



Dr. Laurie Breslin

Education Leader and Innovator Superintendent
Community Engagement Advocate
School District of Manatee County

Laurie Craig Breslin was appointed Superintendent of the School District of Manatee County by the School Board on Sept. 10. A transformational education leader with exceptional system-level expertise and a deep commitment to student success, she oversees a district serving 55,000 students across traditional, charter, and alternative settings, while leading Manatee County's largest employer with approximately 6,000 employees. A proud graduate of Manatee schools, former teacher, principal, and now a parent in the district, Dr. Breslin embodies the Tradition of Excellence that defines the School District of Manatee County. Her journey reflects the spirit of being *Manatee Made, Manatee Strong*—a leader shaped by this community and dedicated to advancing it.

Prior to her selection as superintendent, Dr. Breslin served as Executive Director of Student Support & Family Engagement for the School District of Manatee County, overseeing ESOL, Exceptional Student Education (ESE), Federal Programs, Early Childhood, Student Services, and 16 charter schools. Under her leadership, the number of schools flagged for low federal index scores among English Language Learners and Students with Disabilities decreased significantly within a single year. She built strong collaborations with principals, departments, and community partners to strengthen student support and family engagement strategies, while her fiscal acumen in managing contracts, grants, and agreements advanced both student achievement and program outcomes.

Previously, as Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, she rebuilt and staffed the curriculum department, driving record-high achievement points for the district. Earlier, as Director of Secondary Curriculum, she oversaw notable gains in English Language Arts, social studies, science, and a 9-point increase in math learning gains.

At the school level, Dr. Breslin served as Principal of Sarasota Middle School, leading more than 1,100 students to consistently rank in the top 5–10% statewide and expanding both extracurricular and academic opportunities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she maintained growth, preserved the school's A-grade rating, and implemented in-person and hybrid learning models. She also held leadership roles at Booker High, Palmetto High, and Manatee High Schools, where her work contributed to improved school grades and student performance.

Her early career includes teaching English, reading, and Advanced Placement courses, as well as roles in project management and contract auditing. She is also co-author of *Constructing an Online Professional Learning Network for School Unity and Student Achievement* (Corwin Press, 2013) and a contributor to multiple professional publications and presentations.

A dedicated member of numerous professional communities, Dr. Breslin is a Leadership Florida Education Class 6 Lifetime Member, past Leadership Florida Calusa Education Chair, former board member and vice chair for Take Stock in Children, and previous board member for Parenting Matters. She actively mentors students and engages in local and national educational associations.

Dr. Breslin holds a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Teaching & Learning from Argosy University, a Specialist in Education (Ed.S.) and Master of Arts in Curriculum & Instruction from the University of Florida, and a bachelor's degree in Communications/Public Relations from the University of Florida. She has completed advanced leadership training at the University of South Florida Executive Leadership Institute and Harvard Summer Institute, and holds multiple Florida certifications in educational leadership, reading, English, and ESOL. Her leadership journey—rooted in her own Manatee education and shaped by years of service—reflects the district's enduring Tradition of Excellence and the strength of being *Manatee Made, Manatee Strong*.