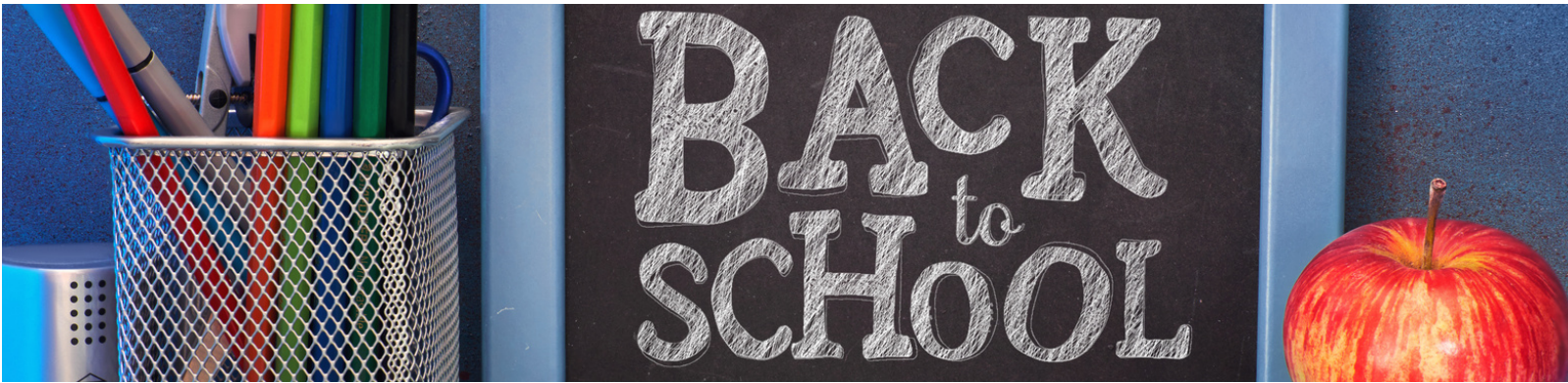




August 2025

SKIDMORE SCOOP

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF HOUSE DISTRICT 92



Florida Files

Back to School Palm Beach County 2025-2026



As the new school year begins, I wish all our students, teachers, and families a safe, successful, and inspiring academic year! Palm Beach County public schools will reopen on Monday, August 11th, and I encourage everyone to take

full advantage of local back-to-school resources, that can be found by visiting www.palmbeachschools.org. This year, several new laws passed during the 2025 legislative session will impact families and students across Florida. One of the most significant changes for this school year is the expanded restriction of cell phone usage. Students in all public schools are now prohibited from using wireless communication devices during instructional time unless explicitly allowed by their teacher. This expands on earlier limits and is meant to help reduce distractions in the classroom. The legislature also passed laws to increase new safety procedures mandating that all gates and entrances and exits must be securely closed and locked when students are on campus or actively staffed if open. In



THIS ISSUE...

Florida Files

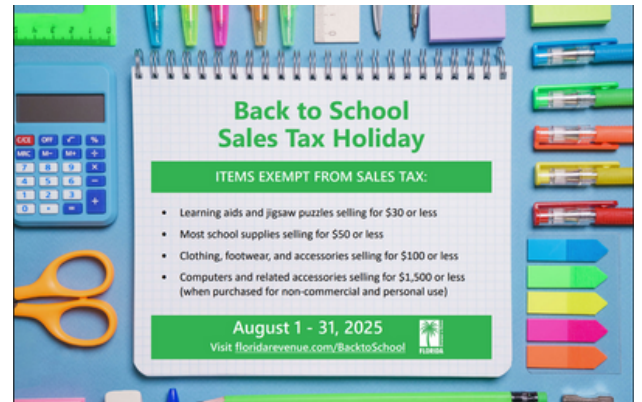
- Back to School
- Hurricane Preparedness

Happenings

Town Hall Meeting

Back to School Cont...

In addition, all classrooms must have clearly marked safe areas for sheltering during emergencies. Students must be notified within the first 10 days of the school year of these newly designated areas. As families prepare for the new school year, Florida is once again offering its annual Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday throughout the entire month of August. This means a full 31 days to save while making sure our students are set up for success!



Hurricane Preparedness

August is the heart of hurricane season. Please take steps now to prepare your home and family. The new permanent disaster preparedness sales tax exemption makes it more affordable to stock up on essential items.

Helpful reminders to stay prepared:

- Update your emergency supply kit (water, food, flashlights, medications, batteries).
- Make a family communication plan.
- If you or a loved one has special needs, register now with Palm Beach County's Special Needs Shelter program.
- Bookmark www.ready.gov/hurricanes and www.discover.pbcgov.org for real-time alerts and local resources.



Starting August 1st, the state has implemented a permanent sales tax exemption for specific disaster preparedness items. Eligible products include portable generators (up to \$3,000), reusable ice packs, batteries and flashlights, fire extinguishers,

insect repellent, tarps and tie-down kits, and more. Take advantage of this new policy to better prepare for emergencies.

Hurricane Preparedness Cont...

Keep this list of important phone numbers and websites in an easily accessible place in your home.

Important Phone Numbers

* Emergency	911	Price Gouging Hotline	866-966-7226
* Public Safety	561-712-6400	Public Affairs Department ...	561-355-2754
* TDD (hearing impaired)	561-712-6343	Public Works	561-684-4000
* Senior Helpline	211	Roads, Drainage, Traffic	561-684-4018
Animal Care & Control	561-233-1200	Salvation Army	561-686-3530
American Red Cross	561-833-7711	Sheriff (PBSO) – Non-Emergency	561-688-3000
Code Enforcement	561-233-5500	Solid Waste Authority	561-640-4000
Consumer Affairs	561-712-6600	United Way	561-375-6600
FEMA	800-621-3362	*PBC Water Utilities	561-493-6000
Fire Rescue – Non-Emergency	561-616-7000		
FPL Power Outages	561-697-8000		

*Check your water bill to determine who is your water utility provider.

Government Websites

Palm Beach County has several resources for obtaining accurate and important information. The Division of Emergency Management administers the www.ReadyPBC.com website.

 www.ReadyPBC.com |  www.PBCgov.com

Happenings

This summer, our office has been busy attending events and meeting with various community organizations to learn more about all the resources available to the residents of Palm Beach County and District 92!



Tour of the Palm Beach County
Emergency Operations Center



Tour of the Benzaiten Center for Creative Arts

Happenings Cont...



Back to School PBC!



Tour of the Boys and Girls Club of Wellington



Caryn J. Clayman Life Skills Center



Eat Better Live Better Bagging Event



S.E.E. Community Meeting

Town Hall Meeting

Join Senator Lori Berman and me for a Town Hall Meeting on Monday, August 25th, at 6:00PM at the Hagen Ranch Branch Library in Delray Beach.



Please Join Us

TOWN HALL MEETING



Senate Democratic Leader
Sen. Lori Berman

House Democratic Policy
Chair Rep. Kelly Skidmore

The 2025-26 Legislative Session is rapidly approaching and we want YOUR input. Please join Senator Lori Berman and Representative Kelly Skidmore for a community town hall.

Monday, August 25th 6:00 PM

**Hagen Ranch Branch Library
14330 Hagen Ranch Road
Delray Beach, FL 33446**

Contact Your State Representative

Committee Assignments

- Ways & Means Committee
- Criminal Justice Subcommittee
- Justice Budget Appropriations Subcommittee
- Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee
- Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee
 - *Democratic Ranking Member

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