THE COLLEGE ACADEMY @BROWARD COLLEGE

2025 NICHE BEST SCHOOLS

Creating Innovators & Influencers For Our Future



September 2025 Newsletter

THIS EDITION'S HIGHLIGHTS

- PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE
- ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS
- ADMISSIONS TIME! WITH DR. BRYAN
- STUDENT SERVICES UPDATES
- STUDENT PERSPECTIVES: "THE CA DIFFERENCE"
- ADMISSIONS
- IMPORTANT UPDATES AND NEWS



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

THE COLLEGE ACADEMY @BROWARD COLLEGE

NATIONAL

#18 Best College Prep High Schools in America

STATE

#3 Best College Prep Public High Schools in Florida

LOCAL

#1 Best Public High Schools in Broward County

&

#1 Best College Prep Public High Schools in Broward County



BEST OF THE BEST

2025 NICHE BEST SCHOOLS



A WARM WELCOME FROM DR. BARRON

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Greetings CA students. My name is Dr. Kimberly Barron, and I am the English Department chair and National Honor Society sponsor here. I have been teaching for 25 years and have been an NHS sponsor for 20 of those glorious years. I look forward to hearing about your community service passion projects! Helping our NHS members give back in meaningful ways makes my job a joy 😊

An enthusiastic welcome from all of us in the English Department! We are absolutely ecstatic to have you join our vibrant and dynamic community. Prepare to dive into a world of words, ideas, and stories that will challenge and inspire you.

We are thrilled to embark on this intellectual journey with you. Our department is a nexus of creativity and critical inquiry, and we are committed to fostering an environment where your literary passions can flourish. We can't wait to dive into the innovation of AI to demonstrate how it can be utilized in a myriad of creative arenas.

We know the prospect of college essays can seem daunting, but fear not! We're here to help you every step of the way. Think of us as your go-to resource for formulating your voice for college essays; we'll help you craft compelling narratives that truly capture who you are and dazzle admissions readers in the process. With top-tier vocabulary study and a focus on implementing high-level sentence structure, our students produce compelling essays that can be used for their scholarship portfolios or college supplementals. Say goodbye to busy work!

We are here to help get you one step closer to your dream college and career!

And for all you budding poets, novelists, and playwrights, we have an exciting opportunity for you! Our literary magazine here at Broward College, P'an Ku, is always on the lookout for fresh, original voices. We can't wait to read your literary pieces and maybe even feature them in our next issue! Imagine writing published author on your college resume.

Get ready for an amazing semester. Let's create something incredible together!



A WARM WELCOME FROM DR. BRYAN

DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

"You are where you are supposed to be." For some, that place is right here—at the College Academy at Broward College.

We are thrilled to welcome our new juniors this year. It is truly heartwarming to finally meet the faces behind the applications we carefully processed earlier this spring.

As we begin our Early Admissions application window, our team is excited to review applications and welcome the next group of exceptional students. The College Academy at Broward College remains the only collegiate high school in Broward County, with a remarkable 100% high school graduation rate. Even more impressive, 99% of our students graduate with both a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts degree.

The Early Admission Application period is September 1 to November 1.
All applicants must meet eligibility criteria at the time of application.

Excellence in academics is what we do best—but what makes us truly unique is our commitment to fostering the individual strengths and potential of every student. Beyond academics, we recognize the importance of the social-emotional growth of our students, nurturing who they are as individuals while they excel in the classroom.

We encourage all prospective students to apply early during our Early Admissions window. At the time of application the student must meet the eligibility criteria. To support families in making this important decision, we are offering multiple information sessions:

- In-person sessions at all three Broward College campuses
- Online sessions for added flexibility

Please visit our website for specific dates and deadlines.







CONNECT WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

TEN MAJOR Scholarship Programs, including links to the scholarship websites, timelines, and due dates, have been posted to the **CA D2L shell**:

The Gates Scholarship
Questbridge Scholarship
Coca-Cola Scholarship
Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship
Ron Brown Scholarship Program
Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship
Hagan Scholarship
Burger King Scholars
Coolidge Scholarship
Dell Scholars Program

The School Counseling Team visited Dr. Aiken and Mr. O'Neill's classes on the Central and North campuses at the end of August to ensure that all seniors had a comprehensive understanding of the numerous scholarships currently available.

A Questbridge Scholarship Program Session will be hosted on BOTH campuses by Dr. Weinstein on **Friday, September 5, 2025.**

We will also continue to promote Raise.me and Big Future Scholarships that are ongoing.

Ms. Pliske will be promoting these scholarships and deadlines through the NEW Remind system, so our students will know about these opportunities and apply by the deadlines!

We are in it to WIN IT!

CA Guidance Team - Dr. Weinstein, Ms. Chirichella, Ms. Pliske



ETHAN RODRIGUEZ

CLASS OF 2026

Everyone told me not to do it. “You’ll miss out on the high school experience,” they said. Even the counselors were against it, but I didn’t care. I did it anyway, and it was the best decision I’ve made.

While I had the typical “good grades and extracurriculars,” something was missing—not just from my résumé, but from the “why” behind it all. So, I took a gamble: I left my traditional high school to enroll in a 500-student, full-time dual-enrollment program; becoming a college student at just 16.

While I felt like the smallest fish when I got here, my peers’ achievements didn’t evoke envy; they inspired me. With upperclassmen pushing me toward harder classes and bigger projects, and professors treating me with respect, I finally found purpose in my academics.

For the first time, I truly cared about what I was doing. Fueled by that passion, I started a non-profit to fight food insecurity in my community, launched a tutoring business, and won at collegiate-level competitions. Not because I had to, but because I wanted to.

At College Academy, I built authentic relationships with friends, professors, and counselors; I found myself. And it's allowed me to achieve more than I ever thought I could.



SANTIAGO CAUDILLO-ALVAREZ

CLASS OF 2026

The CA Difference

Before College Academy, I didn't know the amount of possibilities there were. Before College Academy, I received little support to achieve at my fullest potential. I wasn't pushed to think bigger. I found myself trying to blend into a system that taught me what to think, rather than how to think. Then a door filled with opportunities opened when my teammate, a College Academy senior on my former school's wrestling team, encouraged me to apply to CA. He told me it would change my life. I wasn't convinced, but he kept insisting. So, I thought to myself, "Why not? I'll apply and make up my mind later."

After months of consideration, I decided to attend CA, leaving behind the all-too-familiar "high school experience." I quickly realized what I had signed up for during my first week. My peers had dozens of college credits, some were taking advanced math classes, and others had résumés filled with impressive extracurriculars—things that were foreign at my old school.

Rather than feeling left behind or defeated by a system that wasn't may not have have been a good fit for me, CA gave me the platform to succeed. With the help of some amazing teachers, I caught up and began to excel in subjects I once struggled with. I witnessed the impact of CA as I improved from scoring 100 points below the school average on the PSAT to scoring above the average on my first SAT.

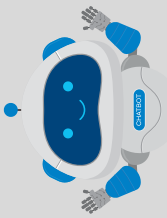
Furthermore, the **Career Bound Program**, hosted by Junior Achievement of South Florida, was one of the most impactful opportunities offered by CA. During the program, students build work-ready skills, learn about local industries, and apply what they have learned through an internship.

I interned with **Cater Investment Group**. During my time there, I built financial models, researched real estate markets, and helped analyze investment opportunities the firm was actively considering. I saw for the first time how what I learned in the classroom directly connected to my desired career (Pay attention in CGS, Excel is truly useful).

The internship should have been the end of the program, but CA taught me to put all my dedication into pursuing my goals and to unapologetically be myself. Surrounded by peers who weren't afraid to raise their hands, ask questions, and pursue their dreams, I felt empowered to do the same. So, I pushed for more and landed a job as an analyst at Cater Investment Group.

Today, I'm contributing to real work at a professional investment firm, something I thought impossible at seventeen. It all started with CA, the place that pushed me to look beyond my limits and pursue opportunities I once thought were out of reach.

MORE THAN JUST MEALS



Did you know that completing the Free and Reduced Lunch Application is about more than just meals? By filling out the application, you can unlock access to a variety of valuable opportunities and resources, including:

- **Junior Achievement**, which will provide vital preparation for college and careers
- **Scholarships** that will make your higher education more affordable
- **Additional school activities and resources** designed to support your success

Even if you don't think you'll qualify, submitting the application can make a difference in your access to resources that will enhance your time here at The College Academy. Take a few minutes today to complete your application—it's quick, confidential, and can open the door to incredible opportunities for you and your future.

Parents/Guardians apply on myschoolapps.com

In a one to two weeks, parent/guardian will receive an email from the Broward Schools Food and Nutrition Department. **If approved for FREE or REDUCED LUNCH, parent/guardian must complete the MEAL DISCLOSURE form on the Parent Focus Portal in order for the student to request breakfast and lunch, test fee waivers and college application fee waivers.**

Please review the information on the BCPS website - https://www.browardschools.com/bcps-departments/food-and-nutrition-services/meal-benefits



THE COLLEGE ACADEMY AT BROWARD COLLEGE

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Attend an information session near you!
Learn about our exceptional early college where students earn their
Associate of Arts degree while completing their high school graduation requirements!

Broward College **Central Campus** **Davie**	**August 27 & October 15:** **6:00 pm - 7:30 pm / BLDG 4 Bailey Hall**
Broward College **South Campus** **Pembroke Pines**	**September 4 & October 9** **6:00 pm - 7:30 pm / BLDG 71 RM 101** **Limited Capacity - Register Now!**
Broward College **North Campus** **Coconut Creek**	**September 2: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm / BLDG 47 RM 112** **October 7: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm / BLDG 46 RM152** **Limited Capacity - Register Now!**

Early Admissions Application Opens
September 1, 2025

General Admissions Application Opens
January 5, 2026

Click Here to Register!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR:

- ADMISSIONS TIMELINE
- ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

754-321-6900 https://www.browardschools.com/collegeacademy collegeacademy@browardschools.com

THE COLLEGE ACADEMY @BROWARD COLLEGE



10TH GRADERS ONLY

APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN
APPLY NOW

EARLY APPLICATION: 9/1/25 - 11/1/25
GENERAL APPLICATION: 1/5/26 - 2/6/26

TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

1. Apply as a Dual Enrollment student at BC
2. Take the ACCUPLACER or SAT or ACT exam
3. Complete the College Academy Application

GOT QUESTIONS?

Join us for a virtual application Q&A session on

September 19, 2025 - 12:00 pm

October 23, 2025 - 6:00 pm

Session Link

UPCOMING CAMPUS TOURS

Central Campus, Davie, FL
North Campus, Coconut Creek, FL
Various Dates Available

Click here to select a date!

www.browardschools.com/collegeacademy

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@college.academy

The College Academy at Broward College

WHY CHOOSE US?

- Academic Rigor
- Personalized Attention
- Dedicated Educators
- Extracurricular Opportunities
- Fully Immersed on BC campus
- Smaller Class Size
- Comprehensive College Advising

CLASS OF 2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 8 Questbridge Scholars
- 4 National Merit Scholars
- 1 National Merit Semi-Finalist
- 11 National Merit Commended Scholars
- 4 Silver Knight Honorable Mentions

At CA, you are not just a face in the crowd. We build strong relationships to bridge you to your future!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

754-321-6900
CollegeAcademy@browardschools.com

PURCHASE YOUR YEARBOOK



$70

SPECIAL PRICE through 11/30/2025

- Treasure Your College Academy Years -

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YEARBOOK DEDICATIONS

Page Sizes Cost

¼ Page	$45
½ Page	$65
Full Page	$85

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Early Bird Prices Aug 28 - Nov 30, 2025

Commemorate Your High School and Life Journey and Achievements

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Buy Now!

2026

For more info: contact Carol Moore at carol.a.moore@browardschools.com

ALUMNI & FRIENDS
BROWARD COLLEGE

Alumni Spotlight

Brianna Ricardo







College Academy Class of 2024
University of Virginia Class of 2026
Government, American Politics track

Brianna has spent the last two years determined to leave her mark at the historic and distinguished University of Virginia. Her impressive school portfolio includes:

- Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy's Event and Operations Supervisor
- Honors Committee Advisor
- Law Office of the Public Defender in Broward County Intern (Summer 2025)
- Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity
- Programming and Voter Education Intern for the Center for Politics
- Summer 2025 Student Orientation Leader
- University Judiciary Committee Investigator,

Brianna is expected to graduate in Spring 2026 and begin law school in the fall.

To see more outstanding alumni stories, click here to visit Broward College's Alumni Spotlight

To add your story to our tremendous database, email jason.aiken@browardschools.com or michael.oneill@browardschools.com

Established 1915
BROWARD County Public Schools
Redefining Our Schools
2025-26

A RATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

2025-26 Redefining Our Schools Initiative Update

A Redefining Our Schools update was presented to the School Board and the community at the August 26, 2025, School Board Workshop. Staff provided an overview of the schools that need to be addressed in this year's process based on the criteria in Policy 8010, School Attendance Zone Boundaries and School Usage, as well as those requested to be addressed by various constituents. The School Board came to consensus on the schools to be addressed, timeline for this year's process, stakeholder engagement plan, composition of the School Boundary Committee, and considerations for evaluating proposals. The meetings listed below are opportunities for the community to provide input on redefining options for the identified schools. All meetings are open to the public and will take place from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The School Board and Superintendent Dr. Howard Hepburn reaffirmed their commitment to an inclusive process that values the voices of all our stakeholders, as well as a steadfast devotion to having our students and families ***#CHOOSE THE BEST, CHOOSE BCPS!***

Meeting Date & Location	Schools to be Discussed
Wednesday, September 10, 2025 Miramar High School	**Elementary Schools**: Fairway, Miramar, Sunshine, and Watkins **Middle Schools**: Glades and New Renaissance
Monday, September 15, 2025 South Broward High School	**Middle Schools**: Attucks MS, McNicol MS, and Olsen MS
Wednesday, September 17, 2025 Hallandale High School	**High School**: Hallandale
Thursday, September 18, 2025 Dillard 6-12 High School	**Elementary Schools**: Bennett, North Fork, North Side, Thurgood Marshall, and Walker
Wednesday, September 24, 2025 Stranahan High School	**High School**: Stranahan
Thursday, September 25, 2025 Coral Springs High School	**Middle Schools**: Coral Springs, Forest Glen, Margate, Ramblewood, and Sawgrass Springs
Monday, September 29, 2025 Charles W. Flanagan High School	**Elementary Schools**: Chapel Trail, Dolphin Bay, Lakeside, Palm Cove, Panther Run, Pines Lakes, and Sunset Lakes **Middle Schools**: Silver Trail and Walter C. Young
Tuesday, September 30, 2025 Plantation High School	**Middle Schools**: Bair, Plantation, and Westpine **High School**: Plantation

Upcoming School Board Meetings and Workshops

- **September 9, 2025 – School Board Workshop**
- **September 16, 2025 – Regular School Board Meeting**
- **September 24, 2025 – School Board Workshop**

ONE BROWARD

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

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.

Broward County Public School District

Here Comes The Bus

ACTIVE FOR SIGN-UPS ON **SEPT. 2, 2025**

Here Comes the Bus®

A GPS-BASED APP TO TRACK YOUR CHILD'S BUS!

The Tracking Features:

Shows the real-time location of your child's bus on a map

Gives scheduled and actual arrival times at home and school for AM, Mid-day, and PM routes

Provides push and email notifications when the bus is near



Sign Up Instructions for Parents:

1. Download **Here Comes the Bus** app or visit: www.herecomesthebus.com
2. Click **"Sign Up"**, then click **"Continue"**.
3. Click **"I have the Code"**.
4. Enter your email address, First Name, Last Name and School District Code **(87599)**. Accept the Terms and Conditions, then click **"Continue"**.
5. Press **Confirm** the district displayed is **"Broward County Public Schools".**
6. Create your password. Repeat your password. Press **"Confirm Password"** on the screen when complete.
7. If successful, you will be directed to the **Thank You** screen. At that time, please check your email inbox for an email from **noreply@synovia.com.**
8. Open this email and click the **"Activate My Account"** link. Once completed, close the browser. You may now open the app and sign in with your email address and newly created password.

Adding a Student:

1. Access the **Here Comes the Bus** app.
2. Click the **Student** icon.
3. Click the **Add Student** button, then enter their last name and Student ID. Click **Submit.**
4. Repeat this process for additional students.

GET IT ON Google play

Download on the App Store

For more information, visit: www.browardschools.com/HCTB

BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EST. 1915



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Maura McCarthy Bulman
Adam Cervera, Esq.
Dr. Jeff Holness
Nora Rupert
Rebecca Thompson
Dr. Allen Zeman

Dr. Howard Hepburn, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Theodore Toomer, Central Regional Superintendent
Dr. Leo Nesmith, Director, Central Regional Office

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THE COLLEGE ACADEMY AT BROWARD COLLEGE

Ms. Bardetta D. Haygood, Principal
Ms. Camille Cameron, Assistant Principal
Dr. Jodie Weinstein, Guidance Director

Dr. Kim Bryan, Admissions Director/ESE Specialist
Ms. Melissa Combest, Student Activities Coordinator-Central Campus
Ms. Carol Moore, Student Activities Coordinator-North Campus

Dr. Jason Aiken
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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 Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.

WAYS TO CONNECT

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal

Ms. Bardetta D. Haygood

bardetta.haygood@browardschools.com

Assistant Principal

Ms. Camille Cameron

camille.cameron@browardschools.com

Student Services Director

Dr. Jodie Weinstein

jodie.weinstein@browardschools.com

Admissions Director/ESE Specialist

Dr. Kim Bryan

kim.bryan@browardschools.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPT 1 — Early Decision Admission Window Opens

SEPT 2 — Admissions Information Sessions- North Campus

SEPT 4 — Admissions Information Sessions- South Campus

STAY CONNECTED

- THE COLLEGE ACADEMY HOMEPAGE
- YOUTUBE
- INSTAGRAM
- LINKEDIN
- FACEBOOK

CONTACT INFO

Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Central Campus 754-321-6900
North Campus 954-201-2321

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