



July 17, 2012

PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN WESTON Receive "A" Grades for 2012



All public elementary and middle schools in Weston (nine schools) each received an "A" grade once again from the Florida Department of Education. High school grades will be computed in December 2012.

Each year, public schools in Florida receive a school grade on an A-F scale. School grades indicate how well a school is performing based on state standards. For elementary and middle schools, the grades are based entirely on Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) results. High school scores include other components.



"This has been a year of tremendous change for Florida's students, teachers, and schools," said Commissioner of Education Gerard Robinson. "Florida's economic future depends on preparing our students for success. The high standards we have in place today will help our students prepare for college, the workforce and life. I am confident that we are on the right path to prepare our students to compete with the best in the nation and around the world."

Florida has raised expectations for school grades five times in the past ten years. The results show that after an initial drop, school grades improved consistently in the years that followed. As Florida moves toward implementing the Common Core State Standards in 2014-15, the progress seen over the next few years will smooth the transition to the more challenging standards.

Even with an increase in these standards, the elementary and middle schools in Weston have achieved another "A" rating year!

View Weston's School Grade history our website at:

<http://www.westonfl.org/Residents/Schools/SchoolsHome.aspx>.

A summary of the 2012 school grading formula is available at [Grading Florida's Public Schools](#) (PDF). Parent resources and FAQs are available at [Florida's Path to Success](#) and [Just for Parents](#).



NEW DIRECTOR OF NOAA'S NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER Dr. Rick Knabb, also a new Weston Resident, Speaks with Weston CERT Members



Dr. Rick Knabb, Ph.D., is the new Director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami and a new Weston resident. The 43 year old Knabb is a veteran forecaster, recently the hurricane expert for The Weather Channel.

Dr. Knabb graciously accepted an invitation from Weston Fire Chief Harris Bouchillon to speak to Weston's Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) Team on July 11th. He discussed disaster preparedness, hurricane history, and forecast science among other topics.

Dr. Knabb stressed to CERT the same information that he wants to stress to the public - that we have to be prepared for the worst and to do it now. Buy supplies, and get shutters while the weather is good. Complacency from not having a hurricane make landfall since Wilma in 2005 is a serious issue in South Florida. All of us need to be alert to the fact that regardless of whether it is forecasted to be an active or in-active hurricane season, it only takes one.

The CERT members are trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations, to assist in disasters that overwhelm local response capabilities.

Background: Dr. Knabb received his B.S. Degree in Atmospheric Science from Purdue University and his Masters of Science and Doctorate in Meteorology from the Florida State University. He completed his postdoctoral work at the University of Hawaii.



Dr. Knabb speaks to Weston CERT members
To join CERT, please call 954-389-2015

Dr. Knabb was a Research Meteorologist and Lead Forecaster at the Mauna Kea Weather Center from 1999 to 2001. He joined Risk Management Solutions, in Newark, California, in 2001 as an Asst. Product Manager for Weather Risk. Later that year, he joined NOAA's National Hurricane Center as the Science and Operations Officer, and was a senior hurricane specialist there in 2005-2008. In 2008, Dr. Knabb became the Deputy Director of NOAA's Central Pacific Hurricane Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. He served in that capacity until 2010, when he joined The Weather Channel in Atlanta, Georgia, as its on-air Hurricane Expert and Tropical Science Program Manager.



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TAKE STEPS NOW TO BE PREPARED

AFTER THE STORM HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS – *A Continuing Series*



You have put your essential hurricane kit together and you have everything you'll need during the storm, but have you given any thought of what to have on hand for after the storm? Here is a list of essential things to have in your Hurricane kit for after the storm has passed.

1. **Tarps:** Have a few big blue tarps that are typically used for painting and other odd jobs around the house. They can be found in abundance at your local hardware store. These come in handy when you need a temporary fix for water or structural damage to your home.

2. **Generators:** During a hurricane you may lose power. Generators allow you to power items such as the fridge or stove. After a storm, generators can be hard to find in stores so make sure to get yours before a hurricane hits the map.



3. **Gas:** Make sure to have at least a half tank of gas in your car all season long and extra gas handy for items such as your generator.

4. **Money:** Have emergency cash on hand. Keep in mind after a hurricane it's possible there will be little to no power, and possible network issues that may render your cards useless.

5. **Baby wipes:** This handy item also becomes rare after a hurricane. These little wipes can be used for hygiene and keeping important things clean and disinfected.

6. **Batteries:** Take a quick inventory of items in your home that require batteries, such as flashlights, radios and any game systems you might use. Charge your cell phone fully and make sure to have a car charger handy. Also make sure to charge any power tools that use batteries as these may also prove very handy.

7. **Camping Grill:** These now come in both charcoal and propane and can be found in the camping section of stores. These are what you will use to heat your food or boil water. Make sure to have extra charcoal or mini propane cans.



For more information visit our site:

<http://www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/Default.aspx>

THE CITY OF WESTON • phone 954-385-2000 • facsimile 954-385-2010
The Nation's Premiere Municipal Corporationsm



July 17, 2012

QUARTERLY BULK TRASH PICK UP IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

FREE Bulk Pick-Up will take place on your regularly scheduled garbage collection day only. Items should be curbside by 7 a.m. on that day.



- Wednesday, July 25th
- Thursday, July 26th **OR**
- Friday, July 27th
(Whichever is your REGULAR garbage collection day)
- Saturday, July 28th (multi-family units with dumpsters)

Bulk items include but are not limited to:

- Furniture, mattresses, carpets and other large household items. Large and small appliance, such as dishwashers, laundry machines, and stoves.
- Refrigerators or air conditioners must have Freon removed by a certified dealer.
- NOTE: Mirrors, glass, glasstop tables, windowpanes, and plate glass items should be safely placed in a rigid container to facilitate safe collection.
- Larger glass items such as table tops, shower doors and windows should be placed in separately from the rest of the bulk pick up.

NOT COLLECTED: Bulk items DO NOT include contractor-generated material, or vegetative waste (landscape materials) or household hazardous waste (HHW).

- Vegetative/Landscape waste is collected with your regular garbage collection.

THINK BEFORE YOU THROW - Consider donating before tossing

Help those in need, keep items out of the waste stream, **and** get a tax deduction. Several national organizations will even pick-up directly from your residence – you don't have to wait for bulk pick-up day! There are many local, well-established charitable organizations that readily accept donated items. From your home to a New home... and don't forget pets, many pet shelters are in need of sheets and towels on a regular basis.

For questions regarding bulk pick-up please call the City of Weston Public Works Services Center at 954-385-2600 or visit the City of Weston website at <http://www.westonfl.org/Departments/PublicWorks/BulkPickup.aspx>.



VOTING No Lines, No Waiting...

You don't need to be out of town to vote by absentee ballot. It's a great way to take your time, in the comfort of your home to fill out the election ballot, then just return it in the mail – *no lines, no waiting*.

Who Can Vote an Absentee Ballot?

If you are a qualified registered Broward County voter, you are entitled to vote by absentee ballot.

Requesting an Absentee Ballot

One request shall be deemed sufficient to receive an absentee ballot for all elections through the next regularly scheduled 2014 General Election unless the elector or the elector's designee indicates, at the time the request is made, the elections for which the electors desire to receive an absentee ballot. The request can be made in person, by mail, by telephone, or [fill out a request form now](#).

Voting an Absentee Ballot

The voter must personally vote the ballot (unless assistance is required due to blindness, disability or inability to read or write). The voter must sign the return envelope. **Voted absentee ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Election's office no later than 7p.m. on Election Day. A voted ballot cannot be accepted at a polling place.**

2012 ELECTIONS

Primary Election
General Election

Tuesday, August 14
Tuesday, November 6

Offices to be elected in 2012:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| President/Vice President | United States Senator |
| Representatives in Congress | |
| State Attorney | Public Defender |
| State Senators | State Representatives |
| County Commissioners | Clerk of the Circuit Court |
| Sheriff | Property Appraiser |
| Supervisor of Elections | Circuit Judges |
| County Court Judges | School Board |
| Justices of the Florida Supreme Court | |
| Justices of the Florida Fourth District Court of Appeal | |
| Special District Supervisors | |
| Executive Committeemen and Committeewomen | |

Weston Municipal Election for Commission Seat 1

Absentee Ballot Request Form

Notice: If you are an overseas voter or are requesting an absentee ballot for an overseas voter, please use the Overseas Absentee Ballot Request Form.

This request is valid for only one (1) registered voter. If you are a qualified and registered voter, ballots will be mailed only for the elections checked. Absentee ballots are mailed approximately 30 days prior to each election to those voters who have requested an absentee ballot. One request is deemed sufficient for 2 regularly scheduled general elections.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS CANNOT BE FORWARDED. If you will not be at your Broward County address, please complete the MAIL BALLOT TO portion of this form with the address to which you want the ballot mailed.

(* Denotes a required field)

* Are you making this request for someone in your immediate family?
 Yes Myself

Voter Information:
 * Voter's First Name: _____
 * Voter's Middle Initial: _____
 * Voter's Last Name: _____
 * Voter's Birth Date(mm/dd/yyyy): _____
 * Broward County Residence Address (No PO Box): _____
 * Voter's Apt, Lot, or Unit Number: _____
 * Voter's City: _____
 * * Voter's ZIP Code: _____
 * Voter's Email Address: _____
 * Voter's Daytime Phone: _____
 * Voter ID Number(if available): _____

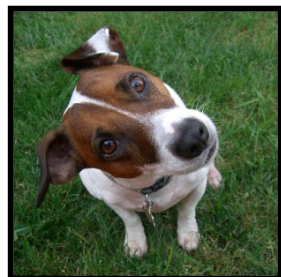
Mail Ballot to: (if different from above)
 Street, PO Box, Rural Route: _____
 Apartment, Lot, or Unit Number: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____
 ZIP Code: _____

Absentee Status:
 Civilian Overseas
 Military/Dependent Overseas
 Military/Dependent Stateside
 Not Applicable

Absentee ballots requested:
 All Elections 2012
 Individual Elections
 08/14/2012 - 2012 Primary Election



DOG SMARTS 101 WHY DO DOGS DO THE THINGS THEY DO?



If you are fed up with chewed furniture and shoes, excessive barking and other frustrating dog behavior, then Broward County Animal Care and Adoption has just the answer for you.

A special class titled, "Dog Smarts 101," is tailored to provide dog lovers with some important information to make pet ownership easier for both the dog and its family. The class, free and open to the public, will be held **Tuesday, July 24th, from 6:00pm to 7:00 pm at Tree Tops Park, 3900 S.W. 100 Avenue, Davie**. Advanced registration is not required. Since the program is not a dog training session, no pets will be permitted.

Sadly, each year more than 2,600 pets are dropped off at the County shelter by frustrated owners who claim they can no longer manage their pets. Unless a new adopter is willing to invest the time or a knowledgeable rescue group comes forward that understands the behavior, the surrendered pet can have difficulty being adopted.



Broward County Animal Care and Adoption is dedicated to providing shelter for lost and surrendered animals as well as the adoption of pets. The agency also coordinates the licensing of dogs and cats and provides rabies vaccinations in order to encourage a healthier pet population.

For more information visit, www.broward.org/animal.





CELEBRATE NATIONAL DANCE DAY ON JULY 28th WITH BROWARD COUNTY LIBRARY



Put your body in motion at the library this summer as they celebrate National Dance Day, held annually on the third Saturday in July. Created in 2010 by Nigel Lythgoe, the judge/executive producer of the hit TV show *So You Think You Can Dance*, National Dance Day promotes dance education and physical fitness for all and will be officially celebrated on Saturday, July 28th.

Young or old, you can try out hip-hop, jazz, salsa or line dancing – all for free at your Broward County Library. Go around the world and watch a Hawaiian dance performance, learn Latin American folk dancing or learn about African beats. There are classes, performances, drum-and-dance programs and even Zumba for kids!

What are you waiting for? Get moving at your local library with various great programs. Visit www.broward.org/library for class details and locations.

National Dance Day is now an annual occurrence made up of grass root events designed to get everyone moving no matter what age! There are endless ways to participate. Those looking to learn the official routines can visit dizzyfeetfoundation.org/national-dance-day. This year there will be a Hip-Hop Master Class and an Everybody Dance routine from Zumba Fitness.

Get active, get dancing and have fun!





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SPORTS/ENERGY DRINKS TOO MUCH OF A BAD THING?

Summer Safety Tip

Most likely, your child regularly asks for sports or energy drinks, especially in the summertime. Besides the sugar, calories and caffeine in these drinks, you now have another reason to say no. The Academy of General Dentistry recently reported that the consumption of sports and energy drinks is causing irreversible damage to teeth, especially among adolescents.



The journal, *General Dentistry*, states that youth consume sports and energy drinks thinking that their sports performance and energy levels will improve, while forgetting that these drinks are essentially bathing their teeth with acid.

Acid levels can vary between brands and flavors, and researchers have found that enamel damage can occur after only five days of drinking sports or energy drinks.

Parents should be fully aware of the down-side of these drinks, as a reported 30 to 50 percent of U.S. teens consume energy drinks and as many as 62 percent consume at least one sports drink per day. Damage caused to tooth enamel is irreversible, and without the enamel's protection, teeth become overly sensitive, prone to cavities and more likely to decay.

So teach your children to reach for a nice tall glass of ice water and stayed hydrated and healthy!





FUN & EDUCATIONAL SHOW FOR KIDS BUEHLER PLANETARIUM



The Buehler Planetarium, located on the Broward College campus in nearby Davie offers a fun and educational program for children every **Saturday and Sunday at 1:30PM through September 30th**.

Earth, Moon & Sun is perfect for kids in Kindergarten thru 6th grade. Engaging and immersive, *Earth, Moon & Sun* examines how humans learn through space exploration. The main character, Coyote has a razor-sharp wit, but he's a little confused about what he sees in the sky. Join this amusing character in a fast-paced and fun full-dome show that explores lunar phases, eclipses and other puzzles.

Show tickets are \$6 per person. The theater seats 100 persons so reservations are encouraged for choice of date. For reservations and information, call 954-201-6681. You may also visit their website at <http://www.iloveplanets.com/>.

The theater is wheelchair accessible.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Water Meter Replacements in **Sierra Falls; San Sebastian to begin in August.**

Water meters in residential communities in Weston are being systematically replaced. For additional information:

http://www.westonfl.org/media/docs/misc/2012_Residential_Water_Meter_Replacement.pdf



OPEN HOUSE – CITY ROADWAY REPAVING PROJECT

Wednesday, July 18, 2012 11AM – 8PM

A project Open House will be held to provide an overview of the upcoming roadway resurfacing projects for Royal Palm Boulevard and Weston Road that are anticipated to begin in late August 2012. The City Traffic Engineer and the Project Manager will be on-hand to answer question and will have a continuous display of information. Stop in at your convenience. **Location:** Weston City Hall, 17200 Royal Palm Blvd., Weston.

QUARTERLY RESIDENTIAL BULK PICKUP

Wed., July 25, Thur., July 26, Fri., July 27. Multi-Family: *Sat., July 28

Bulk trash will be picked up **on your regularly scheduled collection day**. Bulk trash must be placed curbside by 7 a.m. For residences with dumpster service, place items alongside dumpster. *Indicates pick-up for multi-family units (condominiums & apartment complexes). *For more information, call Public Services at 954-385-2600.*

THINK BEFORE YOU THROW – Consider donating before tossing. Several national organizations will even pick-up directly from your residence – you don't even have to wait for bulk pick-up day! There are many local, well-established charitable organizations that readily accept donated items.



SMOKE ALARM AND BATTERY REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

BSO Weston Fire Rescue - This program is designed to reach resident seniors or the disabled who are unable to safely install smoke alarms and/or replace the batteries in existing alarms. Please call 954-389-2015 to schedule this FREE service for our Weston residents.

E-mail Notifications

Weston now delivers the latest news direct to your inbox.

Select from two options: *we recommend BOTH*

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- **General Notifications:** Updates on construction projects; media releases; sports registrations and events. Subscribe at www.westonfl.org/EmailSubscriptions.aspx.