



**SAFETY  
MUSIC & ART  
ATHLETICS  
RENOVATION  
TECHNOLOGY**

**Broward County  
Public Schools  
Week of September 15, 2014**

In 2014/15, BCPS launched the **First Move** scholastic chess initiative in all 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms to positively impact student achievement and self-esteem. This is the nation's largest scholastic chess initiative in history.

In 2014, BCPS high school graduates earned more than **\$125 million** in scholarships and will attend more than **600** colleges, universities and technical schools.

BCPS includes 238 schools, centers and colleges dedicated to educating today's students to succeed in tomorrow's world.

To review SMART Needs Assessment School Reports, visit [browardschools.com/SmartFutures](http://browardschools.com/SmartFutures).

**SMART FACT SHEET**

- Broward County voters will see a General Obligation Bond referendum on the **November 4th ballot**.
- The General Obligation Bond would provide Broward County Public Schools with **\$800 million dollars** to invest in critical needs across the District. The District's SMART initiative focuses on **Safety, Music & Art, Athletics, Renovations and Technology (SMART)**.
- If approved by voters, the impact of the General Obligation Bond for the average Broward homeowner will be about **\$50 per year**.
- Over the past two and a half years, the **District has worked hard to reduce expenses and increase operational efficiencies**, allowing the District to reinvest \$35 million back into classrooms. These efforts continue, but are **not enough** to bridge the capital funding gap.
- Since 2008, funding for the District's capital program has been reduced by **nearly \$2 billion**.
- A **comprehensive, data-driven Needs Assessment** conducted Districtwide identified more than \$3 billion in capital needs.
- School SMART projects are being **prioritized** based on industry best practices to address the most **urgent needs** and to ensure limited District resources are efficiently and effectively utilized. However, **all District schools will benefit**.
- A new **Bond Oversight Committee** will be established to ensure that SMART initiative is transparent and that the District honors its commitments to the community.