FACE SPACE

Meet Your Counselors!

August 2026

Mrs. Dommu

Sharri Dommu has been the counselor at Sawgrass for 13 years! She received her undergraduate degree in psychology at UCF and went on to obtain her masters in Mental Health Counseling at Nova Southeastern. After working some time at a counseling organization, she felt that an elementary school is where she belonged and never looked back. Her weekends are filled with spending time with her family and playing golf. And if you didn't know, football is her favorite sport; GO RAMS!

Mr. Caro

Bailey Caro has been a school counselor here at Sawgrass for six years!
He is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor with the state of Florida, and has degrees in psychology and counseling from FSU, FIU, and FAU.
He previously worked for an outpatient mental health clinic but felt that he could make a bigger difference working more directly with children and their families. He's been at Sawgrass ever since!
In his spare time he likes watching movies, and improving his skills as a Pokémon Master.

SAWGRASS ELEMENTARY – MONTHLY NEWSLETTER- AUGUST 2026

The Panthers' Print

We are excited to have you and your scholar back at Sawgrass Elementary for the 2026-2027 School Year. As we get ready to start the school year on August 10th, please review the following to ensure a great and successful school year.

Coming onto Campus
When coming into our main office, it is required to ring the doorbell outside the door and then show identification to the camera for staff to allow entry. You will need to keep your identification card readily available once in the main office for additional verification.

Identification Badges
All students, staff, and visitors are required to wear the proper identification badge while on school campus. If your child brings home their ID badge, please ensure it comes back to school each day. Visitors will receive a temporary ID badge printed by our RAPTOR system that will need to be scanned out once done on campus.

Hand Sanitizer
This year, we will be moving away from using hand sanitizer in the building. ***Every classroom is equipped with a sink for traditional soap and water hand washing.*** Please DO NOT purchase hand sanitizer regardless of it being listed on supply lists.

Dismissal Changes
We understand that different circumstances happen during the school day that would require your child to change their dismissal procedures. If a dismissal change is needed, please email sawgrassdismissal@browardschools.com no later than 1:30 pm with a copy of your Driver License, your child's name, and teacher with the dismissal change. Our front office staff will notify the teacher and student.

Birthdays
When celebrating a child's birthday on campus, we request ONLY store-bought cookies, donuts, or brownies. The birthday will be celebrated in the café, during your child's lunch time. **Cupcakes, balloons, drinks, candy, candles, pizza & party favors are not allowed.**

Student Absences
If your son and/or daughter will be absent from school for any period, you will need to call the attendance line at 754.322.8502. You will leave their name, teacher, date of absence(s) and the reason. If you do not call in the absence it will be marked as unexcused.

Late Arrival for Students
Our front gates close promptly at 8:00 am when the school day starts. If your child will be late for school, they will need to come to the front office for staff to check in. The student will be marked tardy and will go to class.

Early Sign-Out for Students
If a child needs to leave school early for any reason, they will need to be signed from the front office. When signing out your child, you will be required to follow the same procedures for coming onto campus, which entail ringing the front doorbell, showing identification to the camera, and then providing front office staff with your identification upon entering for additional verification. If the adult is not listed on the emergency contact card, the child will not be dismissed.

FOCUS
Please see the attached information about creating a FOCUS account. It is recommended to create your account using a computer, prior to downloading the app. Here you will complete your **mandatory** back to school documents, **opt-in for the 1:1 laptop program**, see attendance, quarter grades, access report cards & interims, state test scores, and more!
FOCUS PARENT REGISTRATION PAGE
DISTRICT FOCUS HELP PAGE

Important Lunch Information for 26-27 School Year
Please see the attached documents regarding changes to the lunch program for the district. The district no longer will be providing free lunch. The menu will show you up to two weeks of meals. The full cost for student lunch for the 26-27 SY will be $4.00.
Application Link for Free & Reduced Lunch
School Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Important Dates
August 7: Sneak-a-Peek (Learn where your classroom is located & drop off supplies)
All grade levels: 8:15 am- 9:45 am
August 10: 1st Day of School. Gates open at 7:30 am and instruction starts at 8:00 am
August 10 & 11: You may walk your child into the building
August 12: Independence Day-Students Walk on their own into the building
August 14: Fun Friday- Aloha Day
August 21: Fun Friday- Future Day- What do you want to be when you grow up
August 26: BAC & PTA Meeting in Media Center @ 7:35 am
August 26: PK-5 Open House from 6:00 pm- 7:30 pm
August 28: Fun Friday- Favorite Duos (no masks or weapons)

FortifyFL
FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL Website

Sawgrass Elementary's uniform policy aligns to our school colors, Hunter Green, Red & White. Plain Polo Shirts in these colors are acceptable. The school does not enforce a uniform policy for shorts and pants. Shoes must have a closed toe and a back. Sawgrass shirts are available for purchase. Any Sawgrass shirt sold is considered a School Uniform shirt. Prices range from $5.00-$10.00 *If viewing on a computer click the text in blue to go directly to the website. Sawgrass Apparel

SAWGRASS ELEMENTARY

PTA Updates!

EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING!

We've moved from **Cheddar Up** to zeffy!

Our new platform for PTA memberships, purchases, and donations.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED IS ON OUR **new PTA LINKTREE!**
Easy access to everything PTA all in one place!

PTA MEMBERSHIP
Join today and help support our students, teachers, and school!

PANTHER LOGO STORE
STORE IS OPEN!
Show your Panther pride with spirit wear and more!

TEACHER & STAFF BREAKFAST DONATIONS
Help us welcome our amazing teachers and staff with a special back-to-school breakfast!

Visit our new PTA Linktree!
http://linktr.ee/SawgrassElementaryPTA
Save the link for easy access all year long!

Thank you for your continued support!
TOGETHER, WE MAKE SAWGRASS STRONG!

SNEAK-A-PEEK

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026

Rooted in Excellence, Focused on the Future

ROOTED IN EXCELLENCE · FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE · A RATED SCHOOL · SAWGRASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL · HOME OF THE PANTHERS

FAMILIES, JOIN US TO:
- See your child's classroom
- Meet the teacher
- Drop off supplies
- Share how your child will get home
- Sign up to join PTA

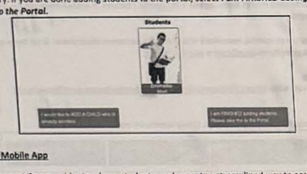
WE CAN'T WAIT TO START AN AMAZING YEAR TOGETHER!

SNEAK-A-PEEK SCHEDULE
ALL STUDENTS PK-5
8:15 AM – 9:45 AM

FOCUS School Software

Enrollment
Parent Portal Registration & Mobile App

To add another student, select ***I would like to ADD A CHILD who is already enrolled*** and repeat the steps above as necessary. If you are done adding students to the portal, select ***I am FINISHED adding students. Please take me to the Portal.***

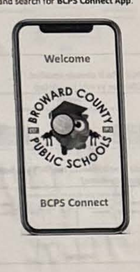


Download the Mobile App

Focus' **BCPS Connect App** provides teachers, students, and parents a streamlined way to access student information.

Note: Before downloading the app, you must follow the steps to *Create an Account* found on page 1.

Then go to Google Play or Apple Store and search for **BCPS Connect App**.



SAWGRASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HOME OF THE PANTHERS

ROOTED IN EXCELLENCE. FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE.
INCLUSIVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
A-RATED SCHOOL GRADE
TOP 10 BROWARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A	#10 of 137	77%	#11 of 164
2025 School Grade	Broward non-charter elementary schools	possible points / 513 total points	Broward elementary schools including charters

EXCELLENCE & OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY CHILD

ELA ACHIEVEMENT	MATH ACHIEVEMENT	SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT
74%	83%	81%
vs 64% non-charter avg; 66% charter avg	vs 71% non-charter avg; 71% charter avg	Rank #9 non-charter; +18.2 pts vs non-charter avg

LEARNING GAINS: SAWGRASS OUTPERFORMS CHARTER & NON-CHARTER AVERAGES

ELA GROWTH OUTCOMES
ELA Learning Gains: 77% / Rank #6 as compared to non-charter avg 66%; charter avg 68%
Lowest 25% ELA Gains: 76% / Rank #10 as compared to non-charter avg 64%; charter avg 63%
Student growth exceeds both Broward charter and non-charter elementary averages.

MATH GROWTH OUTCOMES
Math Learning Gains: 79% / Rank #14 as compared to non-charter avg 68%; charter avg 68%
Lowest 25% Math Gains: 71% / Rank #23 as compared to non-charter avg 57%; charter avg 57%
Growth outcomes exceed both charter and non-charter comparison averages.

OUR EDUCATORS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE
Sawgrass educators are real-life superheroes who bring passion, expertise, and a love for education to the forefront. They are committed to every child's potential, progress, and success.

THE SAWGRASS DIFFERENCE
- ✓ Dual Language Program (English / Spanish)
- ✓ Academic Accelerated Program
- ✓ STEAM experiences
- ✓ Debate
- ✓ Student Government
- ✓ Performing Arts
- ✓ ASD Special Program
- ✓ PreK ESE Special Program
- ✓ Panther Pals (inclusionary peer club)
- ✓ Panther Academy Athletics

AUTISM INCLUSION MATTERS
- ✓ ASD special program serving students with unique learning needs
- ✓ Inclusionary practices based on individual needs that best support belonging, access, and achievement
- ✓ Special Olympics
- ✓ Young Athletes Program (PreK)
- ✓ Panther Pals Peer Mentoring Group

DISCOVER THE SAWGRASS DIFFERENCE
A high-performing, inclusive school community where excellence meets opportunity.

Source: 2025-26 School Grades data from 26-28 slur. Comparison groups: Broward elementary schools by charter status as listed in the file.

SAWGRASS ELEMENTARY

Follow us on **INSTAGRAM**
Stay updated and connected

@SAWGRASS_ELEMENTARY

CONTACT OUR FRONT OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION: 754-322-8500

PARENT

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

BUILDING CHAMPIONS IN SCHOOL AND IN LIFE!

AMERICAN T.K.A. · WWW.AMERICANTKA.COM · 名誉 Honor · 礼 Respect · 誠 Honesty and Sincerity · 勇 Heroic Courage · 仁 Compassion · 忠義 Duty and Loyalty · 義 Integrity

Our After School Program gives kids a SAFE, FUN and POSITIVE place to learn, grow and succeed—mentally, physically and academically!

FOCUS. DISCIPLINE. CONFIDENCE. SUCCESS!

- FREE SCHOOL PICKUP From Many Local Schools!
- HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE Academic Support to Help Them Succeed!
- MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING You Learn Do & More! Build Skills, Confidence & Respect!
- CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT We Teach Values That Last a Lifetime!
- SAFE & FUN ENVIRONMENT Supervised, Structured & Supportive!

MORE THAN JUST AN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM!
VOTED BEST AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM IN BROWARD · 15,000 SQ. FT. STATE OF THE ART FACILITY · FREE FITNESS CENTER FOR PARENTS · SEVERAL AFFORDABLE PROGRAMS TO FIT YOUR BUDGET!

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ENROLL TODAY!
- Build Confidence
- Improve Focus
- Stay Active
- Make New Friends
- Develop Leadership

4 PAYMENT OPTIONS TO FIT ALL BUDGETS!
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www.americantka.com
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FOR KINDERGARTEN TO 5TH GRADES

Unlock Your Child's Potential with Our After School Program!

Are you searching for the perfect after-school activity that combines fun, learning, and growth? Look no further!

PROGRAM INCLUDED :
- Free Registration
- Pick Up Service From School
- Home Work Completion
- Themed Arts & Crafts
- Outside Play/Games

AS LOW AS $90 PER CHILD

Contact Us 954-835-0070
Sunrise Preschool
13785 NW 5th Street, Sunrise 33325

ALL SPORTS AFTER SCHOOL CARE

SAFE. FUN. ENRICHING.
COMPLETE AFTER SCHOOL CARE & LEARNING SUPPORT YOU CAN TRUST!

ALL SPORTS KIDS
WHERE KIDS, SPORTS AND FUN COME TOGETHER BUILDS CHARACTER

EVERYTHING INCLUDED!
- PICK UP FROM ALL LOCAL SCHOOLS
- BRING HOME SERVICE
- FREE SNACK & DINNER NIGHTS
- HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE
- BROWARD COUNTY TEACHERS & STAFF
- ALL SPORTS ARE INDOORS!
- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES TO MEET YOUR NEEDS
- FUN GAMES & ARCADE ROOM
- SAFE, CLEAN & SECURE FACILITY

ALL SPORTS ARE INDOORS! 30,000 SQUARE-FOOT FACILITY!

#1 AFTER SCHOOL CARE IN BROWARD COUNTY 10 YEARS IN A ROW!

- RANKED #1 AFTER SCHOOL CARE IN BROWARD COUNTY 10 YEARS IN A ROW!
- CERTIFIED BROWARD COUNTY TEACHERS & STAFF
- ALL SPORTS ARE INDOOR!
- MULTIPLE INDOOR SPORTS: BASKETBALL, SOCCER, FOOTBALL, VOLLEYBALL & MORE!
- TEAMWORK, SKILLS & SKILL BUILDING
- ALL AGE GROUPS
- BOYS AND GIRLS ARE SEPARATED BY AGE
- HOMEWORK HELP WITH REAL TEACHER SUPPORT
- FUN GAMES, LEARNING CENTER & ARCADE ROOM

INDOOR SOCCER · INDOOR BASKETBALL · ARCADE & GAME ROOM

ALL SPORTS. ALL DAY. EVERY DAY.
FOOTBALL · BASEBALL · BASKETBALL · SOCCER · VOLLEYBALL · CHEERLEADING · TUMBLING · HIP-HOP DANCE · KARATE

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$110 WEEKLY SPECIAL!!!

WE ARE OPEN UNTIL 7:00 PM! MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

954-746-5437

It's time to POWER UP!

BROWARD County Public Schools · Established 1915

Broward County Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services

APPLICATIONS ARE BACK!

APPLY ONLINE FOR FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH

Students will pay full price for lunch, if not approved for free or reduced-price meals. Completing a Meal Benefits Application may qualify your student for free or reduced price meals.

APPLY NOW! · APPLY NOW! · APPLY NOW!

754-321-0250
Freeandreducedmeals@browardschools.com

or apply online at MYSCHOOLAPPS.COM

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 equityprofile@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 equityprofile@browardschools.com

2·1·1 Broward

Intervention · Free · Emotional Support · 24/7 · Teens · Care Coordination · Food · Homeless · Housing · Children · Refugees · Providers · Violence · Disaster Related · Homeless · Child Care · Abuse · Relationship · Crisis · Bullying · Health · Substance Abuse · Suicide · Services · Lonely · Homeless · Trauma · Gaming Addiction · Families · Food · Veteran · Special Needs · Assistance · Prevention · Assessment · Volunteering · Financial · Depressed · Seniors · Education · Military · LGBTQ+ · Employment · Rent · Behavioral Health · Tax Assistance

Dial 2-1-1 | Call 954.537.0211
Text ZIP Code to 898211 | Download Our App
www.211-broward.org

Special Olympics Florida

The mission of Special Olympics Florida is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for people with intellectual disabilities who wish to participate, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

Student and Family Counseling Assistance

The Family Counseling Program

The Family Counseling Program at Broward County Public Schools provides services to help families cope with complex issues and challenges they may experience in everyday life. These challenges often affect student performance in school, and counseling can help the student function more effectively at school, at home and in the community.

PLANTATION ZONE
ELEMENTARY: Central Park, Mirror Lake, Peters, Sawgrass
MIDDLE: Plantation
HIGH: *Plantation

Staff
The Family Counseling Centers are staffed with master's or doctoral level, licensed therapists who have extensive experience in individual and family counseling. Services are available in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Haitian Creole.

Services
The Family Counseling Program provides short-term individual and family counseling to help address challenges across a number of areas including:
- Significant family issues including communication, divorce/separation, abandonment, parenting skills, abuse, and bereavement/loss.
- Social issues including self-esteem, bullying, peer pressure, and conflict resolution.
- Emotional issues such as anxiety/depression, crisis intervention, trauma, anger management, stress management, and mild substance misuse.
- School-related issues including study skills, school anxiety/phobia, attention deficit disorder, attendance, and behavioral issues in class.

Appointments
Appointments for day and evening counseling sessions can be arranged by contacting the Family Counseling Office at 754-321-1590.

Who is Eligible?
Services are available to families residing in Broward County with a school-aged child in any school within the county.

For more information call 754-321-1590
To find your school's counselor and more at browardschools.com/familycounseling

All Services are Private, Confidential & Free of Charge.

Face space board is located in front office

RESOURCES