



# NEXT GENERATION

## REFERENDUM

November 3, 2026

A renewal of the existing one-mill property tax

## City of Fort Lauderdale Commission Meeting

**Dr. Howard Hepburn, Superintendent of Schools**  
Broward County Public Schools



For Informational Purposes Only



# Before We Begin

**This presentation is informational only.**

**Broward County Public Schools shares facts about the Next Generation Referendum. District employees educate – they do not advocate for or against the ballot measure.**

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# Broward County Public Schools Highlights



**“A” Rated District  
for third  
consecutive year**



**No D or F Schools  
for third  
consecutive year**

First time since  
1999



**Highest  
Graduation Rate  
in 25 Years**

**97.5%** (traditional  
HS) and **91.4%**  
(all schools)



**#1 in Funding in  
Florida** for AP,  
AICE, Dual  
Enrollment and  
Industry  
Certifications



**Cambridge  
District of the  
Year** for 2025/26

# About Us

**236,667**

Total Students Enrolled

**325**

Total Schools (incl. 86 charters)

**27,848**

Total Employees

**\$617 Million**

In Scholarships & Financial Aid, Class of 2026

## Student Demographics

| Group                              | Percent | Count of Students |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| <b>Race</b>                        |         |                   |
| White                              | 50.5%   | 119,594           |
| Black                              | 40.9%   | 96,748            |
| Asian                              | 3.9%    | 9,265             |
| Native American / Alaskan          | 0.3%    | 689               |
| Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander | 0.2%    | 495               |
| Multiracial                        | 4.2%    | 9,876             |
| <b>Ethnicity</b>                   |         |                   |
| Hispanic                           | 39.5%   | 93,427            |
| Non-Hispanic                       | 60.5%   | 143,240           |

Source: BCPS About Us 2026/27; 09/08/2025 Benchmark Day Enrollment Report, Demographics & Enrollment Planning

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# District School Grades

**A**  
2024/25

**A**  
2023/24

**B**  
2022/23

## School Grade Count — District Operated Schools

| School Year | A   | B  | C  | D  | F |
|-------------|-----|----|----|----|---|
| 2025-26     | 129 | 56 | 27 | 0  | 0 |
| 2024-25     | 110 | 69 | 34 | 0  | 0 |
| 2023-24     | 82  | 61 | 70 | 0  | 0 |
| 2022-23     | 56  | 46 | 99 | 11 | 1 |

Source: 2025-26 School Grades, FLDOE, as of July 1, 2026

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# Fort Lauderdale School Grades

2025–26 Florida Department of Education School Grades

**Bayview Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

**Bennett Elementary School**

Elementary

**B**

**Croissant Park Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

**Dillard Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

**Floranada Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

**Harbordale Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

**North Side Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

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# Fort Lauderdale School Grades

2025–26 Florida Department of Education School Grades

**Riverland Elementary School**

Elementary

**C**

**Rock Island Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

**Stephen Foster Elementary School**

Middle

**A**

**Sunland Park Academy**

Middle

**A**

**Thurgood Marshall Elementary School**

Middle

**C**

**Virginia Shuman Young Elementary School**

High

**A**

**Walker Elementary School**

High

**B**

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# Fort Lauderdale School Grades

2025–26 Florida Department of Education School Grades

**Westwood Heights Elementary School**

Elementary

**A**

**New River Middle School**

Elementary

**B**

**Sunrise Middle School**

Elementary

**A**

**William Dandy Middle School**

Elementary

**B**

**Dillard 6-12**

Elementary

**C**

**Fort Lauderdale High School**

Elementary

**A**

**Sheridan Technical High School**

Elementary

**A**

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# Fort Lauderdale School Grades

2025–26 Florida Department of Education School Grades

**Stranahan High School**

Elementary

**A**

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# Pembroke Pines School Grades

2025–26 Florida Department of Education School Grades

|                                        |            |          |
|----------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| <b>Pines Lakes Elementary School</b>   | Elementary | <b>A</b> |
| <b>Silver Palms Elementary School</b>  | Elementary | <b>A</b> |
| <b>Pines Collegiate Academy 6–12</b>   | Middle     | <b>A</b> |
| <b>Silver Trail Middle School</b>      | Middle     | <b>A</b> |
| <b>Walter C. Young Middle School</b>   | Middle     | <b>A</b> |
| <b>Charles W. Flanagan High School</b> | High       | <b>A</b> |
| <b>West Broward High School</b>        | High       | <b>A</b> |

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# At a Glance

## Election Date

November 3, 2026 — General Election

## What It Is

A renewal of the existing one-mill property tax — not a new tax or a tax increase

## Duration

Four school years beginning with the 2027/28 school year

## Annual Revenue

Approximately \$358 million across all Broward public schools, including charter schools

## What It Funds

Teacher and staff compensation supplements, school safety personnel, and mental health professionals

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# What It Is?

**This is not a new tax.**

**It is a renewal of the one-mill property tax voters approved in 2022.**

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# What It Funds / What These Funds Support Today

The Next Generation Referendum renewal would continue funding for all Broward County public schools — including charter schools — to:

- Recruit and retain **high-quality teachers and eligible staff** by continuing compensation supplements
- Maintain and enhance **School Resource Officers (SROs) and school safety staff**
- Maintain and enhance essential programs, such as **mental health services for students and families**

The current Secure the Next Generation Referendum, approved by voters in 2022, is set to expire. Those funds currently support:

- Approximately **\$173 million annually** in compensation supplements for **teachers and eligible staff**
- Over **393 school safety personnel and \$1.7 million** in state-of-the-art software providing all staff with wearable panic-buttons for immediate security response
- More than **224 mental health professionals**

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# Official Ballot Language

## Fund School Employee Pay, Safety, and Mental Health through a One-Mill Property Tax Levy

To enhance school safety and mental health services, recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and essential employees, improve student achievement, and support critical school operations, shall the School Board of Broward County continue to levy a one-mill ad valorem property tax from January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2030, to fund school safety personnel, mental health services, increased compensation for teachers, and school-based support staff for public and charter schools?

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# How will referendum funds be allocated, and who decides?

The School Board of Broward County, FL, retains the authority to vote on the allocation of referendum funds each year through its formal budget adoption process. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the allocation of funds prior to distribution.

**The referendum renewal would continue securing funds for all public schools — including charter schools — to:**

## 90% or more

to provide compensation supplements to recruit and retain teachers and eligible staff

## Up to 10%

to provide funding for school resource officers and school safety staff, and to preserve important programs, such as mental health services and personnel

*All compensation will be subject to collective bargaining. These funds will not be available until the 2027/28 school year.*

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# What Is a Mill / Cost to Property Owners ?

The mill or millage rate is the amount of property value used to calculate local property taxes. One mill equals \$1 in taxes for every \$1,000 of taxable property value (or \$100 per \$100,000).

## \$418 - home

per year / \$35 per month

The average **homeowner** with a home market value of \$652,756 and a School Board taxable value of \$417,877, would invest approximately \$418 that year or \$35 per month, similar to what they currently invest.\*

## \$230 - condominium

per year / \$19 per month

The average condo owner with a **condo** market value of \$296,524 and a School Board taxable value of approximately \$230,002, would invest approximately \$230 that year or \$19 per month, similar to what they currently invest.\*

## \$358M

generated annually

If approved by voters, the referendum would generate approximately **\$358 million** annually — including \$283 million for District-operated schools and \$75 million for charter schools. The referendum renewal would cover four school years beginning with the 2027/28 school year.

*\*A homeowner's/condo owner's investment varies based on their School Board taxable value as determined by the Broward County Property Appraiser and may be subject to change annually.*

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# If Not Renewed

## \$358 million

The District would lose approximately \$358 million annually currently funding safety and mental health positions and supplements.

# Learn More About the Next Generation Referendum

SCAN TO LEARN MORE



Visit Online

[browardschools.com/referendum2026](https://browardschools.com/referendum2026)

Scan the QR code or visit the website above for information about the Next Generation Referendum, including official ballot language, FAQs, and where to find your voting location.