



**Florida School Boards Association
SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH**



COMMUNITY FORUMS and FOCUS GROUPS

Date: 1-30-23 thru 2-16-23 (survey window)

Location: Online

Student Input (SGA)

Participants: 16

List the strengths and those areas of Brevard County Schools that the next superintendent will need to understand and continue to support.

1. Organization of student events and activities
2. Accelerated programs such as AP and IB
3. Career & technical development
4. Diversity of the student body, and equal opportunities for all students
5. One strength of Brevard County Schools that needs to be understood and supported by the superintendent are the employees and providing a safe and respected work environment for all employees should be a priority of the next superintendent.
6. School security (ID's, lockdown drills and procedure, gates being closed, watching entrances, supervising students for potential threats)
7. The strengths of our county come from the administration, teachers, support staff, bus drivers and volunteers.
8. Programs at schools such as automotive or aviation that will help students start a career after high school and get real world experience.
9. Programs such as AICE, honors, or AP that help prepare students for college and help push students to learn more.
10. Bright Future Scholarships for students who are eligible for them
11. Connections to the space program or other engineering programs and corporations that help teach students about engineering and technology because we live in a unique area where there is a large amount of space tech and engineering.
12. I feel as if Brevard County Schools does a good job of continuously creating events and supporting events to make students more active in their school communities. Continuing to do events to help support and create better school atmospheres is necessary.
13. Listening/accepting feedback
14. Resources
15. A strength of the Brevard County Schools that the next superintendent will need to understand is the diversity of the students. Diversity allows for a lot more perspective on various matters, with regards to the impacts of matters. This would mean comprehending that each student comes from varying backgrounds and legislative action will affect them in different areas.
16. An area of Brevard County School the next superintendent will need to understand and continue to support is the parents. They wish to have the best interest of their child with



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regards to school in the hands of the superintendent and other officials. Parents play a crucial role in enhancing various aspects of Brevard County Schools. This would be supporting the parents and their children and promoting the overall best interest of everyone

17. We have excellent athletic programs at our schools that give many students the opportunity to receive scholarships as well as paid funding for their future and sponsors.
18. A strength in Brevard County Schools would have to be our specialized career programs such as aviation programs, dentistry programs, child care, health and wellness, avid, auto mechanics, and marine mechanics.
19. Bright Futures and FAFSA help students the most when they start applying to colleges and universities. This is a main deal breaker as to why most students go to high school in Brevard.
20. Leadership through collaboration
21. Decision-making that is inclusive
22. Readiness to embrace innovation - both from outside and within
23. Rigorous academic curriculum programs (AP, Cambridge, Beta) and performing arts programs
24. Keep the mental health initiatives going. When we met as SAG Presidents with the previous superintendent, he was very adamant about reaching out and setting up modern, up to date preventative measures to help lessen the current crisis. We need to keep this course of action going.

What are the most critical needs and challenges of Brevard County Schools that the next superintendent will need to understand and address?

1. Discipline in bad behavior without punishing innocent kids
2. Qualified teachers with expertise in the particular areas of instruction
3. Students' needs should be addressed
4. Administrators need to listen to the student body
5. Creating and maintaining a positive and safe work enjoyment is critical for BPS and student success.
6. Student safety and discipline are two critical points which need to be addressed by our new superintendent. If students do not feel safe and are not properly disciplined for their actions, they will not receive the important educational benefits which come with Brevard County Schools.
7. Better discipline that is going to be followed for the whole school year and that will help fix the problem instead of temporarily patching it up.
8. A better understanding and evaluation of the problems that contribute to conflict - a better way to fix an issue without punishing the whole school
9. The locking of almost every single bathroom on campus to prevent vaping or vandalization, there must be a better solution than denying bathroom rights.



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10. Discipline is one area that needs focus and possibly change. All schools, students and teachers are negatively affected when discipline is ignored or dismissed.
11. DISCIPLINE POLICIES - It takes way too long for a student to be disciplined at our schools. No student should be given as many chances as we are giving them regardless of who they are and what school it happens to be at. These kids have hard core behavioral issues and if they are not disciplined correctly, it will never end the way too many chances given to kids who don't have respect for other people. This lack of respect creates a dangerous and hostile learning environment.
12. I think Brevard County Schools needs to address and understand why many students are upset about new rules, such as the phone policies they're trying to implement. Instead of trying to enforce brand new rules, they need to try to just actually enforce phone policies already in place, because in many cases they're needed in class, or our work is online and it's more convenient and timelier to use them.
13. Better resources for tutoring that are easily accessible or easier to find
14. Better resources for SAT prep or tutoring, or at least making the resources easier to find for students
15. A better way to find students who may be vaping or smoking in the bathrooms and to help them quit instead of just punishing them
16. Lunches
17. Fights
18. Behavior
19. Student motivation
20. Technological issues such as computers not working, WIFI being down, etc. This seems to appear frequently in many schools, causing completion of schoolwork to be difficult
21. While most consequences differ by school, I have found that most "punishments" for inappropriate or negative actions aren't adequately given.
22. Bills shouldn't only be passed on the perspective of the legislators and possible other authoritative figures (teachers, parents), but also the students as this will impact them the most directly. This also encapsulates the students having an outlet to have themselves represented in bills passed.
23. The education of students based on the overall curriculum and ensuring that each student has a chance to get a sufficient and effective education.
24. Students whose academic performance is influenced by socioeconomic factors
25. Increasing assessment demands at the state and federal levels
26. Engaging with the community to make it better and to make good decisions
27. The lack of academic integrity is not even funny. This isn't just about tests; students will openly copy an assignment in front of a teacher. This happens so much that teachers stopped caring. Teachers also need to spend more time teaching and not dealing with behavior issues. That should fall onto the role of the administrators. Nowadays in our washed beaten-down schools, teachers are just trying to get through and are not excited to teach. This doesn't stand for all teachers but for most of them it does.



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28. Improve social aspects (pep rallies, inclusivity, and support groups)
29. Flow from class to class/overcrowding
30. Quality of cafeteria food
31. School hygiene
32. Administration communication with students
33. Student outreach and involvement; schools need to have better school spirit events and activities available. I know it sounds cheesy, but spirit and pride go a long way. More events and school-wide, district supported activities are a great way to give students an outlet for connection and mutual interest. This is one of the main problems I've noticed with the majority of the schools in the area.

What personal qualities, professional experience, and other skills should the Board look for in the next superintendent?

1. Experience leading large districts
2. Integrity and transparency
3. A commitment to advance the education of students despite political pressures
4. Some important qualities in our next superintendent should be collaborative, organized, responsible and educated
5. Understanding towards students while also being strict when necessary
6. The qualities that should be encouraged are listening cooperation and follow through
7. A good superintendent should learn the needs of the community, and work with others to achieve them while making sure to follow through on the actions taken.
8. I would like a superintendent who will find other problems other than cell phones because I feel they are blamed for too many conflicts instead of other issues that are just overlooked.
9. I think they should look for someone who cares both for the student's well-being in both regards for the classroom and their outside lives when creating new policies. I think they should have experience with children of varying ages so they have an understanding of what happens in classrooms, and what needs to be done based upon that experience or seen experiences of other teachers.
10. Students interests and safety as priority
11. Visionary
12. Multi-skilled
13. Communicative
14. Ambitious
15. Committed
16. The next superintendent needs to have realistic expectations. They can't be someone who comes in and says they are going to "fix" everything and accept too much. At the end of the day a teacher's job is to teach, not enforce some stupid rule or guideline the county published that's a waste of time. The new superintendent also needs to listen to teachers. I'm talking



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directly to teachers, not to the principal or the department chairs. The people who are responsible for providing us with our education.

17. Integrity - exemplifying fairness, honesty and professionalism regardless of if it is publicized - ensuring their character is genuine and not one to satisfy the tastes of the public regarding what they wish to see represented in the superintendent
18. Empathy is an important skill to have when understanding when certain situations affect others. Many laws are in place without understanding the impact on a student related to emotions, mental health and overall health.
19. Open mindedness and accounting for the diverse population in Brevard. This would encapsulate the various perspectives, specifically in regards to how certain actions may affect certain demographics.
20. Showing receptiveness to inputs from parents, students or other officials
21. Professionalism - With regards to addressing certain issues, this would be important for the superintendent to be objective and reach an effective solution which addresses the overall issue, accounting the overall interest of everyone.
22. Refraining from using ad hominem when, in some cases, interacting with individuals who hold various views on a matter, some deviating from the majority or one's personal views.
23. Professional experience should include a history with the education system.
24. Skills should include being able to adapt and observing and becoming acclimated to the system in place, so as to better understand necessary changes or create once which can enhance the environment listening.
25. Acting to obtain an objective view on a matter, accounting those who are allowed to provide input or others involved in the decision-making process
26. Promotes collaboration but also more depth and perspective that one person might not have been able to achieve on their own.
27. Productivity by being able to effectively handle matters as they come and not procrastinate by handling the issue head on instead of waiting for it to boil over.
28. Accountability
29. Adaptability
30. Capable
31. Competence
32. Dynamic
33. A great superintendent is an instructor's teacher. He or she understands that the most important job of the school district is to ensure that students learn and achieve at high levels. He or she is knowledgeable about the best practices for increasing student achievement and is supportive of the district's teachers.
34. Personal qualities such as personable, involved, friendly, and stern.
35. Professional experience such as having a master's in education as well as at least 15 years working as a teacher.



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36. The main thing that the next superintendent should do is visit a Brevard County classroom at random once a week and act like a sub to understand how the students treat their faculty and staff.
37. I want a teacher to be the next superintendent. I want someone who understands all these issues and someone who is passionate about education. For the love of God, please don't put a politician in the superintendent role.
38. Teaching experience at a public school so they have an understanding of the school system from a different perspective.
39. A parent who is familiar with the public school system from that perspective
40. Someone who is unbiased and is willing to look at issues from all perspectives
41. Someone who is willing to listen to and consider ideas from students who will be affected by their decisions
42. Organized, personable, relatable on a student level
43. Able to communicate efficiently
44. Flexibility, focused, experienced in public school system, persistent, no empty promises, no political moves (make moves that actual better the education system for students), have kids, organized, leadership, communication
45. Look for someone on the younger side who's in touch with today's youth. You need someone the students can see themselves in, someone who can be involved, someone who will contribute new ideas and try different approaches not previously thought of. Go with someone that meshes well with students of all grade levels.

Please note: Choices not ranked.