

The School Board of Brevard County



Janice Kershaw
Chairman

"SSNP is an individualized and flexible approach to secondary education. The school, parent and student will work together to develop an individualized program of study that works best for each child and parent and their personal goals for life after high school."



Amy Kneessy
Vice Chairman

"Every student, whether they want a technical career, such as automotive mechanic or they wish to attend a highly competitive college, will have the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful."



Dr. Richard A. DiPatri
Superintendent

"SSNP may be the most important initiative in the district to impact student achievement in the next ten years. We want our students to be successful in their adult career endeavors. In order for this to occur, districts like ours need to better prepare students to meet the future demands that will be placed on them."



Robert Jordan
School Board Member

"Upon graduation, students in the career and technical education program will have earned a national, state or local credential. These students will enter the workforce better prepared and ready to be competitive; possibly resulting in earning higher wages."



Dr. Barbara A. Murray
School Board Member

"Personalized, small learning communities will provide students with a greater sense of belonging and connection to their school and the learning process. This will increase opportunities for meaningful learning."



Larry E. Hughes
School Board Member

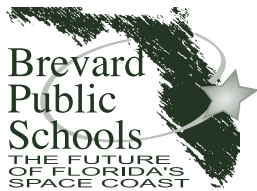
"SSNP will offer Brevard students enhanced opportunities for career or college preparation or remediation in the skills a productive citizen needs."

SCHOOL BOARD OF BREVARD

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Janice Kershaw, Chairman, District 5
Amy Kneessy, Vice-Chairman, District 3
Robert Jordan, District 1
Dr. Barbara A. Murray, District 2
Larry E. Hughes, District 4
Dr. Richard A. DiPatri, Superintendent

***Our Mission is to Serve Every Student with
Excellence as the Standard***



Secondary Schools *of* National Prominence



Opportunities and Challenges

For today's youth, life after secondary school offers a multitude of opportunities and challenges.

The opportunities arise from the abundance of well-paying, high-skilled jobs offered in the global marketplace. The challenges are to acquire the education, expertise and experiences required to get and keep those jobs. All students must leave high school with a solid foundation in the academic, social and workplace skills needed for the next step, whether it is postsecondary education, an apprenticeship or a career.

Serving EVERY student with excellence through Secondary Schools of National Prominence

In 2005 the School Board developed the Secondary Schools of National Prominence initiative to enhance rigor, relevance and relationships in the secondary school experience.

Brevard Public Schools are educational leaders under the banner of FIRST IN FLORIDA. In 2006-07, Brevard schools ranked in the top seven districts in reading, math and science in each of the 17 areas assessed by the FCAT. Under Florida's A+ Plan, all of our middle schools received an "A" and 96% of Brevard schools received an "A" or "B". Brevard is First in Florida in:

- The percentage of students in dual enrollment programs
- Performance in science research, Odyssey of the Mind and Future Problem Solving
- The number of schools in the state selected as Music Demonstration Schools

Brevard also has the third lowest dropout rate in the state (0.9%) and the first highest graduation rate (92.1%). Brevard schools score highest on Advanced Placement Tests among the ten largest districts. Brevard's students scoring a 3 or above (62.5%) is higher than the state and global averages.

Increased Opportunities for Credits

By the 2007-08 school year all middle and high schools will offer a seven-period day and/or block-scheduling. Every high school student will have the opportunity to earn 28 credits in a seven-period day scheduled school or 32 credits in a block-scheduled school. Middle school students will have expanded opportunities to pursue exploratory courses.

Increased Course Requirements

- Beginning with ninth grade students in 2007 (class of 2011), every high school student in a seven-period day school will be required to complete 26 credits to graduate instead of the current 24 credits. Every student in a block-scheduled school will be required to complete 30 credits to graduate instead of the current 28 credits.
- Beginning with ninth grade students in 2007 (class of 2011), every high school student will be required to earn four credits each in English, mathematics, science and social studies. In addition, students will be required to earn one-half credit in Career Research and Decision Making, one credit in fine or performing arts, one credit in a physical education course with the integration of health and 7.5 elective credits or 11.5 elective credits in a block schedule.
- Beginning with seventh grade students in 2007 (class of 2013), every student will complete an Exploratory Career Wheel consisting of experiences in three Career and Technical Areas (Business Education, Family and Consumer Sciences and Technology Education). Students will also explore educational planning through FACTS.org and future career interests using CHOICES.

Individualized Programs of Study

Beginning in the seventh grade, all students and their parents will meet with the school guidance counselor between May 1st and October 31st of the seventh grade year to create an Individualized Program of Study. The program will be based on the student's interests and will be reviewed and revised annually through face-to-face meetings throughout the secondary school years.

Rigorous Course Requirements

To ensure that every student entering ninth grade (class of 2011) is postsecondary and/or workforce ready, students will be required to complete a program of study which includes a minimum of three (3) credits in at least one of the following areas prior to graduation:

- Approved Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), approved Honors Courses (3 credits in any combination) *or*
- Career & Technical Education Program of Study (3 or more credits to complete a sequential career and technical education program resulting in a credential endorsed by a national, state or local industry).

Brevard's Goal

Every student will graduate from high school prepared to enter and be successful in the workplace, in further career education and/or in postsecondary degree opportunities.

High quality curriculum and instruction will focus on increasing the rigor of coursework, linking the relevance of the subject matter to the real world and strengthening relationships within the school and community. The Superintendent and the Brevard County School Board worked with teachers, parents, district staff and community members to develop enhanced curricular and instructional opportunities for all students. Secondary Schools of National Prominence (SSNP) complements Florida's A++ Plan and Major Areas of Interest by providing students with the opportunity to explore areas of interest through engaging, rigorous courses to help them prepare for their future career or education. Parent, students and school personnel will work as a team to ensure student success.

Assessment

Beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, juniors will take the American College Test (ACT) standardized assessment, unless waived by the Individual Education Plan (IEP), to provide an indication of their readiness for postsecondary education and careers. The results will be used to assist students to refine individual aspirations, goals and needs and develop the Senior Year Plan to complete the program of study.

Professional Development

Nationally recognized consultants will provide professional development to teachers and administrators. Professional development activities will be research based and focused on strategies to support increased rigor, relevant curriculum and meaningful relationships.

Personalized Learning Communities

Through the principal's leadership and with the involvement of the School Advisory Council, secondary schools will develop an action plan to create small, personalized learning communities, such as Academies, Freshmen Houses, career clusters and other programs, which lead to a high performing learning culture. This supports Brevard's goal: *Every student will graduate from high school prepared to enter and be successful in the workplace, in further career education and/or in postsecondary degree opportunities.*

Graduation Requirements

Subject	7 Period Schedule Credits	Block Schedule Credits
English	4	4
Math	4	4
Science	4	4
Social Studies	4	4
Physical Education (HOPE)	1	1
Fine or Performing Arts	1	1
Career Research & Decision Making	1/2	1/2
Electives	7 1/2	11 1/2
Total	26	30