



**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL**

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT/CHIEF OF SCHOOLS
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KEITH OSWALD
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT/CHIEF OF SCHOOLS

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to inform you that during the fall of 2019, the Florida Department of Education passed three new rules that impact mandatory instruction for the 2019-2020 school year. The School District of Palm Beach County fully supports these decisions and looks forward to the implementation of these mandatory requirements that will greatly support the challenges our students face.

Below please find the specifics to each of the three rulings:

Rule 6A-1.094121 Mental and Emotional Health Education

Requires school districts to provide a minimum of five hours of annual instruction in grades 6-12 related to youth and mental health awareness and assistance, including suicide prevention and the impacts of substance abuse.

Rule 6A-1.094122 Substance Use and Abuse Health Education

Requires school districts to provide annual instruction in grades K-12 related to youth substance abuse use and abuse health education.

Rule 6A-1.094123 Child Trafficking Prevention Education

Requires school districts to provide annual instruction in grades K-12 related to child trafficking prevention and awareness.

After reviewing numerous products and venues, The School District of Palm Beach County selected a curriculum that was created by experts in the field of Mental Health. Contributors to the curriculum included licensed mental health therapists, crisis counselors, certified substance abuse prevention specialists, trauma-informed practitioners, experts in human trafficking, school counselors, special education experts, and educational researchers.

For questions regarding the selected curriculum or implementation timeline, please contact your child's school principal.

Sincerely,

Keith Oswald
Deputy Superintendent/Chief of Schools