

# 2019-2020 IMPACT REPORT

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA









## **OUR MISSION**

To ensure that each student achieves his/her highest potential



## **GOVERNANCE TEAM**



**Mary Fischer** District 1 (Chair)



**Debbie Iordan** District 4 (Vice Chair)



Melisa W. Giovannelli District 2



Chris N. Patricca District 3



Gwynetta S. Gittens District 5



**Betsy Vaughn** District 6



Cathleen O'Daniel Morgan Gregory K. Adkins, Ed.D. District 7



Superintendent

As a school district that takes satisfaction in being **PERSONAL**, **PASSIONATE** and **PROGRESSIVE**, we would like to celebrate the progress we made in 2019-2020. This year was unique in the variety of challenges that our school district had to address due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Regardless of the shared hardships, our team made significant advancements toward ensuring that every student achieves their highest personal potential.

This year we have done phenomenal work that you will want to know about including increasing graduation rates and expanding career and technology learning opportunities for students. This report also provides a quick look at some of the amazing work our teachers and students are doing every day. Inside, you will find examples of students who are the next generation of innovators and community leaders. Our future is being protected by our students' resolute commitment to continuous improvement.

These are just a few examples of the exciting things happening daily in The School District of Lee County! I encourage you to take a closer look and get connected with all that we have accomplished.

Gregory K. Adkins, Ed.D., Superintendent

## 2019 - 2020 DISTRICT PROFILE

95,647
Approximate student enrollment for 2019-2020\*



9 TH
Largest School
District in Florida

\*Source: National Center for Education
Statistics FY 2019

#### **TEACHER CREDENTIALS**

5,751 TOTAL NUMBER OF TEACHERS

TEACHERS RANKED HIGHLY EFFECTIVE





TEACHERS RANKED EFFECTIVE

#### **NUMBER OF SCHOOLS**

45 ELEMENTARY

**4**K-8

16
MIDDLE

**14** 

16

SPECIAL CHARTER



=118

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY OPERATES
THE 7™ LARGEST BUS FLEET IN FLORIDA

912 BUSES **727** ROUTES

49,242 STUDENTS TRANSPORTED



## 2019 - 2020 DISTRICT PROFILE

The District's student open enrollment system gives families choices of schools based on their zone. During the 2019-2020 open enrollment period:

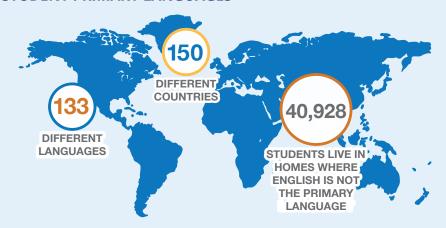
received their **Choice School** 

received 1 of their TOP 3

**CHOICES** 

MORE THAN 47% of families do NOT choose the school closest to THEIR HOME

#### STUDENT PRIMARY LANGUAGES



#### STUDENT RACIAL DIVERSITY\*







- WHITE
- **MULTI-RACIAL**
- HISPANIC/LATINO
- ASIAN
  - BLACK/AFRICAN-AMERICAN
- NATIVE AMERICAN/ PACIFIC ISLANDER

\*As of 2019-2020

### 2019 - 2020 BUDGET

#### WHERE DOES THE GENERAL FUND COME FROM?

The School District has a total budget of \$1.644 billion. The biggest part of this budget, \$924 million, is the general operating budget, used for most daily operating expenses. A very large budget may seem hard to understand, but our budget is just like your budget at home. We use it for...

LESS RESTRICTIVE MORE RESTRICTIVE

#### **LOCAL SOURCES**

62 %



Local revenues account for 62% of the District's total budget. Property taxes are the largest source of revenue from local funding.

#### **STATE SOURCES**

28 0/<sub>0</sub>



State revenue makes up less than one-third of revenues The School District of Lee County receives. The Florida Department of Education oversees state funding and distributes funds to all districts through numerous formulas, grants, allotments and programs.

#### **FEDERAL SOURCES**

10 **%** 



Federal funds are very restrictive and can only be used for specifically designated programs. Federal funds are the smallest source of revenue for the district and account for 10% of the district's budget.

### **HOW IS THE MONEY USED?**

56 %

#### General Fund

operating budget that guides day-to-day activities. 68% of this fund goes to salaries and benefits.



#### Capital Projects Fund

our longterm school construction and repair needs.



#### Debt Service Fund

used to pay the principal and interest on bonds that we issue to finance school construction and renovation.



#### Child Nutrition Fund

used for operating our schools' nutrition programs.



#### Special Revenue Funds

includes federal grants and entitlements that are received by the District.



#### Internal Service Fund

used for selffunded health insurance, workers compensation insurance and general liability insurance

#### **CLASS OF 2020 EARNS MILLIONS IN SCHOLARSHIPS**

The School District of Lee County's graduating class of 2020 earned more than \$48 million in scholarships and will be attending colleges, universities and technical centers across the United States.



## **2020 GRADUATING CLASS**

3% GRADUATION RATE INCREASE

The graduation rate increased to 83.7% for the 2020 graduating class, a 1.3% increase from the previous year and the highest level attained by the District.

1,957 Four-year college/university

1,529 Two-year community/state college

**624** Technical college/school

601 Uncertain

237 U.S. Armed Forces

378 Other

#### ADVANCED STUDIES

District offerings include the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge AICE, Advanced Placement (AP), Honors programs and Dual Enrollment at the high school level in each attendance zone.

THAN

 $rac{1}{2}$  of high school students were enrolled in at least ONE of these course types during the 2018-2019 school year\*

We have approximately 5,675 and 11,807 enrolled (as of Sept. 2019)

**Gifted Students** 

## **CAREER & TECH EDUCATION**



Lee County's middle and high schools offer a diverse collection of Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs to prepare students for college and career readiness.

#### CLASSROOM

- Highly-selected high school additions
  - Air Conditioning, Refrigeration & Heating Technology (Bonita Springs High School – 175 students)
  - Culinary (Island Coast High School 129 students)
  - Agritechnology (Riverdale High School 40 students)
- Highly-selected middle school additions
  - 13 schools implementing Microsoft Office Bundle
  - 11 schools implementing Culinary & ServSafe certification
  - 83% increase in enrollment in Implementing Coding Fundamentals course (1,283 students)

## Community INVOLVEMENT

## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY IS PASSIONATE ABOUT GIVING BACK AND GETTING INVOLVED.



Families were invited to kick off the school year at the District's **Back to School Block Party** held at Bell Tower in Fort Myers. **More than 700 students and their families attended the back-to-school safety event.** In partnership with Safe Kids Southwest Florida, the "Safe-to-School" Safety Zone highlighted important safety tips for pedestrians, bicyclists, bus stop safety, driving and other student-related safety recommendations.

Recognizing that many families in our community suffer from **food insecurity**, the District developed new partnerships to help provide food to those in need. The District launched a pilot program with the **Harry Chapin Food Bank** to ensure extra food in school cafeterias did not go to waste and was instead donated for distribution. The District also twice partnered with Farm Share to distribute fresh fruits, vegetables and other necessities, **serving more than 800 families**. In addition, the School District expanded its food distribution partnership with **Community Cooperative** to create new food distribution sites in strategic areas of need. They also partnered to communicate how to use and donate P-EBT cards to assist those families in need.





During the first weeks of the pandemic, many hospitals were limited on supplies to support the high need in serving patients with COVID-19. The School District stepped up to help by donating medical supplies to healthcare workers across Lee County. One particular donation of 400 N95 respirator masks to Lehigh Regional Medical Center helped to replenish their supply by 100%.

## PEOPLE WITH Passion

## EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY EVERY DAY.

#### **GROW YOUR OWN SCHOLARSHIP**

LEE COUNTY TEACHERS ACADEMY

The reactions were priceless. Seven graduating seniors from The School District of Lee County's teaching academies were surprised and awarded four-year scholarships to Florida SouthWestern State College or Florida Gulf Coast University. The Grow Your Own Teacher Scholarship Program was approved by Florida State Legislature and created to educate and retain certified teachers committed to staying in Lee County. This helps create a local pipeline of educators to aid in our current teacher shortage. Upon graduation recipients must teach for the District for three years.





#### **GARBAGE TO GREENS**

PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Not wasting an opportunity, **students Katie Johnson and Hope Brittenham cultivated an idea** and put it to action. Earlier this year, the school switched from a butterfly garden to growing fruits and vegetables. When the new garden produced more than expected, Johnson and Brittenham realized they could put the extra produce to good use. Collecting the leftover fruits and vegetables, they **designed a three-bin composting system** for their class project. As a result, the garden has enough surplus to **support the community and those in need.** 





### **BATTLE FOR PRESERVATION**

**ESTERO HIGH SCHOOL** 

Joining the **fight to restore and preserve our nation's historic principal battlefields,** Sarah Schwartz was selected to serve on the American Battlefield Trust Youth Leadership Team. **As a face and voice of the national organization,** she became an expert on the Trust's mission, history and media talking points, participated in a youth Lobby Day and created preservation projects in her community. Sarah's **main focus was on the** *Battle of Olustee*, the largest battle fought in Florida during the Civil War.



### PERSONAL | PASSIONATE | PROGRESSIVE



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

SCHOOL BOARD 239.337.8303 or 239.337.8243

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE 239.337.8300

CONSTITUENT SERVICES 239.337.8154

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION 239,939,6300

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** 239.334.0211

**DIVISION OF ACADEMIC SERVICES** 239.337.8308

**DIVISION OF BUSINESS SERVICES** 239 337.8215

**DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES** 239.337.8197

**DIVISION OF OPERATIONS** 239,461,8487

**EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION** 239.337.8104



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School District of Lee County



Lee County Public Schools



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