

BPS

Headlines

A Publication of
Brevard Public Schools

June 9, 2020

**Health
First**

Virtual Visits
Care that Keeps You Connected.



Brevard Public Schools to receive \$14-15 million in coronavirus-relief aid

Brevard Public Schools estimates the district will receive between \$14-15 million as a proportional share of the estimated \$17.4 million in education stabilization funds from the federal government's CARES Act stimulus bill passed in late March. School districts are still awaiting direction from the Florida Department of Education for conformation on the final allocation and application guidelines to apply for the funding.

"We welcome this much needed federal aid," said Dr. Mark Mullins, Superintendent of Brevard Public Schools. "This money is necessary to help cover the unanticipated costs associated with our COVID-19 response. These are one-time only funds that will have specific parameters for their use. The aid will fund important academic programming and social-and-emotional support systems for our students."

The CARES Act earmarked \$13.2 billion for relief to elementary and secondary schools nationwide. The estimated per district funding totals, released by the Florida Department of Education last week, are based on the established Title I, Part A formula allocation. A proportional share of the funds received by BPS must be shared with Brevard County-based public charter and private schools based on student enrollment.

The announcement of the funding estimates comes as Florida school districts await Governor Ron DeSantis' decision on whether to sign the state education budget passed by the Florida Legislature in March. Under that budget -- passed before the statewide economic slowdown -- the district expected a \$2 million shortfall in funding

for operations due to a state-mandated increase in its payment to the Florida Retirement System and a decline in enrollment (and per-student funding) due to charter school growth.

With additional budget demands that include necessary health insurance costs to correct five years of no premium increases and higher costs for services, the district is facing a current \$13 million deficit, and that does not factor in the operational impacts of compliance with COVID-19 restrictions.

The pandemic presents further potential budget complications for BPS including the unknown cost of re-opening schools under new social-distancing guidelines and added enrollment uncertainties. Like most school districts across the country, BPS is tackling tough decisions as it tries to build a budget for 2020-21, anticipating significant state budget cuts due to the revenue losses incurred by the coronavirus. Already, it has reduced expenses by \$28 million over five years to afford raises for teachers, new mental-health services, a regional bus system and choice programs.

Superintendent Mullins will discuss budget issues and coronavirus-relief aid when he presents an operating budget update to the school board at its June 16 meeting in Viera.

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BPS Re-Opening Task Force Seeking Input

The BPS RE-Opening Task Force is committed to making well-informed recommendations and guidelines to open our schools for the benefit of our students. We value feedback from our community. The task force will be utilizing all available formal and informal structures to solicit feedback from stakeholders to include School Advisory Councils, Community Ambassadors Council, and direct feedback from our teachers and staff. Each submission will be reviewed and organized for the consideration of the task force.



Priorities

- Ensuring student and staff safety and well-being
- Identifying and addressing continuity of learning
- Innovating to promote excellence and eliminate opportunity gaps
- Deepening partnerships to provide the full range of supports and services required for healthy growth and development
- Adapting logistics and operations to new realities
- Strategically deploying reduced resources
- Revising and enhancing systems to prepare students for college, careers, and life

[Click HERE to Provide Feedback](#)

Optional Summer Learning Opportunities



Our Elementary and Secondary Leading & Learning teams are pleased to provide optional summer learning opportunities for students. These easy-to-use web based platforms have a variety of materials for students, as well as family activities, reading challenges, virtual trips and more. Click on either image above to explore these programs today!

Space Coast Women in Defense Provide STEM Scholarships

Space Coast Women In Defense (SCWID) established a scholarship program to encourage women in Brevard County, Florida to pursue careers related to the national security and defense interests of the United States and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Multiple scholarships are available up to \$1,000 each. Scholarship recipients were notified June 1st and will be recognized at a formal awards ceremony.

Established on January 21, 2013, SCWID is a non-profit professional networking and development organization for women and men across Florida's Space Coast who contribute to national defense and security. The organization chartered the Space Coast STEM Education Council on October 14, 2013, and strives to connect STEM needs with STEM resources from our partners including local industry, colleges and universities, civic leaders, parents, and students.

Recent Brevard Winners:

Morgan Bentley – Viera High - c/o 2020
Anna Hinkle – Eau Gallie High – c/o 2019
Zaafira Haque – Viera High – c/o 2018

Local West Shore Student Needs Community Support in 2020 Monaco Mousetrap Competition

Abigail Watson, a student at West Shore Jr./Sr. High won a spot to compete in the Monaco Mousetrap Grand Prix in 2019 where she won 2nd place for acceleration with the car she built. She competed against students from Italy, France and Monaco.

Due to the Coronavirus, this year's competition is being held virtually and the winner will be chosen by "likes" of their video entry. We are including a link to Abigail's video so as a community, we can bring home a win for Abigail and Brevard Public Schools.

Below is the message from Abigail to our community: "All year, I've dreamed of returning to spectacular Monaco and the fun of the mousetrap race experience. This year, I was hoping to compete in all three categories, and the glue on my final car was barely dry when the world "shut down" to help stop the spread of the pandemic. Luckily, my three new cars were able to run in the 2020 Monaco Mousetrap Virtual Edition: a competition of submitted videos on Instagram. Please go to the link below and vote for my video to help me win this year's virtual race. Thank you!"



<https://www.instagram.com/p/CBLKOyhD2iT/?igshid=5x52zj3mxgxr>

New Viera Elementary School Nearing Completion - Waitlist Now Available

The excitement is building as the completion of our newest school, now officially named Viera Elementary is nearly complete. Principal Adrienne Schwab has been offering several Facebook LIVE sneak peeks and updates to the families who are attending. There is a special surprise in store soon, and we are excited to share some unique and very special features of this school that truly make show how it is being built with the classrooms of tomorrow in mind.

For more information about this school or to fill out an application to attend Viera Elementary, please click [HERE](#).



Viera Elementary School | Media Center
Overall View



Viera Elementary School | Media Center
Perspective View



Library Entry



Freedom 7 Presents "Dream 2030 Exhibition"



Click [HERE](https://www.freedom7unitedib.com/) to view the exhibition

Dream 2030 is the PYP Exhibition; the culminating work of students in the IBPYP (International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme). Students engaged in a multi-disciplinary inquiry into the United Nations' SDGs or Sustainable Development Goals. The children presented their learning and actions as a result of their year long deep study, in formal presentations and a showcase performance. As a result of the virtual learning platform due to COVID19, the Freedom 7 IB learners decided to present their new understandings and call to action in a student created website, filled with 100% student created artifacts of learning; including original music, writing, artistic expression and more.

Your Half-Cent Tax Dollars at Work Surfside Elementary

Surtax Investment: \$1,004,477

Age of school: 57 years

Improvements:

- Replaced water cooled chiller, cooling tower, hydronic pumps in central energy plant.
- Installed new chilled water air handlers, a split air handling and condensing unit.
- Replaced water cooled chiller, cooling tower and acoustical ceiling grid in building 1.
- Installed new supply and return air ductwork in cafeteria.
- Upgraded select electrical panels and surge suppression devices, and transformers.



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION



[CLICK HERE for June Feeding Distribution Sites](#)



[CLICK HERE for helpful COVID-19-related information and resources.](#)



[Brevard Virtual School now accepting full time students](#) [CLICK HERE for more information](#)



Check out the May issue of *Everything Brevard* magazine and BPS' tips for continuing the learning this summer on page 40!

[CLICK HERE to read the magazine now.](#)

[CLICK HERE to get the it delivered to your in-box](#)

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