

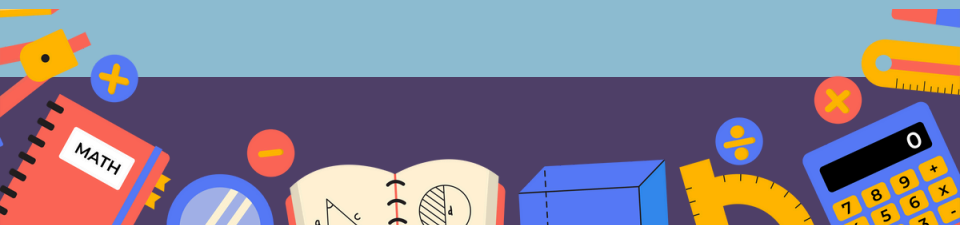


**PROWLS & GROWLS
COUNTRY HILLS ELEMENTARY
AUGUST 2024**



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL RISING STARS!!!

Exciting New School Year Ahead





Dear Rising Stars, Parents, and Community Members,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! As the principal of Country Hills Elementary, I am thrilled to embark on this exciting journey with you. This year, our theme is Choose to Shine, and I believe that each one of us has the potential to be a Shining Star!

Our mission for this year is clear: to become an "A" school for ALL students. We are committed to excellence in education, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment, and ensuring that every student can reach their full potential. Each day, our students and staff will be encouraged to shine brightly in their unique ways, embracing challenges, celebrating achievements, and supporting one another. Together, we will rise as stars, illuminating the path to success for our entire school community.

Why "Choose to Shine"?

Choosing to shine means:

Embracing Positivity: Approach each day with a positive attitude and a readiness to learn and grow.

Setting Goals: Aim high, set personal and academic goals, and work diligently to achieve them.

Supporting Each Other: Celebrate each other's successes and lift each other up during challenges. Together, we are stronger.

Being Resilient: Face obstacles with courage and perseverance, knowing that every setback is a setup for a comeback.

Our dedicated teachers and staff are here to support you on your journey. They are passionate about creating a nurturing and challenging environment where all students can excel. We will continue to provide innovative learning opportunities, enriching experiences, and a safe space for everyone to express themselves and reach their fullest potential.

Our students are the heart of our school, and I am continually inspired by their enthusiasm, creativity, and resilience. This year let's encourage each other to shine brightly. Together, we can achieve great things and make Country Hills the number one school in Florida!

To our parents and guardians, thank you for your unwavering support and partnership. Your involvement is invaluable, and together, we create a vibrant school community where our students can shine.

As we begin this new school year, I am filled with optimism and excitement for what lies ahead. Let's embrace the theme Choose to Shine with passion and determination. We are Rising Stars, and together, we will make this an outstanding year.

Here's to a fantastic school year filled with learning, growth, and countless moments of brilliance!

Welcome Back, Rising Stars!

Warm regards,

Ms. Nicole Ortega

Principal, Country Hills Elementary



Country Hills Important Information

- **The First Day of School is Monday, August 12th**
- **School Hours: 8:10 AM - 2:10 PM**
- **Office Phone Number: 754-322-5950**

Arrival Procedure: Students are welcome on campus at 7:40 AM. Supervision will not be available prior to 7:40 AM. Students may be dropped off at Car Loop A (off Coral Springs Drive) or Car Loop B (off Westview Drive) in the morning. We prefer our younger Rising Stars come through Car Loop A, which has more support and guidance to help students get to their classroom. For safety reasons, we will not allow any cars to drop off in the bus loading zone this year. Breakfast is available for all students free of charge, and students can go to the café as soon as they arrive on campus to eat. Students in K-3 will go to the hallway and sit by the classroom door until 8:05 AM. Students in 4th and 5th grade will go to the cafeteria in the morning and will be dismissed to their classrooms at 8:05 AM. Students will begin learning promptly at 8:10 AM. For our kindergarten families, you may walk your kindergartener to the door of the classroom for the first two days of school. We ask that you drop them at the door and do not go into the classroom. This makes the transition easier for both of you! The third day of school is Independence Day! Students will walk to class with the assistance of our older Rising Stars.

Dismissal Procedure:

- **Car Riders:** Students in K-2 are dismissed from Car Loop A off Coral Springs Drive in the afternoon, and students in grades 3-5 are dismissed at Car Loop B off Westview Drive. Older siblings in grades 3-5 must join younger siblings in Car Loop A for safety. Please be sure to display your Curbsmart number on your rearview mirror for our staff to see. You will receive the number at Meet and Greet. When a staff member enters the number into the system, it signals your child to come to the car loop at that time. By the time you pull around, your child will be outside and waiting for you. Please be patient for the first few days. The process goes quicker once everyone is familiar with the procedure. We will not be able to have any cars in the bus loading zone this year for safety. All students that get picked up by car must be picked up in Car Loop A or B.
- **Walk-Up:** If you will be walking up to pick up your child, you will need your Curbsmart number as well. Walk-up is located at the bike rack between Car Loop A and Car Loop B. A staff member will open the gate at 2:10 PM and begin taking numbers. Students will exit campus through that gate. Parents are not allowed to enter the car loop on foot at any time. This is for safety and security.
- **Private Aftercare:** If your child takes a bus or van to their private aftercare facility, you must notify the school prior to the first day of school. We cannot dismiss students to another entity without parental permission.

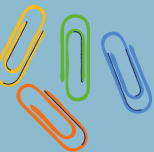
A Few Tips: Just a reminder that when you are in the car loop, pull all the way forward and remain in your vehicle. We ask that you do not use your cell phone when you are in the loop, as we need your full attention while we load and unload 800 students. The more cars we can fit in the loop, the more students we can unload in the morning and load in the afternoon! If you pick up multiple students, you may put all the numbers on one car hanger.



August 9 - Meet & Greet

August 12 - First Day of School

August 27 - PTA Meeting @ 8:30 am



School Hours	
Instructional Time:	8:10 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.
Office Hours:	7:40 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.
Breakfast:	7:40 a.m. - 8:05 a.m.
Aftercare:	2:10 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.





Country Hills Elementary
RISING STARS

MEET & GREET

**Please join us on August 9th
to meet your teacher and visit your
classroom! You can also join PTA,
buy Spirit Shirts & Pick-Up
pre-ordered School Supplies.**

Friday, August 9th
Kindergarten 11:30-12:30pm
1st-5th Grade 1:30-3:00pm



Get Focus(ed)!

Student Information System



Parents/guardians first need to create a Focus Parent Portal account by following the directions at <https://www.browardschools.com/focus>

After a Focus Parent Portal account is created, you can find the bus route information within the Focus Parent Portal:

1. Select you child's name in the left menu pane.
2. Select child info.

The screenshot shows the Focus Parent Portal interface. On the left, a sidebar contains a list of users: James and Kristin. Callout 1 points to the user selection process, and callout 2 points to the 'Child Info' link in the sidebar. The main content area displays the profile for Kristin, with tabs for Grades, News, and Reports. Below the tabs, it shows 'Schedule Not Available'.

3. Select Transportation.

The screenshot shows the Focus Parent Portal interface with the 'Transportation' section selected. The left sidebar has a 'Transportation' link highlighted with callout 3. The main content area displays bus information for AM and PM stops, including stop times, descriptions, bus numbers, and route numbers.

Bus Info AM	
Stop Time AM	06:55 AM
Stop Description AM	AM Stop Description
Bus Number AM	Bus Number
Bus Route Name AM	Route Number
Effective Date Bus Stop AM	09/05/2023
Stop Time PM	02:56 PM
Stop Description PM	PM Stop Description
Bus Number PM	Bus Number
Bus Route Name PM	Route Number
Effective Date Bus Stop PM	09/05/2023
School Distance	0.17

****Please contact your schools' transportation liaison for any route or bus assignment concerns****

What Parents/Guardians Need to Know

The information below should be shared with parents/guardians during Meet the Teacher, Open House, added to the teacher's syllabus, added to the teacher's Canvas course(s), and included in Back to School ParentLink and other communications.

Focus is replacing Pinnacle, Virtual Counselor, and PCG EdPlan.

On August 1st, parents will be able to access the **Back-to-School Re-Enrollment Forms on the Focus Parent Portal**. When parents access the Parent Portal a message will open for them to complete the forms. Once these are filled out and submitted, parents will be able to access student schedules and other items in the Parent Portal.

Parents go to <https://www.browardschools.com/focus> for directions on how to create their **Focus Parent Portal** account to:

- Access Back to School forms
- View transportation/bus information
- View student class schedule
- View student grades (teachers will add grades within the first few weeks of school)
- Set notification preferences for student grades
- Set language preference
- View student attendance
- View student IEP/EP, if applicable
- Will be able to view graduation requirements for secondary students
- Will be able to view student volunteer hours for secondary students
- Will be able to communicate with teachers
- Parents/Guardians may download the "BCPS Connect App" providing parents/guardians a



BACK-TO-SCHOOL FORMS PARENT INFORMATION



- The Back-to-School forms will be in Parent Portal for the primary parent/guardian.
- The forms WILL BE required the first time that parents log into the Parent Portal starting August 1st.
- However, for parents who have filled out the forms in paper format, there will be a field on the student's record the IMT can select to indicate the BTS forms have been processed.
- This will remove the requirement for that student's parent to fill out the online forms.
- Our goal is to get as many parents as possible to utilize the online forms to ensure complete, accurate, and updated information in the system.
- Back-to-school forms can be completed in the Parent Portal AND the BCPS Connect App



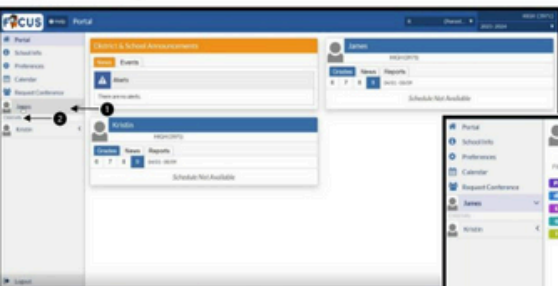
LOCATING BUS ROUTE ON FOCUS PARENT PORTAL

Bus information for 2024/2025 will be available starting the 2nd week in August

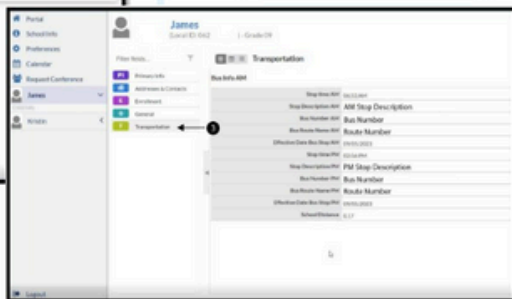
Parents/Guardians need to create a Focus Parent Portal account by following the directions at <https://www.browardschools.com/focus>

Find the bus route information within the Focus Parent Portal by:

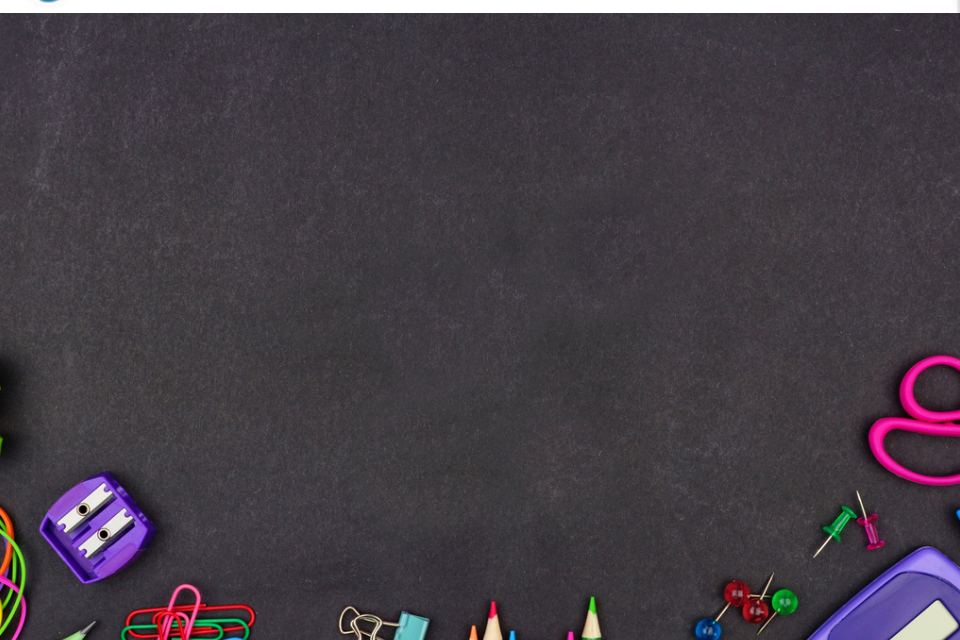
- 1) Selecting your child's name in the left menu pane
- 2) Selecting child info



3) Select Transportation



6



Broward County Public School District



Here Comes The Bus

Here Comes the Bus[®]

A GPS-BASED APP TO TRACK YOUR CHILD'S BUS!

The Tracking Features:

- Shows the real-time location of your child's bus on a map
- Gives scheduled and actual arrival times at home and school for AM, Mid-day, and PM routes
- Provides push and email notifications when the bus is near

Now Available
Here Comes the Bus[®]



Send your children to the bus stop at the right time, every time.

www.herecomesthebus.com

Sign Up Instructions for Parents:

1. Download **Here Comes the Bus** app or visit: www.herecomesthebus.com
2. Click "**Sign Up**", then click "**Continue**".
3. Click "**I have the Code**".
4. Enter your email address, First Name, Last Name and School District Code (**87599**). Accept the Terms and Conditions, then click "**Continue**".
5. Press **Confirm** the district displayed is "**Broward County Public Schools**".
6. Create your password. Repeat your password. Press "**Confirm Password**" on the screen when complete.
7. If successful, you will be directed to the **Thank You** screen. At that time, please check your email inbox for an email from noreply@synovia.com.
8. Open this email and click the "**Activate My Account**" link. Once completed, close the browser. You may now open the app and sign in with your email address and newly created password.

Adding a Student:

1. Access the **Here Comes the Bus** app.
2. Click the **Student** icon.
3. Click the **Add Student** button, then enter their last name and Student ID. Click **Submit**.
4. Repeat this process for additional students.



For more information, visit: www.browardschools.com/HCTB





SHOW SCHOOL SPIRIT



COUNTRY HILLS ELEMENTARY

2024/25 T-Shirt

Youth \$12

Adult \$12

Youth in FIVE colors:
Sky Blue, Pink, Orange,
Green & Black
Youth Sizes:
XS, S, M, L, & XL

Adult in FIVE colors:
Sky Blue, Pink, Orange,
Green & Black
Adult Sizes:
S, M, L, XL, 2XL, & 3XL



2023/24 T-Shirt

Youth \$5

Adult \$5

Youth in FIVE colors:
Navy, Royal Blue, Sky
Blue, Pink & Yellow
Youth Sizes:
XS, S, M, L, & XL

Adult in FIVE colors:
Navy, Royal Blue, Sky
Blue, Pink & Yellow
Adult Sizes:
S, M, L, XL, 2XL, & 3XL



Pullover Sweater

Youth \$10

Adult \$10

Youth in TWO colors:
Navy & Ash Gray
Youth Sizes:
XS, S, M, L, & XL

Adult in TWO colors:
Navy Blue & Ash Gray
Adult Sizes:
S, M, L, XL, 2XL, & 3XL



Basketball Shorts

Youth \$1

Adult \$1

Youth in TWO colors:
Black & Navy
Youth Sizes:
XS, S, M, L, & XL

Adult in TWO colors:
Black & Navy
Adult Sizes:
S, M, L, XL, 2XL, & 3XL



Long Sleeve T-Shirt

Youth \$5

Adult \$5

Youth in THREE colors:
Red, Royal Blue & Gray
Youth Sizes:
XS, S, M, L, & XL

Adult in FOUR colors:
Red, Royal Blue, Navy
Blue & Gray
Adult Sizes:
S, M, L, XL, 2XL, & 3XL



<https://countryhillselem.memberhub.com/store>



FREE VACCINATIONS FOR CHILDREN

WALK-IN,
NO
APPOINTMENT
NECESSARY!

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

751 SW 121st Avenue, Davie, FL 33325

HOURS OF OPERATION:

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

FREE!

NO INSURANCE
REQUIRED!

ROUTINE VACCINATIONS FOR:



Infants



Pre-school
children



K-12
students

EACH CHILD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR PARENT / LEGAL GUARDIAN.
PLEASE BRING THE CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION RECORD.



Westview Drive Sidewalk Improvement Project

Project Overview:

As part of the annual sidewalk replacement program, the city is replacing the existing sidewalks along Westview Drive between Riverside Drive and Coral Ridge Drive and upgrading the ADA ramps. Work is expected to be completed in Spring 2025.

Project Scope:

The contractor anticipates starting work on the North portion of the Westview Drive Right-of-Way near Riverside Drive in Phase 1, and progress to the South side near Coral Ridge Drive for Phase 2. Work will consist of creating a wider, 8-foot concrete sidewalk on the north side of Westview Drive, and replacing the asphalt sidewalk with a 5-foot concrete sidewalk on the south side. Along with sidewalk work, swales will be regraded as needed to ensure proper drainage.



Schedule:

Crews will be working Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Questions?

We are proud to begin this project, which is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act, and look forward to enhancing city aesthetics and walkability in this area. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Dorian T. Johnson, at 954-344-1178, dtjohnson@coralsprings.gov or visit [CoralSprings.gov/WorkAroundTown](https://www.coralsprings.gov/WorkAroundTown) for construction updates.

CORALSPRINGS.GOV/WORKAROUNDTOWN