



**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**ROBERT W. RUNCIE**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

**The School Board of  
Broward County, Florida**

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August 9, 2019

Dear Ms. Fusco,

The safety and well-being of our teachers is essential. Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) will not tolerate violent behavior in any form in our schools. We carefully reviewed the Broward Teachers Union “2019 School Safety and Discipline Survey” and intend to investigate each example in the survey to determine where there was a potential breakdown in policy or procedure.

Please send teachers’ names, schools, dates, and contact information for incidents identified on pages 6 to 28. This would include details on S-1 to S-161 (there is no S-115, S-117, S-121, S-123, S-125, S-127, S-129, S-131, S-134, S-136, S-140, S-142, S-146, S-148, S-154, or S-159), and A-1 to A-56. We will follow up individually with the teachers who were threatened or physically harmed by students in order to verify the facts and learn additional details. Our intent is to understand the situations that occurred; it is not to question the validity of the statements.

In addition, the Office of the Superintendent has created a districtwide **Task Force on School Safety** to analyze, review, and assess the current conditions relating to acts of aggression, violence, or other related behaviors that disrupt, cause damage and injury within our schools. This Task Force will conduct its work over a limited time period of no more than 120 working days. It will use current District data related to reported incidents of disruptive behavior that may or may not result in injury; workers compensation claims relating to injuries; the current referral process regarding student misconduct; the District’s current DMS reporting system and all its associated results, policies and practices; “2019 School Safety and Discipline Survey”; current training for District employees and its adequacy in de-escalating or avoiding incidents; current resources and support services for ESE Students in schools and centers and whether they are adequate.

A **member of the Broward Teachers Union** will sit on the Task Force, which will also include members from:

- Broward County ESE
- Broward County PTA/PTSO

- Broward Principals & Administrators Association
- Broward Schools Investigative Unit (SIU)
- District Advisory
- District Risk Management
- Employee & Labor Relations
- ESE Advisory
- Federation of Public Employees
- Office of School Performance & Accountability

The Task Force will provide a report of its findings and recommendations to the Superintendent and School Board immediately following the conclusion of its tenure.

Ms. Fusco, Broward County Public Schools looks forward to working collaboratively with the Broward Teachers Union in a constructive manner to address issues of violent behavior in our schools. Maintaining a safe and respectful school environment in our schools is important to everyone – teachers, students, families and the entire community.



Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent  
Broward County Public Schools