogue applied for the Quarterly Student and School Board Feedback Session and were selected through the normal process for the quarterly discussions.

- One student represents each single-board member district's middle schools and high schools. Two students represent non-traditional schools.

Data Dialogue – Quarter 1

My school leaders ask for student input and take it seriously.	78%
I feel emotionally safe at school.	76%
My teachers challenge me academically and support me when I need help.	87%
I feel my school is clean and well maintained.	56%
I am happy with my overall school experience.	77%

There were two additional open-ended survey questions:

- *What challenges do you face in your school experience?*
- *How would you like your school to improve your experience?*

*Schools with under 50% participation are not accounted for in District averages.

Data Dialogue – Quarter 2

When I needed to see my school counselor, for academic planning, college/career readiness, or mental health services, I received the support I needed. [1]	85%
This school year, I have seen my administrators (principal or assistant principals) take action to improve the student experience.	76%
If/when I had an issue, academically or emotionally, there is an adult at school I could count on.	79%
My school provides the educational materials (textbooks, technology, etc.) that I need to be successful.	90%
In the past month, my school has provided opportunities for me to participate in clubs or extracurricular activities outside the classroom.	87%

There were two additional open-ended survey questions :

- *What challenges do you face in your school experience?*
- *How would you like your school to improve your experience?*

[1] Question 1 allowed students to indicate that they had not needed counseling services. Students selecting this option were excluded from the denominator when calculating favorability scores.

*Schools with under 50% participation are not accounted for in District averages.

Data Dialogue – Quarter 3

This school year, a staff member has talked to me about my future goals.	78%
I feel that I belong in my school.	78%
I receive the necessary information (ex: club announcements, scholarships, and activities) from my school to be successful.	80%
The course offerings at my school reflect classes I am interested in.	74%
I would recommend my school to another student.	70%

One additional AI-powered textbox asked students to elaborate on their "Strongly Agree" or "Strongly Disagree" responses.

Schools had the optional opportunity to add up to three school-specific questions.

*Schools with under 50% participation are not accounted for in District averages.

Sarah Leonardi, Chair
Dr. Jeff Holness, Vice Chair

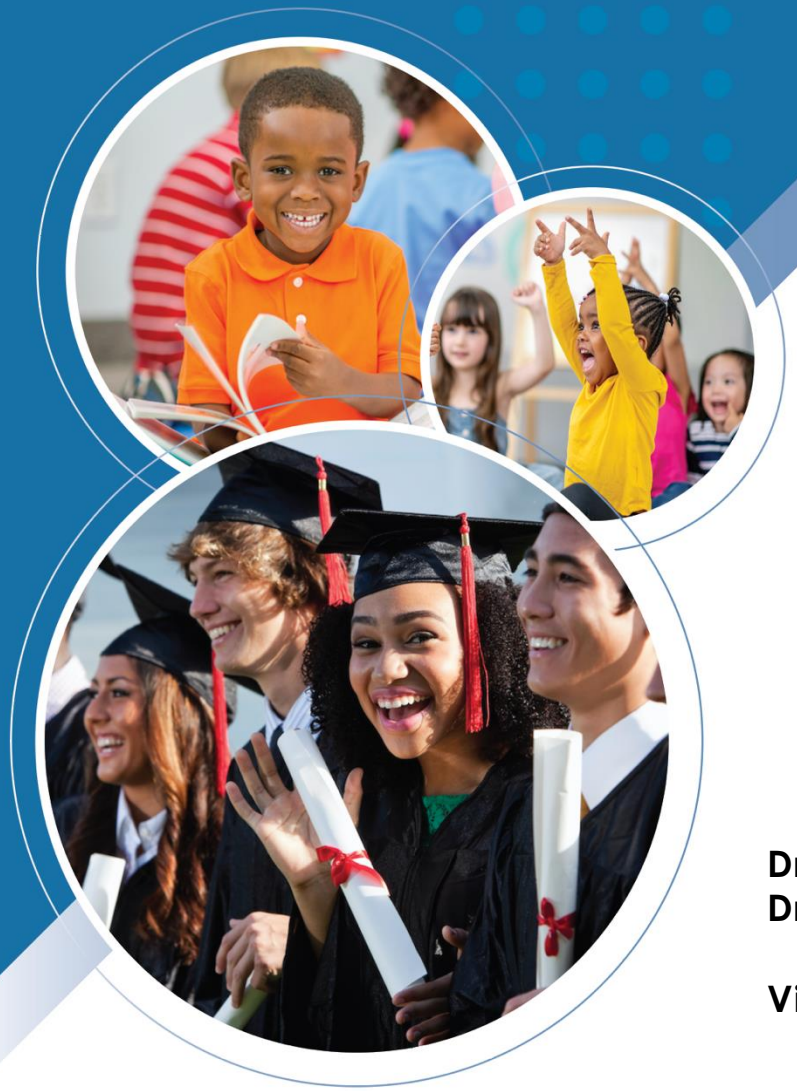
Lori Alhadeff
Maura McCarthy Bulman
Adam Cervera, Esq.
Debra Hixon
Nora Rupert
Rebecca Thompson
Dr. Allen Zeman

Dr. Howard Hepburn
Superintendent of Schools

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321-2150 or email eeo@browardschools.com.

Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at 754-321-2150 or email eeo@browardschools.com.

browardschools.com



Student Transportation & Fleet Services

Transportation Efficiencies for School Choice Programs

"SmartStops, the Smarter Choice"

Dr. Valerie S. Wanza, Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer
Dr. Simone Clowers, Executive Director,
Student Transportation & Fleet Services
Vincent Harrell, Manager, Transportation Operations



Established 1915
BROWARD
County Public Schools

INTRODUCTION

Presentation Rationale:	At present, the District transports over 52,000 students daily. The current routing methodologies have been analyzed to create greater efficiencies for our School Choice programs in secondary schools and 6-12 schools. The implementation of a centralized, SmartStops transportation model will streamline operations, reduce routing concerns, and improve overall efficiency.
Purpose:	This presentation seeks to introduce a depot-based transportation system that designates centralized locations for student drop-off and pick-up. This model aims improve transportation efficiencies for the District's School Choice programs in secondary schools and 6-12 schools.
Connection to the Strategic Plan:	The Superintendent may not allow the District to operate without an accountability system for policy implementation that includes expectations, evaluations, transparency, and continuous improvement.
Request to the School Board:	Please review the presentation and provide feedback on implementing the SmartStops transportation model at selected School Choice secondary schools and 6–12 campuses. **Financial Impact: Implementation of a depot-style transportation model will result in cost savings through reduced operational costs and removing times from routes.**

Overview of Today's Presentation

Agenda

- Review of Current Transportation System
- Transportation Statistics
- Total Cost of Transportation
- Proposed SmartStops Model
- Why We Must Rethink Transportation Now
- Ongoing Work in Areas of Improvement
- Update on Senate Bill 296 (2025)
- Board Discussion



Strategic Context and Need for Change



RATIONALE

The current routing methodologies have been analyzed to create greater operational efficiencies for our School Choice programs in secondary schools and 6-12 schools.

SOLUTION

Implementing a centralized depot transportation model will streamline operations, reduce on-campus traffic, and improve overall efficiency and safety.

Review of Current Transportation System



Transportation Staffing Challenges
The District has a shortage of bus drivers causing daily route disruptions and increased staff reassignment.

Rising Operational Costs
Fuel prices, fleet maintenance, and labor market pressures have steadily increased per-route operating costs.

Inefficient Routing Model
Decentralized routes serving dispersed stops extend route length and reduce system resilience.

Need for Centralized Model
A centralized transportation hub can improve efficiency, safety, and align with strategic priorities.

Transportation Statistics

Total Number of employees
- 1500

Number of School Buses
- 1200

Current Number of Routes
- 745

Average Yearly Traveled Mileage
- 12,000,000 miles

Number of students Transported Daily
- Over 52,000 students

Service over 230 locations
- Public K-12 Schools, Centers, and Technical Colleges

Years	General Education Students	ESE Students	Total Annual Mileage
2024 - 2025	47,833	5,444	11,971,012
2023 - 2024	49,795	4,188	12,976,046
2022 - 2023	50,305	4,521	13,071,352
2021 - 2022	54,260	4,328	12,118,218
2020 - 2021	16,214	2,322	10,695,916
2019 - 2020	66,222	5,130	10,577,210
2018 - 2019	No data collected		
2017 - 2018	68,729	5,039	12,823,978
2016 - 2017	68,429	5,347	11,804,799
2015 - 2016	67,498	5,264	12,315,450

Transported Students

District Responsibility (Statutory Requirements)	Courtesy Ride (Choice)
Attendance Boundary Students ➢ Students over two miles ➢ Hazardous Walking for Elementary (F.S. 1006.23) ➢ Railroad Crossings for Elementary	➢ Magnet Students Large Transportation Zones
➢ Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Large Transportation Zones	➢ Nova - Countywide
➢ McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act {42 U.S.C. §§11432(g)(6)(A)(i)-(ii)}	➢ Alternative External Suspension (AES) Large Transportation Zones
➢ Career-Based Instruction	➢ Interventions Making Positive Adjustments Change (IMPAC) Countywide
	➢ Afterschool Activities



Total Cost of Transportation

Total Cost of Transportation

TOTAL INVESTMENT
$103,200,000



GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION

- Expenditures: **$46,032,434**
- Percentage of Budget: 45%
- Total Students Transported: 47,263 (90%)
- Average Cost Per Student: **$974**
- FTE Reimbursement Per Student: **$507**

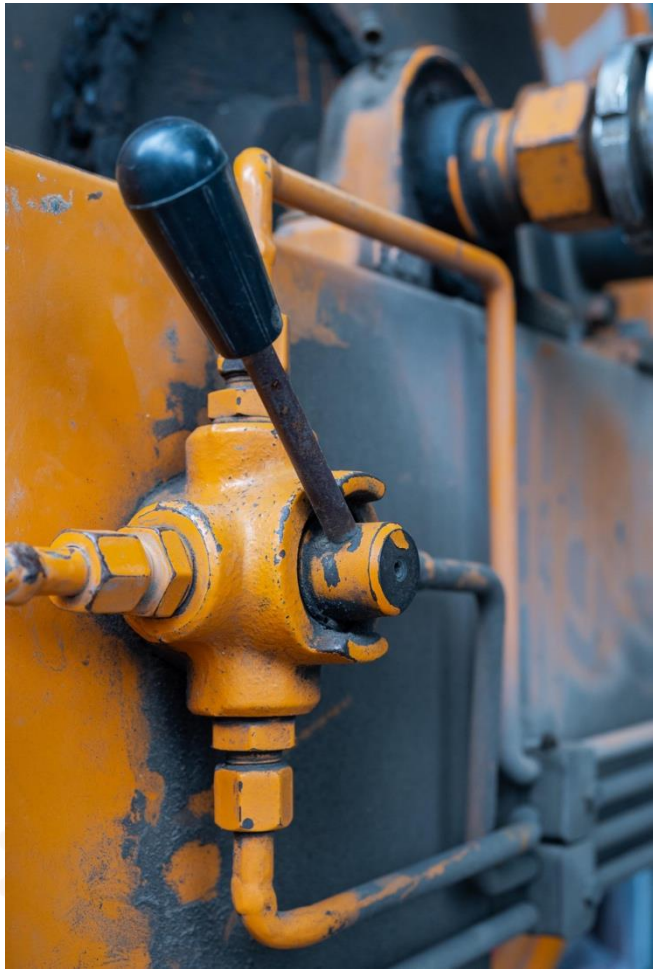
SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORTATION

- Expenditures: **$57,167,566**
- Percentage of Budget: 55%
- Total Students Transported: 5,121 (10%)
- Average Cost Per Student: **$11,163**
- FTE Reimbursement Per Student: **$2,171**

PROPOSED

Centralized
Depot Transportation Model SmartStops
for School Choice Secondary School
Programs and 6-12 Schools

Definition and Structure of SmartStops Model



Centralized SmartStops
Neighborhood bus stops will consolidate into strategic depot sites for efficient pupil transportation under the hub-and-spoke model.

Use of School Campuses as Depots (SmartStops)
Existing school campuses will serve as depot, offering essential infrastructure and enhanced student supervision for safety.

Routing Software and Scheduling
Routing software optimizes SmartStops placement, balances ridership, and supports tiered bell schedules for asset efficiency.

Efficiency and Resilience Benefits
The model improves efficiency, reliability, and resilience while maintaining safety and regulatory compliance.

Operationalizing the SmartStops Model



Centralized SmartStops Model
Students are brought to a designated depot where supervision ensures orderly boarding and accountability.

Scheduled Bus Departures
Buses leave SmartStops on fixed schedules aligned with school bell times to improve on-time performance.

Route Efficiency and Flexibility
Optimized, consistent routes minimize traffic exposure and enable rapid responses to disruptions, such as delays without requiring complete rerouting.

Scalability and System Management
The SmartStops system adapts to enrollment changes, improving dispatch visibility and reducing driver workload.

Research from Other Districts

Broward County Public Schools transports over 52,000 students daily. Many large districts across the nation use depot/hub stop systems for choice schools. This option is rapidly becoming the standard transportation model for major districts with magnet or open enrollment programs. For large districts, even small efficiencies can translate into millions of dollars saved annually.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS	SCHOOL DISTRICTS
Red Clay Consolidated School District (Delaware) ➢ Uses **"School Choice Hub Stops"** ➢ Students meet at designated schools across the district ➢ No door-to-door service for choice programs ➢ 12,800 students transported	**Austin Independent School District (Texas)** ➢ Moved to a **hub-based system (2025–26)** ➢ Students go to the nearest middle/high school hub ➢ Buses run from hubs to magnet schools ➢ 20,000 students transported
Academy District 20 (Colorado Springs, CO) ➢ Uses **"satellite stops"** for school choice ➢ Stops are located at existing schools across the district ➢ May include transfer points between buses ➢ 10,000 students transported	**Jefferson County Public Schools (Kentucky)** ➢ Uses a formal **"depot model"** ➢ Students transfer between buses at depots ➢ ~21% of secondary students use depot transfers ➢ 46,000 students transported

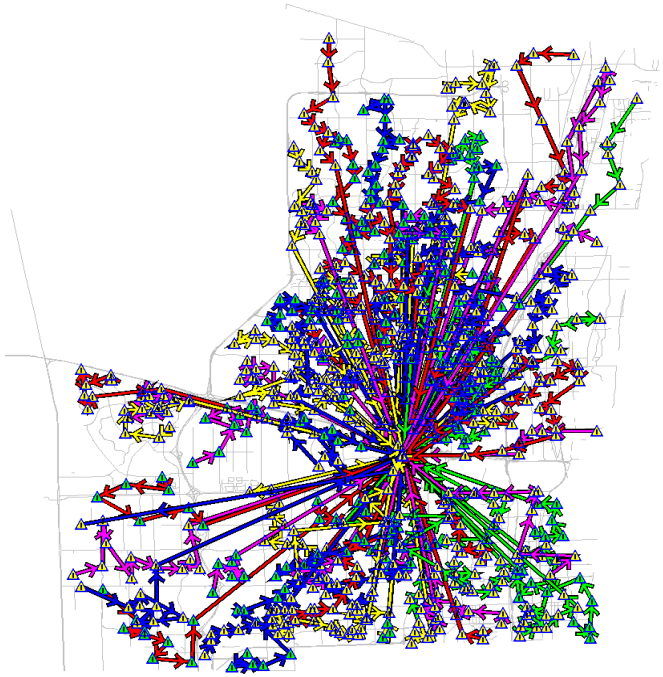
Nova Complex Analysis

Nova Complex includes:

Nova Elementaries (2), Nova Middle, Nova High, McFatter Tech, and College Academy

CURRENT

684 Bus Stops/Locations



Current Annual Nova Transportation Cost
$2.3M - $2.7M

LEGEND

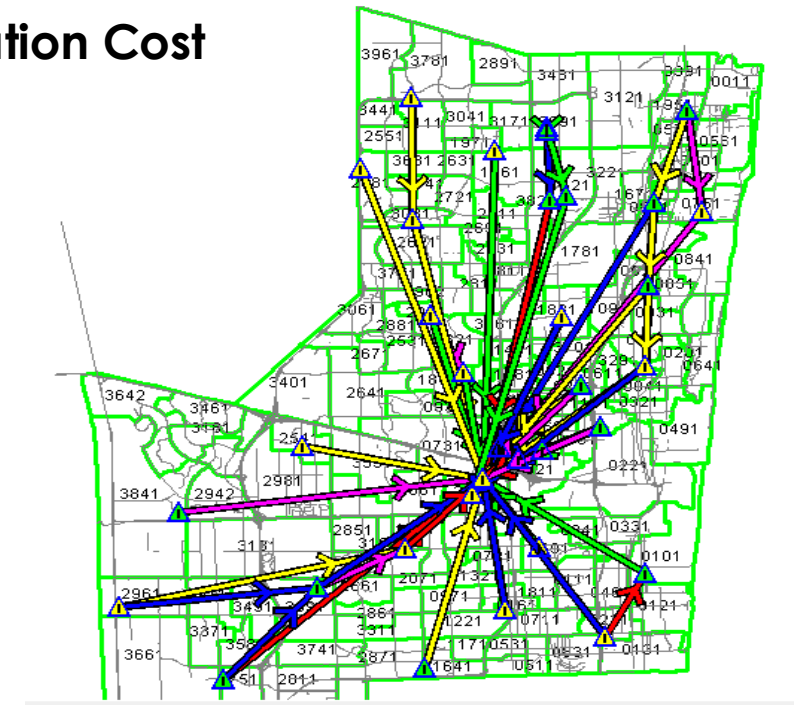
ROUTE-

BUS STOP-

Difference = 652 Stops/Locations

DEPOT

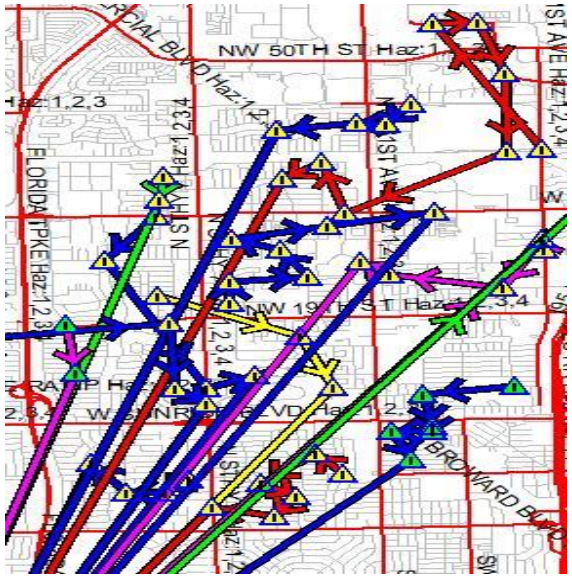
32 SmartStops/Locations

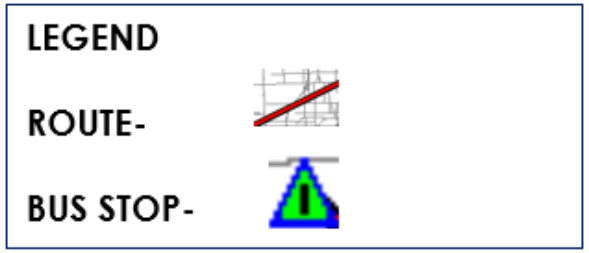


Example: Redefined Routes in an Area for Nova

CURRENT

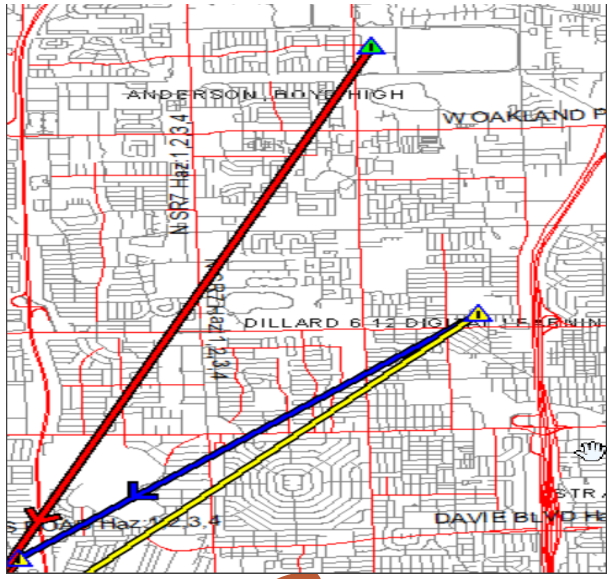
- **67 Bus Stops/Locations** and **16 buses** within the area of
  - South of Commercial Blvd
  - West of I-95
  - North of Davie Blvd.
  - East of Florida Turnpike





DEPOT

- **2 SmartStops/Locations** and **12 buses** within the area of
  - South of Commercial Blvd.
  - West of I-95
  - North of Davie Blvd.
  - East of Florida Turnpike



Example: South Broward High School Analysis

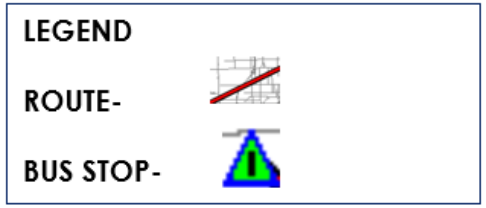
SOUTH BROWARD HIGH SCHOOL (Countywide Magnet)

119 Bus stops/Locations for South Broward HS

CURRENT

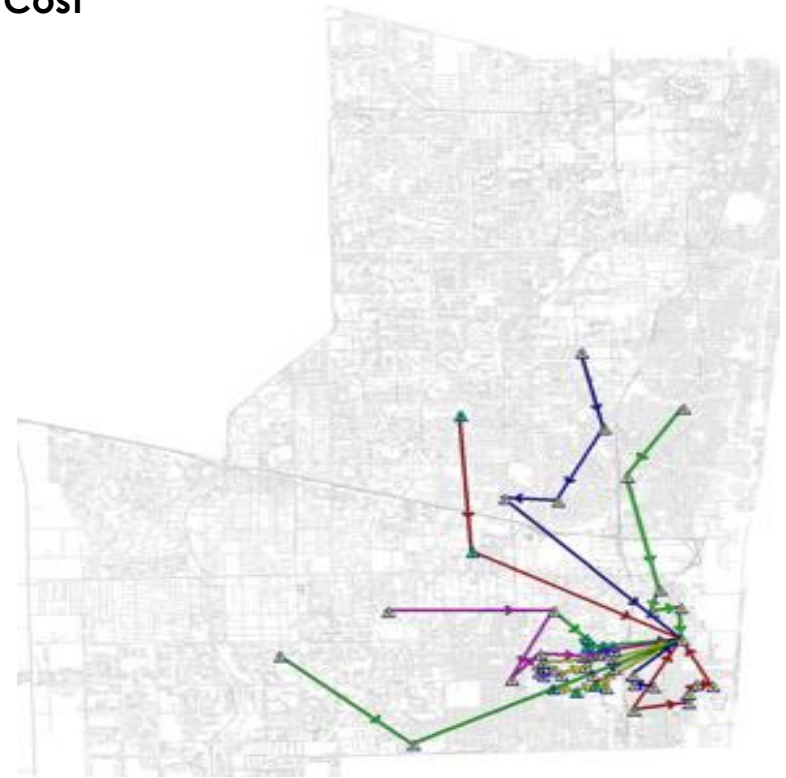


Current Annual Transportation Cost for All Magnets
$5.5M - $6.0M



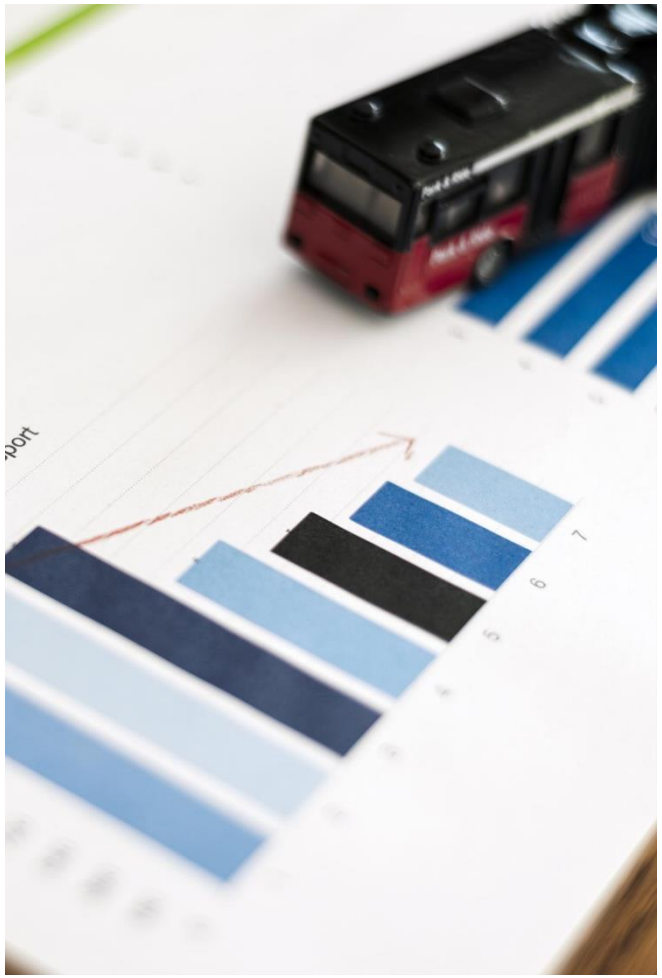
14 SmartStops/Locations for South Broward HS

DEPOT



Return on Investment for Broward County Public Schools

Financial Savings and Cost Avoidance



Route Reduction Savings
Reducing daily bus routes cuts recurring costs in wages, fuel, maintenance, and administrative overhead.

Fleet Life Extension
Fewer bus miles driven prolongs vehicle lifespan and delays costly replacements.

Overtime Expense Reduction
Centralized routing reduces last-minute coverage needs, lowering overtime expenses.

Tiered Bell Schedule Benefits
Tiered bell schedules enable buses and drivers to complete multiple trips daily, increasing efficiency.

Cost Savings for SmartStops

Scenario 1 - Savings from Removing Time from Route W/O OTP

Position	Standard Rate	Average Daily Hours	Total Days	Number of Buses	Operational Cost (Fuel & Maint.)	Total Salaries/Fringe	Total Cost
Bus Operator	$23.12	2.0	180	200	907,150	2,045,843	2,952,993

Scenario 2 - Savings from Removing Time from Route W/OTP

Position	OTP Rate	Average Daily Hours	Total Days	Number of Buses	Operational Cost (Fuel & Maint.)	Total Salaries/Fringe	Total Cost
Bus Operator	$34.68	2.0	180	200	907,150	3,068,764	3,975,914

This projection accounts for the fact that the majority of routes serving high schools, middle schools, the Nova Complex, and 6–12 Schools of Choice exceed 8.0 hours and therefore already incur overtime.

The SmartStops model will remove an average of 2.0 hours from every route in these categories.

OTP= Overtime Premium

Estimated Route Reductions for Middle Schools (Magnet)

Schools	Current Buses	Buses after SmartStops	Difference of CURRENT vs HUB BUSES
Apollo Middle	7	4	3
Attucks Middle/Bethune Elementary	8	6	2
Beachside Montessori	14	4	10
Crystal Lakes Middle/Pompano Beach Middle	20	15	5
Deerfield Beach Middle	9	8	1
Driftwood Middle	9	7	2
James Rickards Middle	6	5	1
Lauderdale Lakes Middle	5	5	0
Lauderhill 6-12 High	2	1	1
Margate Middle	10	7	3
New River Middle	20	16	4
Nova Complex	121	95	26
Silver Lakes Middle	2	1	1
Sunrise Middle	13	10	3
William Dandy Middle	10	7	3
TOTAL (All Magnets)	**256**	**191**	**65**

Estimated Route Reduction Savings for Choice High Schools & Technical Colleges (Magnet)

Schools	Current Buses	Buses After SmartStops	Difference of CURRENT vs HUB BUSES	Cost Savings
Atlantic Technical College/Coconut Creek High	33	16	17	$1.2M
Boyd Anderson High	15	15	0	Cost Neutral
Dillard 6-12 High/Parkway Middle	21	18	3	$216K
Deerfield Beach High	17	13	4	$288K
Fort Lauderdale High	24	22	2	$144K
Hallandale High/McNicol Middle	13	13	0	Cost Neutral
Hollywood Hills High	11	10	1	$72K
Miramar High	11	11	0	Cost Neutral
Northeast High	12	11	1	$72K
Plantation High	15	13	2	Cost Neutral
Pompano Beach High	19	16	3	$216K
Sheridan Technical College	21	15	6	$431K
South Broward High	19	13	6	$431K
South Plantation High	30	26	4	$288K
Stranahan High	10	10	0	Cost Neutral
TOTAL (All Magnets)	**271**	**222**	**49**	**$3.36M**

Redefining Cost Impact

SCHOOLS	WHY	WHAT IS THE BUS IMPACT?	COSTS	DESCRIPTION
Chapel Trail Elementary	Boundary Change	N/A	Cost Neutral	Existing Bus
Croissant Park Elementary	Boundary Change	N/A	Cost Neutral	Existing Bus
Fairway Elementary	Boundary Change	N/A	Cost Neutral	Existing Bus
Flanagan High	Boundary Change/Phase-in	1 REG	$72K	New Bus
Hallandale High/McNicol Middle	Bell Time Change/ Boundary Change/Phase-in	6 REG 1 ESE	REG $43K ESE $117K	New Bus
Lakeside Elementary	Boundary Change	N/A	Cost Neutral	Existing Bus
Miramar High	Boundary Change/Phase-in	3 - 6 REG	$216K - $431K	New Bus
Olsen Middle	Bell Time Change	7 REG 2 ESE	REG $503K ESE $234K	New Bus
Pines Lakes Elementary	Boundary Change	N/A	Cost Neutral	Existing Bus
Plantation High	Reconfigure to Grades 6 - 12	2 ESE	ESE $234K	New Bus
Silver Palms Elementary	Boundary Change	N/A	Cost Neutral	Existing Bus
TOTAL		**22 - 25 Additional Buses**	**$1.8 M - $2.2M**	

Impact of Implementation Strategy



Tradeoffs and Family Impact
Centralized hubs require families to adjust routines by transporting students to designated locations, impacting convenience and time.

Stop Location Considerations
Consistency is addressed by choosing hub sites near families, supporting school choice transport, and accommodating special needs students.

Implementation Approach
The model will be implemented for School Choice programs at secondary schools and for 6-12 schools.

Clear Communication and Acceptance
Proactive messaging on benefits, safety, and fiscal responsibility increases family acceptance of the hub model.

Comparison Review of Other Districts (Tri-County)

Palm Beach County – "Choice Transportation Zones"

- Uses **centralized stop zones instead of neighborhood stops** for choice programs
- Assign **limited stops and not guaranteed near a student's home**
- Provides transportation **within defined geographic zones**

Miami-Dade County – "Express Stop" (Private + Hybrid Model)

- Uses **centralized pickup hubs across multiple counties**
- Markets them as **"Express Stops"**
- Covers **Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach simultaneously**

Why We Must Rethink Student Transportation Now



Controlled Environment Benefits
School-based hubs provide controlled environments with lighting, surveillance, and defined traffic patterns to reduce safety risks.

Increased Student Accountability
Centralized hubs allow monitoring of student attendance before departure, enhancing accountability and safety.

Enhanced Emergency Response
Schools are better equipped for supervision and communication during delays or emergencies compared to curbside stops.

Reduced Traffic Conflicts
Fewer stops in the centralized model minimize traffic conflicts and unsafe loading conditions, improving overall safety.

Ongoing Work in Areas of Improvement

- Continuous refinement of *Here Comes the Bus*
- Opportunities to partner with Broward County Transit
- Student identification swiping for bus entry
- Annual review of magnet transportation zones
- Additional strategies to reduce ride time on the bus
- Leverage AI modeling and other systems to realize routing efficiencies

Update on Senate Bill 296 (2025) – School Start Times

What Changed: SB 296 (2025) eliminates the 2023 requirement that, by July 1, 2026:

- Middle schools start no earlier than 8:00 a.m.
- High schools start no earlier than 8:30 a.m.

Timing/Effective Status: Repeal was enacted ahead of the July 1, 2026, deadline, meaning districts can plan without building schedules around the former mandate.

What Districts Can Do Now: Districts and charter schools may maintain current schedules or adopt earlier start times without needing to meet the repealed 2026 thresholds.

Update on Senate Bill 296 (2025) – School Start Times

Reporting/Oversight: While the start-time mandate will not be enforced, lawmakers expect districts to document their decision-making. Districts are required to report to the Department of Education on:

- Current start times
- The community engagement process used
- The financial impacts of delayed start times

Once submitted in writing, the school district is treated as in compliance regardless of actual start times.

Update on Senate Bill 296 (2025) – School Start Times

Model Scenarios



Model 1: High Schools on Second Tier

Grade Level	Bell Time	Drop-Off	Pick-Up	#AM & #PM Routes Needed
First Tier:				
Elementary Schools & K-8	7:30 am - 2:10 pm	7:10 am	1:30 pm - 2:10 pm	830 - 850
Second Tier:				
Elementary Magnet & Centers	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	8:10 am	2:30 pm - 3:00 pm	830 - 850
High Schools & Technical Colleges	8:30 am - 3:30 pm	8:10 am	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	830 - 850
Pompano Beach High & Hallandale High	8:30 am - 5:00 pm	8:10 am	5:00 pm	830 - 850
Third Tier:				
Nova Elementary	9:30 am - 3:30 pm	9:00 am	4:30 pm	830 - 850
Middle Schools	8:45 am - 4:30 pm	10:00 am	4:30 pm	830 - 850
Technical Colleges, Nova & Centers	9:30 am - 4:30pm	9:00 am	4:30 pm	830 - 850

Model 2: High Schools on Third Tier

Grade Level	Bell Time	Drop-Off	Pick-Up	#AM & #PM Routes Needed
First Tier:				
Elementary Schools & K-8	7:30 am - 2:10 pm	7:10 am	1:30 pm - 2:10 pm	790 - 810
Second Tier:				
Elementary Magnet & Centers	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	8:10 am	2:30 pm - 3:00 pm	790 - 810
Pompano Beach High & Hallandale High	8:30 am - 5:00 pm	8:10 am	5:00 pm	790 - 810
Middle Schools	8:30 am - 3:00 pm	8:10 am	3:00 pm	790 - 810
Third Tier:				
Nova Elementary	9:30 am - 3:30 pm	9:00 am	4:30 pm	790 - 810
High Schools, Technical Colleges, Nova Middle, High Schools & Centers	9:30 am - 4:30pm	9:00 am	4:30 pm	790 - 810

Model 3: High School on Second Tier

With SmartStops for Out-of-Boundary Students

Grade Level	Bell Time	Drop-Off	Pick-Up	#AM & #PM Routes Needed
First Tier:				
Elementary Schools & K-8	7:30 am -1:30 pm	7:10 am	1:30 pm	745 - 750
Second Tier:				
Elementary Magnet & Centers	8:30 am - 3:00 pm	8:10 am	3:00 pm	745 - 750
High Schools & Technical Colleges	8:30 am - 3:30 pm	8:10 am	3:30 pm	745 - 750
Pompano Beach High & Hallandale High	8:30 am - 5:00 pm	8:10 am	5:00 pm	745 - 750
Third Tier:				
Nova Elementary	9:30 am - 3:30 pm	9:00 am	3:30 pm	745 - 750
Middle Schools	10:00 am - 4:30 pm	9:30 am	4:30 pm	745 - 750
Technical Colleges, Nova & Centers	9:30 am - 4:30pm	9:00 am	4:30 pm	745 - 750

Estimated Additional Cost Impact

Grade Level	Additional Buses	Bus Cost	Additional Attendants	Attendant Cost	Total Cost
High Schools on Middle Tier Model 1	85 - 105	$6.1 M - $7.5 M	50	$2.3 M	**$8.4 M - $9.8 M**
High Schools on Last Tier Model 2	45 - 50	$3.2 M - $3.6 M	50	$2.3 M	**$5.5 M - $5.9 M**
High Schools on Middle Tier with SmartStops (Out-of-Boundary Students) **Model 3**	5 - 10	$360 K - $720 K	25	$1.1 M	**$1.5 M - $1.8 M**

Update on Senate Bill 296 – School Start Times

Next Steps

- Administer electronic survey to parents in April
- Finalize 2026-2027 school start times for School Board approval in May
- Submit documentation to Florida Department of Education in June

School Board Deliberation

- Public Input
- Board Discussion
- Feedback and Guidance

Sarah Leonardi, Chair
Dr. Jeff Holness, Vice Chair

Lori Alhadeff
Maura McCarthy Bulman
Adam Cervera, Esq.
Debra Hixon
Nora Rupert
Rebecca Thompson
Dr. Allen Zeman

Dr. Howard Hepburn
Superintendent of Schools

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321-2150 or email eeo@browardschools.com.

Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at 754-321-2150 or email eeo@browardschools.com.

browardschools.com



APPENDIX



Established 1915
BROWARD
County Public Schools

Current Three - Tier Routing System

Grade Level	Bell Time	Drop-Off AM	Pick up PM	#AM & #PM Routes
High Schools	7:40 am - 2:40 pm	7:00 am	2:40 pm	745
Tech Colleges	6:50 am - 1:50 pm	6:30 am	1:50 pm	745
6-12 -Dillard	7:40 am - 2:40 pm	7:00 am	2:40 pm	745
Elementary	8:00 am - 2:00 pm	7:40 am	2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	745
Centers	8:00 am - 2:15 pm	7:40 am	2:00 pm - 3:45 pm	745
K-8	8:00 am - 2:40 pm	7:40 am	2:40 pm	745
Nova Elementary	9:30 am - 3:30 pm	9:00 am	3:30 pm	745
Middle Schools (average) -Millennium 6-12, Pines 6-12, and Lauderhill 6-12	9:15 am - 3:45 pm	8:15 am	3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	745
Nova Middle, Nova High School & Centers	9:30 am - 4:30 pm	9:00 am	3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	745

- Schools have staggering bell times to allow for the tiering of the buses.
- With staggering of bell times, runs may overlap into another tier depending on instructional hours.
- Nova has two dismissals in the PM.
- Middle school instructional hours vary based on school requirements (6.5 hours, 6.7 hours).

SmartStops Routing Benefits

Predictability & Reliability in Transportation

- More consistent pickup/drop-off times
- Fewer route deviations
- Reduced risk of buses running late

Enhance Safety Considerations

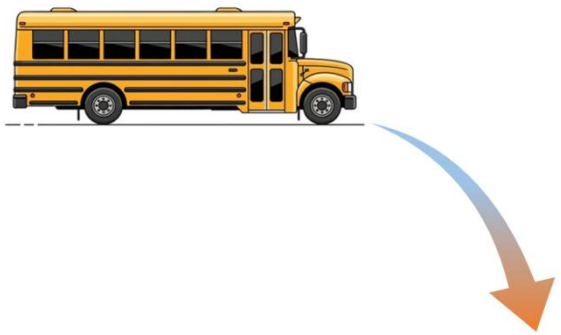
- Reducing the number of times a bus must stop and activate warning lights
- Avoiding unsafe cul-de-sacs, dead-end roads, or high-traffic driveways
- Preventing buses from navigating narrow residential streets
- Districts often place stops at well-lit, visible intersections

Urban Density & Traffic Constraints Considerations

- Congested streets
- Limited turnaround space
- Depot stops allow buses to stay on main roads rather than weaving through neighborhoods

SmartStops Routing Benefits

Efficiency & Cost Control



- Reduce route length and drive time
- Transport more students per bus
- Lower fuel and maintenance costs
  - Every bus that is removed from the road the saves $18,000 in fuel and maintenance costs
- Reduce the total number of buses and drivers needed

$18,000
Fuel & Maintenance
Savings

SmartStops Routing Benefits

Across the nation, districts face ongoing bus driver shortages.

- Shorter routes and easier coverage
- Reduce the total number of routes required
- Allow substitute drivers to manage routes more predictably

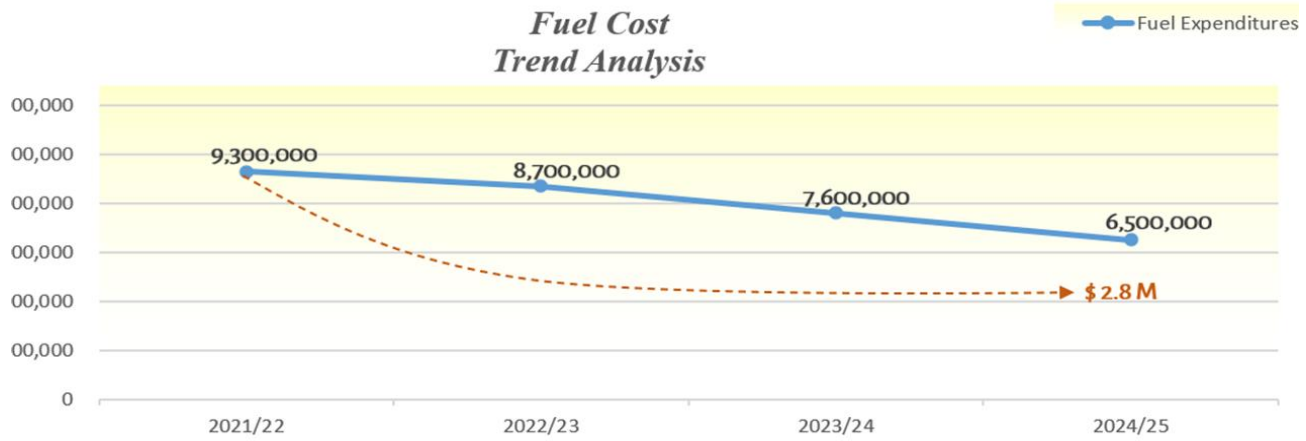
Standardization & Access

- Using centralized SmartStops helps districts apply consistent policies across neighborhoods rather than offering varied service levels that could create access concerns

WAYS TO IMPROVE COST SAVINGS

Replacing Older School Buses

- Consistent new bus purchases has resulted in a reduction of fuel expenditures.
  - **District has saved $2.8 M over the last three years**
    - Oldest buses in the fleet averaging 4.0 – 5.5 MPG
    - New diesel buses average 8.0 - 9.4 MPG
    - New vehicles are also a hedge against rising fuel prices.



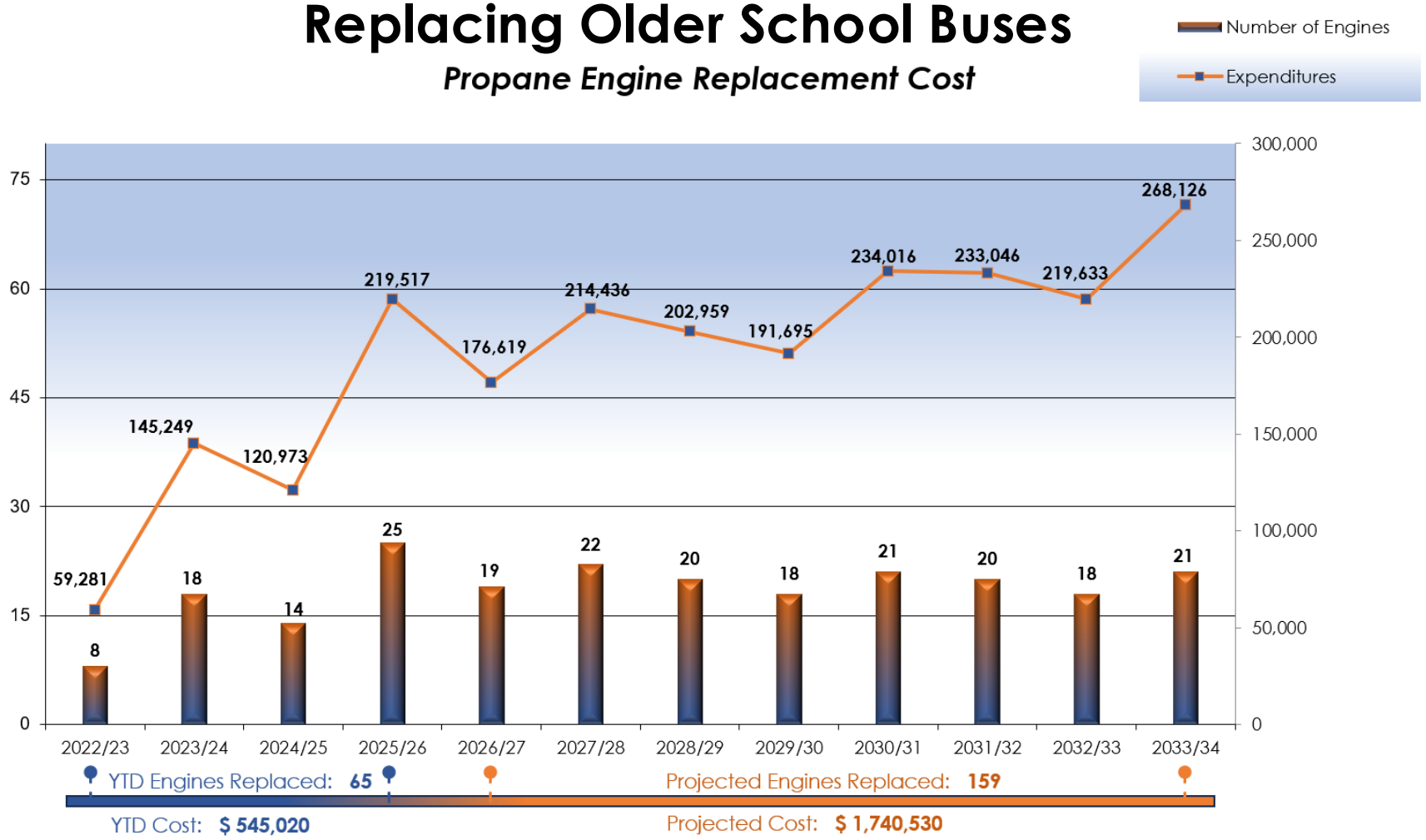
Additional Transportation Categories	Average Cost
Magnet	5.5 M - 6.0 M
Nova Complex	2.3 M - 2.7 M
Extra-Curricular Field Trips	1.3 M - 1.5 M
Summer School	1.4 M - 1.6 M
Community Based Instruction (CBI's)	800 K - 900 K
Unique Aide Cost	700 K - 800 K
Pre-K Agency (Ann Stork, Arc, BCC, UCP)	500 K - 700 K
Children's Service Counsel (CSC)	250 K - 300 K
After-School Activities	300 K - 500 K



WAYS TO IMPROVE COST SAVINGS

Replacing Older School Buses

Propane Engine Replacement Cost



Additional Savings & Reimbursements

Savings, Rebates and Reimbursements from Green Initiative

- Annual Fuel Expenditures Reduced by 2.8M
- 2019 - 2024 Propane Tax Rebate: 1.7M
- 2023 Awarded Driver Choice Grant: 1.2M
- 2023 Awarded Grant to Purchase EV Buses: 14.8M
- 2026 Projected Propane Tax Rebate: 151K
- 2026 EV Bus Tax Credit: 2.0M
- Projected Fuel & Maintenance Savings for 60 EV Buses: 4K – 6K per Bus Annually



Glossary of Terms

- **AI –** Artificial intelligence
- **Choice Schools -** Schools that extend outside the traditional attendance boundary that make families apply for program admission and incorporate a transportation zone
- **Non-Eligible Students -** Students who live with a two-mile radius of their boundary school
- **OTP** – Overtime premium (time and a half hourly rate)
- **School Choice Depot -** ALL choice program students that live outside the boundary of the school will be routed to a District school location for morning and afternoon transportation
- **Special Needs Students (ESE) -** students that require transportation based on individualized education program (IEP) requirements