

At Your Service! Your Student Services Newsletter



***Redefining Student Services:
Psychological Services, School Social Work,
Health Services, FACE IT, School
Counseling, Prevention, Section 504,
Triage & Training and Crisis Response***

Edition
February, 2019



NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK • FEB. 4-8, 2019

Per the American School Counseling Association: National School Counseling Week 2019, "School Counselors: Providing Lessons for Life," will be celebrated from Feb. 4-8, 2019, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems. National School Counseling Week, sponsored by ASCA, highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

The PCS vision for the school counseling department is for all students to graduate empowered with the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve academic, personal/social, and career success. Due to Pinellas County's recent increase in graduation rate to 86%, we can think of no better time to thank, congratulate, and encourage the extraordinary work of ALL our school counselors! School counselors have the unique opportunity to work with students in all areas of their K-12 life; from social-emotional support, to academic advisement and career exploration, school counselors play a crucial role in promoting student success. Please join us in thanking school counselors for all their efforts to support our students!



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Communication is Key to Avoiding the Spring Slump

It's hard to believe we just finished Winter Break and are on the downward slope to Spring Break, FSA, and the end of the school year.

A large body of literature finds high levels of student engagement is the cornerstone of effective classroom instruction and the relationship between teachers, students, and their family positively impacts a student's level of engagement within the school.

A study conducted by Matthew A. Kraft and Shawn M. Dougherty of Harvard Graduate School of Education in 2012 (*The Effect of Teacher-Family Communication on Student Engagement: Evidence from a Randomized Field Experience*) underscores the impact of school-family communication. Their research found that "frequent teacher-family communication immediately increased student engagement as measured by homework completion rates, on-task behavior, and classroom participation." The "primary mechanisms through which communication likely affected engagement: stronger teacher-student relationships, expanded parental involvement, and increased student motivation."

Findings from the 2007 National Household Education Surveys Program shows that less than half of all families with school-age children report receiving a phone call from their child's school. February is an appropriate time to begin *holiday messaging* in advance of Spring Break especially since the literature on student engagement suggests that "engagement typically starts at high levels at the beginning of the school year and then varies in response to how students' efforts are being rewarded through teacher responses and academic outcomes" (Kraft & Dougherty, 2012).

Kraft and Dougherty (2012) found that across all measures, teacher-family communication had a large and positive effect on student engagement, on-task behavior, and classroom participation. Teachers in the study reported "calling home and texting/writing notes "fostered a better rapport" and heightened relationships with students. Students in the study expressed similar views. "Teachers also consistently described how their improved relationship with students helped them to be more effective at classroom management and behavior modification. Teachers perceived that these strengthened relationships allowed them to ask more in class without risk of backlash and caused students to be more willing to allow me to push them/talk them down."

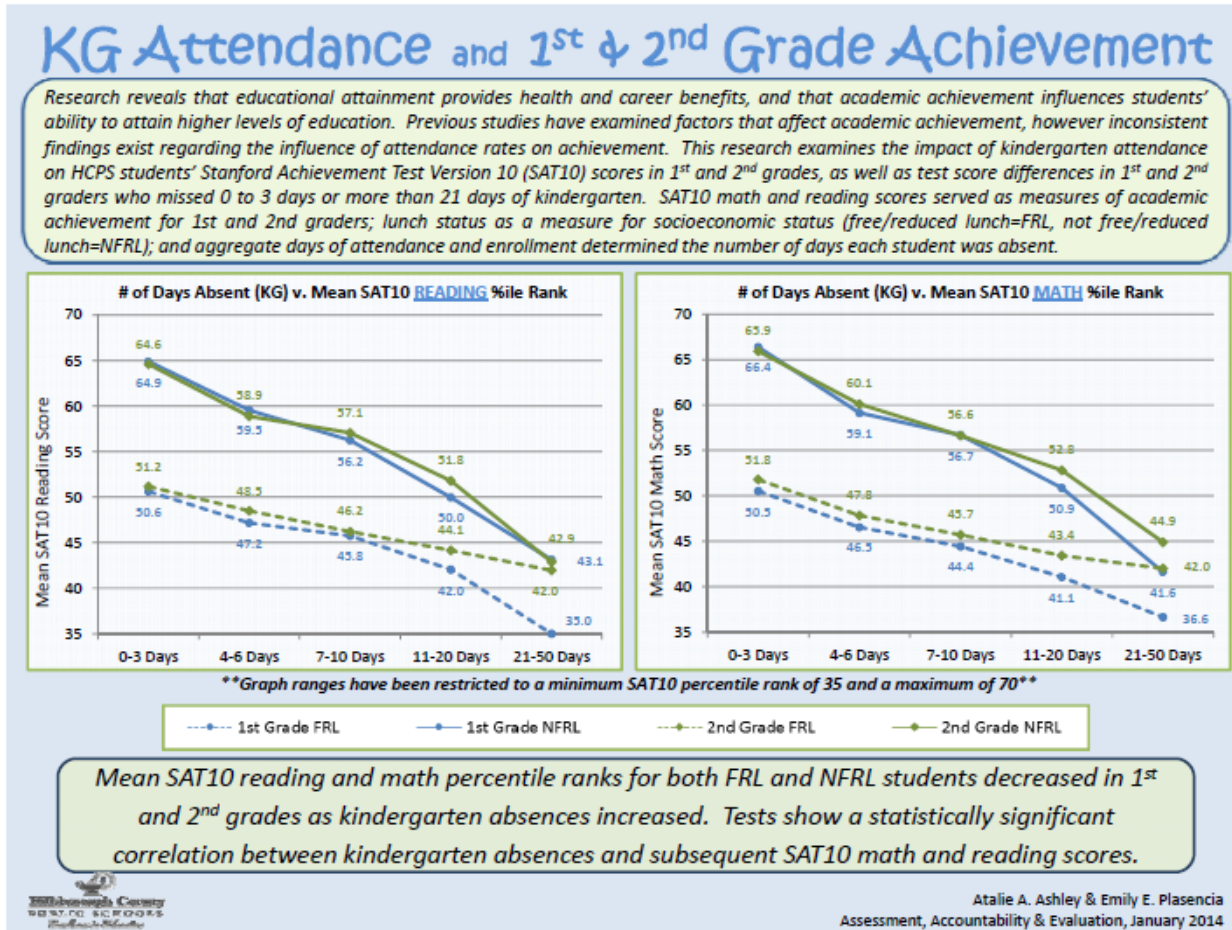
Phone calls home provide parents with detailed information about their child's academic progress and behavior that has not been filtered by students. These calls also allowed parents to provide teachers with important information and to suggest strategies for addressing inappropriate behavior that were successful at home. Communicating with parents also allowed teachers to provide specific advice about ways in which parents could support the academic achievement of their child.

Kraft and Dougherty (2012) findings indicate that improved teacher-student relationship are facilitated by frequent, **proactive** calls made by teachers rather than reactive calls that focus on problems in the classroom.

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Negative teacher-parent communication that is focused on increasing parental monitoring of student behavior and school-work could decrease student's sense of autonomy and engagement.

The impact of attendance/engagement on standardized measures are evident as early as KG as evidenced in this graph.



As with Winter Break, many families will attempt to extend their Spring Break vacation. Now is the time to begin “holiday messaging” your families to stress the importance of daily attendance leading up to Spring Break.

Adapt the Attendance Works Thanksgiving and Winter Break letter to fit your needs through this link: [Sample Holiday Letter](#)

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Resource Round up!

Each month a different community resource will be highlighted

Stepped

Care

For Children After Trauma



CRISIS CENTER
OF TAMPA BAY
Help. Hope. Healing.

USFSP
UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA
ST. PETERSBURG



If your child is between the ages of **4 to 12** and has experienced a trauma, he or she may qualify to receive therapy through a research study.

The purpose of this research study is to develop and test a child trauma treatment that's easy to manage for parents and kids while being effective in helping your child.

Examples of traumas:

- Serious accidents, such as car wrecks
- Sexual abuse
- Physical abuse
- Domestic violence
- Seeing someone get hurt really badly
- Serious illness or very frightening medical experiences
- Being involved in a crime such as a robbery
- Death of someone close
- Disasters

These types of traumatic events may cause children to have posttraumatic stress symptoms such as:

- Irritable, angry and has temper tantrums
- Difficulty sleeping and/or nightmares
- Stomach aches and/or headaches
- More aggressive (fighting, hitting, biting, shoving)
- Looks less happy and is less loving
- Plays less than before
- More jumpy and scared
- Gets very upset if something happens that reminds them of the trauma

All children in this study will receive therapy.

Compensation will be provided for completing assessments.

Parents and children from any state or county may participate.



This research is conducted under the direction of Dr. Alison Salloum, University of South Florida, School of Social Work. IRB# (Pro00022129). Study title: Stepped Care for Children after Trauma: Optimizing Treatment. **For additional information, you may also call 813-974-1337**

In Hillsborough County call the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay at
813-264-9955

In Pinellas County call the University of South Florida
St. Petersburg Family Study Center at **727-767-4603**

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February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month



Every year, approximately 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner. It is also known that 3 in 4 parents have never talked to their children about domestic violence. In light of these alarming facts, every year during the month of February advocates join efforts to raise awareness about dating violence, highlight promising practices, and encouraging communities to get involved.

DID YOU KNOW?

1 in 3 teens know a friend who has been punched, choked, kicked or slapped.

81% of parents do not think teen dating violence is an issue.

39% of teens have not even told their parents about their current relationship.

Pinellas County Schools has a policy (5517.03) addressing - **TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AND ABUSE**: The School Board strictly prohibits any act of Teen Dating Violence and Abuse committed by one student against another on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation.

[https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/centricity/domain/202/Pinellas County Schools Teen Dating Violence and Abuse Policy.pdf](https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/centricity/domain/202/Pinellas_County_Schools_Teen_Dating_Violence_and_Abuse_Policy.pdf)

The 2019 Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education "Breaking the Cycle" will be printed at the end of month to be sent out directly to the schools in February for Teen Dating Violence Awareness month. Here is the link to share with faculty and students in middle and high schools.

https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/downloads/supplements/2018_Teen_Violence.pdf

Teen Dating Violence and Abuse (TDVA) Secondary School Presentations

If you would like a representative of The Haven of RCS to come out during your school's lunch hours and play educational games and give out tchotchkes to students, please give

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us a call for a day in February to secure your spot. They will be happy to come and spread awareness throughout your school. The phone number is (727) 441-2029 x208.

Parent Presentation on How to Effectively Communicate with Your Child about Teen Dating Violence and Abuse (TDVA)

The Primary Prevention Committee of the Pinellas Domestic Violence Task Force (DVTF)* is offering middle and high schools a parent presentation on how to effectively communicate with their child about Teen Dating Violence and Abuse (TDVA). A recent study concluded 73% of parents have not spoken about violence with their children at home. The purpose of our presentation is to provide parents with the tools needed to prevent their teens from being in an unhealthy relationship. The program also helps parents to better understand the warning signs associated with TDVA.

The presentation will include:

- Tools parents can use to help prevent an unhealthy relationship
- Ways to recognize teen dating violence
- Conversation starters
- Safety plans
- Community resources

Statistics show 1 in 3 teenage students are currently dealing with TDVA. Taking part in this presentation will not only benefit your students, it will also fulfill part of your education and training requirement. As a suggestion, the parent presentations can be implemented at student orientations, PTA, and Booster Club meetings.

| <u>Websites</u> | <u>Phone Numbers</u> |
|------------------------|---|
| seeitandstopit.org | Florida Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-500-1119 |
| loveisrespect.org | The Haven of RCS 727-441-2029 Hotline 727-442-4128 |
| breakthecycle.org | CASA 727-895-4912 |
| thatsnotcool.com | Suncoast 727-388-1220 Hotline 727-530-7273 |

If you have any questions about Teen Dating Violence and Abuse Month or want to set up a date and time for a presentation, please contact Joan Reubens reubensj@pcsb.org 588-6348 or Dorene Daughtry daughtryd@pcsb.org 588-5135.

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YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

| TRAINING LOCATION | DATES FOR 2018 | TIME | PLN SECTION # |
|--|--|--------------|---------------|
| Admin. Bldg. Conference Hall | January 28 th and 31 st | 4:00-8:00 pm | 92358 |
| Admin. Bldg. Room B213 | February 25 th and 27 th | 4:00-8:00 pm | 92359 |
| SPC - Pinellas Park Campus Room 2074B | March 20 th and 21 st | 4:00-8:00 pm | 92360 |
| Admin. Bldg. E111 | April 2 nd and 3 rd | 3:30-7:30 pm | 92362 |

You can earn 8 ESE hours, Component points, Certificate of Distinction points, Trade day hours and, above all, valuable and useful knowledge when completing the Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) USA 8-hour education program. Participants in YMHFA are introduced to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in youth, including anxiety, depression, psychosis, eating disorders, ADHD, other disruptive behavior disorders, and substance use disorder. YMHFA emphasizes the importance of early intervention, and teaches individuals how to help a youth who is in crisis or experiencing an emotional or mental health challenge. Participants learn a core five-step action plan to support a youth that may be developing signs and symptoms of mental illness or experiencing an emotional crisis. The skills acquired are applicable in any setting whether it is school, home or community.

Register for a training on Professional Learning Network (PLN) today! Course # 20459

For more information please contact: Vicki Koller, MSW (Project Manager) (727) 588-6040 or kollerv@pcsb.org



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Olweus Bullying Prevention Program



The Olweus Program (pronounced Ol-VAY-us) is a comprehensive approach that includes schoolwide, classroom, individual, and community components. The program is focused on long-term change that creates a safe and positive school climate. It is designed and evaluated for use in elementary, middle, junior high and high schools (K-12). The program's goals are to reduce and prevent bullying problems among schoolchildren and to improve peer relations at school. The program has been found to reduce bullying among students, improve the social climate of classrooms, and reduce related antisocial behaviors, such as vandalism and truancy. The Olweus Program has been implemented in more than a dozen countries around the world, and in thousands of schools in the United States. There are no training costs for your school as we provide the training and the materials.

We currently have one district training for school teams scheduled:
February 14th and 15th 8:30-3:30 (must attend both days) B213 Administration building

Please contact Jennifer Lotti and lottij@pcsb.org or 727-588-5117 to register your team or for more information. **Trainings can also be provided at your school site.** Call or email for more details.

Bullying, Harassment and TDVA

**** Just a reminder Safe Teams 1 Training is a mandatory training for all principals, assistant principals and investigative and prevention designees. We offer the trainings face to face or on-line.**

Upcoming Trainings:

March 5th ABC 203 5:00-8:00 PM Creating a Safe Classroom Learning Environment to reduce Bullying Behaviors Course# 20768 Section# 92329 ** Stipend or Trade

March 25th ABC 203 5:00-8:00 PM Creating a Safe Classroom Learning Environment to reduce Bullying Behaviors Course# 20768 Section# 92330 ** Stipend or Trade

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February 5th B213 8:30-11:30 AM Safe Teams 2 School Safety/Safe Learning Envir/Sch Culture
Course# 20251 Section# 92322

February 11th ABC 203 5:00-8:00 PM Safe Teams 2 School Safety/Safe Learning Envir/Sch Culture
Course# 20251 Section# 92325 ***** Trade Only

March 5 ABC 203 12:30-3:30 PM Safe Teams 2 School Safety/Safe Learning Envir/Sch Culture
Course# 20251 Section# 92327

Mental Health Awareness

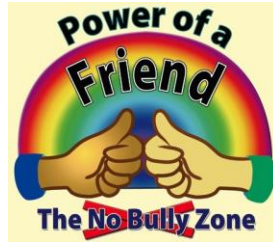


A three hour mental health awareness training is now being offered through the Prevention Department. The training provides information on mental health disorders, who can provide treatment, who can provide assistance in your school, and examples of community resources. The following is a list of upcoming training being provided throughout the district. If you have any questions contact Mary Knight-Martin, knight-martinm@pcsb.org

| LOCATION | DATE | TIME |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------|
| Administration Building | 2/4/19 | 4:00-7:00 pm |
| Curtis Fundamental | 2/5/19 | 2:45-5:45 pm |
| Dunedin Middle | 2/6/19 | 4:30-7:30 pm |
| Largo Middle | 2/14/19 | 8:00-9:00 am |
| Largo Middle | 2/15/19 | 8:00-9:00 am |
| Frontier Elementary | 2/18/19 | 8:30-11:30 am |
| Woodlawn Elementary | 2/19/19 | 7:30-8:30 am |
| Largo Middle | 2/21/19 | 8:00-9:00 am |
| Tarpon High School | 2/26/19 | 2:30-5:30 pm |
| McMullen Booth | 3/8/18 | 12:30-3:30 pm |

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Creating a Safe Learning Environment for our LGBTQ+ Students, Staff and Families



Please see below for an exciting training opportunity. If you have taken this training before, don't despair! It has been revised and PCS employees are able to receive component points yearly for the same workshop. One last perk: we are offering stipends or trade hours for instructional staff. Please feel free to share this with other PCS friends and coworkers who might be interested.

Course Description/General Objective(s):

Participants will gain insight into the challenges facing LGBTQ youth, families and staff. Participants will have a better understanding of PCSB policies and practices that support the legal, ethical and safety needs of LGBTQ youth, families and staff. Participants will gain access to a wide variety of resources and support in creating a safe and civil environment for LGBTQ students as well as ALL students, families and staff. Students who feel accepted at school are more engaged in learning, motivated and committed to achieving the highest level of education.

Course# 6403133

February 28, 2019 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

#92393 Creating a Safe Learning Environment for LGBTQ Students, Staff and Families

March 28, 2019 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

#92394 Creating a Safe Learning Environment for LGBTQ Students, Staff and Families

Please contact Melissa Newman at Newmanm@pcsb.org or 528-5788 ext. 2052 for more information.

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Trauma Informed Care Training



The Prevention Team offers training in Trauma Informed Care. During this 3-hour training, participants will learn how trauma impacts student learning. In addition, they will learn how they can make their classroom and the school more trauma-sensitive. Specific interventions and strategies will be shared. Signs and symptoms of trauma in children will also be discussed.

Here are some scheduled trainings that are approaching. Sign up on PLN if you would like to participate! Participants can earn 3 component points. Trade hours are available for trainings taken outside of normal contract hours.

Course# 20239

| | | | |
|----------------|----------|---------------|----------------|
| Boca Ciega HS | 01/23/19 | 2:30-5:30pm | Section# 91732 |
| Anona Elem | 02/05/19 | 3:15- 6:15pm | Section# 92770 |
| Lakeview Fund | 02/18/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 91730 |
| Tarpon MS | 02/18/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 92499 |
| Dunedin HS | 02/18/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 92540 |
| Jamerson El | 03/08/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 91735 |
| McMullen Booth | 03/08/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 92402 |
| Madeira Beach | 03/08/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 92400 |
| Sutherland El | 03/08/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 92560 |
| 74th St El | 03/08/19 | 8:30-11:30am | Section# 92401 |
| Perkins El | 03/08/19 | 12:30-3:30pm | Section# 92570 |
| Admin B213 | 03/27/19 | 4:30-7:30pm | Section# 92642 |
| Admin ABC203 | 06/26/19 | 12:30-3:30 pm | Section# 93105 |
| Admin B213 | 07/22/19 | 8:30- 11:30am | Section# 93127 |

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Kick Butts Day is March 20, 2019!



On March 21, 2019, thousands of youth around the world will join the fight against smoking by participating in Kick Butts Day, an effort led by the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. In previous years, Pinellas County SWAT (Student Working Against Tobacco) clubs have participated in the Kick Butt's Day Activities.

If your school would like to participate in Kick Butts Day, here are some things you can do:

- Students spelled out "1200" by putting cups in a fence to bring attention to the number of Americans who die of tobacco-related causes every day.
- Youth can clean up their local parks or surrounding area of the school.
- Posters and signage can be placed around campus with statics to raise awareness about tobacco.
- Start a SWAT club at your school! If you are interested in a club that empower youth to educate their peers about the manipulative tactics of Big Tobacco so that together youth can take a stand and make a change for the next generation. Please contact Steven Sargent, Pinellas County S.W.A.T. Coordinator at 727-588-4040 Ext. 3158. *Stipends are available for active club advisors.



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Monique Burr Foundation for Children Prevention Education Programs

Monique Burr Foundation (MBF) Child Safety Matters® is a comprehensive, evidence-based curriculum for elementary school students in grades K-5. The program educates and empowers children and all relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize, and respond appropriately to bullying, cyberbullying, all types of abuse, digital abuse, and other digital dangers.

MBF Teen Safety Matters® – Middle School Edition is a comprehensive, evidence-informed prevention education program for middle school students in grades 6-8. The program educates and empowers teens and all relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize, and respond appropriately to bullying, cyberbullying, all types of abuse, relationship abuse, sex trafficking, digital abuse, and other digital dangers.

The program was developed WITH schools, not FOR schools, to make the best use of existing resources and ensure schools have effective programs that are easy to implement. It is presented in two comprehensive lessons ranging from 35-55 minutes (or in four shorter lessons) by trained facilitators in classrooms. Facilitators present turnkey scripts along with engaging, interactive PowerPoints with lecture, group discussion, skills-practice activities, videos, and games.

The Program is Free! For more information please visit <https://mbfpreventioneducation.org>
Or contact Jennifer Lotti at lottij@pcsb.org for elementary programs or Becky Spencer at spencerre@pcsb.org for secondary programs.

Suicide Prevention Training



| TRAINING LOCATION | DATES FOR 2018 | TIME | Course# 28497 SECTION#: |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Admin. Bldg. Rooms D312 & D313 | February 19, 2019 | 4:30-7:30pm | 92584 |
| Admin. Bldg. Room ABC203 | April 9, 2019 | 4:30-7:30pm | 92585 |

You can earn 3 Component points and Trade day hours. Suicide is the second cause of death in youth ages 10-24. Learn the warning signs and risk factors to look for to help reduce this alarming statistic and save lives. Learn how to respond to these warning signs and get help for

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a youth that may be in crisis and thinking about ending their life. **Register for a training on Professional Learning Network (PLN) today! Course# 28497**

February is National Children's Dental Health Month

Each February, the American Dental Association (ADA) sponsors National Children's Dental Health Month to raise awareness about the importance of oral health.

Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children to get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums.

During this month, it is particularly important to raise awareness of the plight of children from low-income families, many of whom have difficulty eating, sleeping, paying attention in school and smiling due to rampant dental disease. This year's campaign slogan is "Brush And Clean In-Between To Build a Healthy Smile", which promotes good brushing and flossing habits for a healthy mouth.

The American Dental Association website has many free resources that teachers can use as activities during this month. Visit <http://www.ada.org/en/public-programs/national-childrens-dental-health-month> to download any of these resources.

Flu Review

Influenza remains widespread statewide, and Pinellas County is no different. While influenza activity is similar to levels observed at this time in past seasons, heightened activity is expected for several more weeks. The predominant strain is Influenza A.

It's not too late to get your flu vaccine. People who have not yet been vaccinated for the 2018-19 season should do so as soon as possible. Influenza vaccines are safe and are the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from influenza and its potentially severe complications.

In addition to getting vaccinated, the Florida Department of Health also recommends you take everyday precautions to prevent the spread of influenza and other respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water (if soap is not available, use an alcohol-based sanitizer)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- If you do get sick, stay home until fever-free for at least 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication)

If your school begins reporting an increased number of students absent for flu-like symptoms, please contact School Health Services at 588-6320.

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DMT Health Records Training

This course will dive deeper into issues that DMTs face when dealing with health-related paperwork and records. Topics will include registration, physical exams, immunizations, FOCUS documentation, and record retention as they all pertain to school health.

This is a great opportunity to have all of your questions answered in a small group from the leaders of school health services from both the Pinellas County School Board and the Department of Health.

| Location | Date | Time | PLN Section # |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Admin. Bldg. Room B213 | February 20, 2019 | 2:00pm-5:00pm | 89655 |
| Admin. Bldg. Room B213 | March 20, 2019 | 2:00pm-5:00pm | 89656 |
| Admin. Bldg. Room ABC203 | April 16, 2019 | 2:00pm-5:00pm | 89657 |

Tdap Outreach Efforts

School Health Services continues to work with our partners at the Department of Health in Pinellas on Tdap outreach to inform parents of this immunization requirement well ahead of the first day of school in August, 2019.

In February, we are asking middle school principals to send out a School Messenger call to sixth grade parents using a standard script that will be shared with principals. We are also asking principals to post a short marquee message for one week at some point during the month.

School Messenger scripts and ideas for marquee messages will be emailed to middle school principals after February 1st. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring our kids are ready to start school!

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Section 504

Congratulations on Outstanding Compliance!

(data pull: 1/14/2019)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Academie DaVinci Charter School | Garrison-Jones Elementary School | Pinellas Park High School |
| Alfred Adler School | Gulf Beaches Elem Magnet | Pinellas Preparatory Academy |
| AMI KIDS Center for Personal Growth | Gulfport Elementary School | Pinellas Primary Academy |
| Anona Elementary School | High Point Elementary School | Pinellas Secondary School |
| Athenian Academy | Highland Lakes Elementary School | Pinellas Virtual FLVS Franchise |
| Azalea Elementary School | James B. Sanderlin PK-8 | Plato Academy Clearwater |
| Azalea Middle School | John Hopkins Middle School | Plato Academy Largo |
| Bardmoor Elementary School | Kings Highway Elementary Magnet | Plato Academy Palm Harbor |
| Bauder Elementary School | Lake St. George Elementary School | Plato Academy Pinellas Park |
| Bay Point Elementary School | Lakeview Fundamental Elementary | Plato Academy Seminole |
| Bay Point Middle School | Lakewood Elementary School | Plato Academy St. Petersburg |
| Bay Vista Fundamental Elementary School | Largo High School | Plato Academy Tarpon Springs |
| Bayside High School | Largo Middle School | Plumb Elementary School |
| Bear Creek Elementary School | Lealman Avenue Elementary School | Ponce de Leon Elementary School |
| Belcher Elementary School | Leila Davis Elementary School | Rawlings Elementary |
| Belleair Elementary School | Lynch Elementary School | Richard O Jacobson Technical High School at Seminole |
| Blanton Elementary School | Madeira Beach Fundamental | Ridgecrest Elementary School |
| Brooker Creek Elementary School | Maximo Elementary School | Safety Harbor Elementary School |
| Calvin A. Hunsinger School | McMullen-Booth Elementary School | Safety Harbor Middle School |
| Campbell Park Elementary School | Meadowlawn Middle School | San Jose Elementary School |
| Carwise Middle School | Melrose Elementary School | Sandy Lane Elementary School |
| Chi Chi Rodriguez Academy | Midtown Academy | Sawgrass Lake Elementary School |
| Clearwater Fundamental Middle School | Mildred Helms Elementary School | Seminole Elementary School |
| Clearwater Intermediate | Mount Vernon Elementary School | Seminole High School |
| Cross Bayou Elementary School | New Heights Elementary School | Seminole Middle School |
| Curlew Creek Elementary School | North Shore Elementary School | Seventy-Fourth St. Elementary |
| Curtis Fundamental Elementary | Northeast High School | Sexton Elementary School |
| Cypress Woods Elementary School | Northwest Elementary School | Shore Acres Elementary School |
| Discovery Academy of Science | Oakhurst Elementary School | Skycrest Elementary School |
| Dunedin Elementary School | Osceola Middle School | Starkey Elementary School |
| Dunedin Highland Middle School | Ozona Elementary School | Sunset Hills Elementary School |
| East Lake Middle School Academy of Engineering | Pace Program | Sutherland Elementary School |
| Eisenhower Elementary School | Palm Harbor Middle School | Tarpon Springs Elementary School |
| EYES E-Nini-Hassee Camp | Pasadena Fundamental Elementary School | Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary School |
| Fairmount Park Elementary School | Perkins Elementary School | Tarpon Springs High School |
| Fitzgerald Middle School | Pinellas Academy of Math and Science | Tarpon Springs Middle School |
| Forest Lakes Elementary School | Pinellas Central Elementary School | Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle School |
| Frontier Elementary School | Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy | Walsingham Elementary School |
| Fuguitt Elementary School | Pinellas Park Elementary School | Westgate Elementary School |



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Section **504** COMPLIANCE ADVISOR Your Guide to Understanding and Administering Section 504

New Compliance Advisor Issues Now Available on 504 eLearn!

The Compliance Advisor has one goal: to show schools how to carry out sound Section 504 policy. Every page of every issue is filled with explanations of the law, best practices, case summaries and compliance tips – giving schools the complete compliance picture in both the practical and legal aspects.

Recent Issue Features:

December:

COVER STORY

Are you prepared to face a retaliation claim?

Protected activity

Section 504's anti-retaliation provision also includes acts against anyone who has advocated on behalf of a student with a disability.
Page 4.

Key points

- Be able to illustrate that protected activity, adverse action are unrelated
- Substantiate actions with documentation

Term trainer

Lay advocate. In connection with special education, a non-lawyer with special knowledge or training concerning the problems of children with disabilities. Also called a parent advocate. Non-lawyers can act as advisors to parents of children with disabilities at the administrative hearing level. ■

HIGHLIGHTS

How to interact with parent advocates in 504 meetings

If a parent brings an advocate to her child's Section 504 meeting, it's likely she's feeling uncomfortable or in need of assistance. Here's how to respond appropriately.

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SECTION 504
COMPLIANCE ADVISOR

PRACTITIONER FILE

9

Take step-by-step approach to prevent, address bullying

LEGAL SPOTLIGHT

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Did Ill. district discriminate against student by creating "quiet corner"?
Page 2

Quick Tips

• **Identify students with health plans who are 504 eligible.** Because the passage of the ADA Amendments Act broadened the scope of eligibility under Section 504, many students with medical conditions are now eligible under Section 504. One group of potentially 504-eligible students are those with individual health care plans. Sit down with your school nurse to identify those students with the most significant medical needs, school attorney Erin Gilsbach said. "A lot of the kids your school nurse sees on a daily basis probably need a 504 plan," she said.

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January:

DECISIONS & GUIDANCE

LEGAL SPOTLIGHT

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Does student's receipt of tiered interventions render evaluation unnecessary?

Page 2

Term trainer

Co-morbidity. Different diseases or disorders existing together. For example, it is fairly common for a child to be diagnosed as having ADHD and a conduct disorder. ■

Rigid enforcement of conduct code raises questions about suspensions

Case name: *Lawton and Johnson-Lawton ex rel. I.L. v. Success Acad. Charter Schs. Inc.*, 72 IDELR 176 (E.D.N.Y. 2018).

Ruling: A New York charter school that allegedly removed or suspended several young children with disabilities because of their noncompliance with its code of conduct will have to defend a Section 504 lawsuit. The U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York denied the school's motion to dismiss the parents' disability discrimination claim.

What it means: A disciplinary code that applies equally to all students can still be discriminatory if it has a disproportionate impact on children with disabilities. Charter schools must be careful that their efforts to maintain order in the classroom do not result in rigid rules that preclude students with disabilities from participating. This school removed or suspended 4- and 5-year-old children with disabilities on an almost daily basis for offenses that included tantruming, running in the classroom, and failing to maintain a specific sitting position. Those frequent suspensions raised questions as to whether the school was targeting students with disabilities for removal.

504 quick quiz

Q: Must a district furnish accommodations needed for a student with a disability to go on a field trip?

A: Yes. OCR has made clear that if a student with a disability needs related aids or services to participate in a school program, including a field trip, such services must be provided by the district.

HIGHLIGHTS

Clarify key differences between IHPs, Section 504 plans

Does a student with an individual health plan automatically qualify under Section 504? Here are answers to this and other questions.

Page 3

Individual health plan vs. 504 plan

Don't assume developing an individual health plan for a student will satisfy your requirements under Section 504. The Office for Civil Rights has cited districts for

failing to follow the procedural requirements of Section 504 even when a health plan has met a student's needs.

At Your Service! Your Student Services Newsletter

ESE: FLDOE Section 504 Online Introductory Course

Open to: All School Staff

In-service Credit: 3 ESE re-certification points

How to take the course:

- 1) Enroll in PLN - Search Course # **20496** – Then select Section # **91720**
- 2) Complete course at: <http://sss.usf.edu/resources/topic/section504/504course/index.html>
- 3) Email certificate of completion to: HOUSEL@pcsb.org
- 4) Take PLN survey to earn ESE certification points

Course topics:

- ❖ Introduction to Section 504
- ❖ A Section 504 Disability
- ❖ Child Find and Section 504 Evaluations
- ❖ Section 504 Disability and Need for Section 504 Plan Determination
- ❖ Developing and Implementing a Section 504 Plan
- ❖ Medical/Health Conditions and Individual Health Care Plans
- ❖ Procedural Safeguards and Grievance Procedures
- ❖ Discipline
- ❖ Comparison of Section 504 and IDEA 2004
- ❖ Postsecondary Students and Section 504

504 eLearn

Topics include: Quick Start Guides, forms, related services procedures, accommodation guides, OCR Guidance, etc.



Section 504 Training

Description:

Participants will enhance their knowledge of the requirements of Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act of 2008 as relates to protections, services, and legal requirements for students with disabilities and will use knowledge to implement district processes and procedures for Section 504 compliance.

Who: Student services staff and administrators

Where: Discovery Room, 305 Fourth St. SW Largo, FL 33770 – across the street from the Administration Building

Course # **19798**

Section #: **92688**

When: Friday, February 22, 2019

Time: 8:30 – 11:30 am

Registration: Professional Learning Network (PLN)

Please note: Principal's permission to attend is required.

At Your Service! Your Student Services Newsletter

Student Services

Health Services 588-6320

Sara O'Toole, Managing Officer

Anita Bacchi, Administrative Assistant

Prevention Office 588-6130

Lisa DePaolo, Managing Officer

Paula Mohl, Administrative Assistant

Bullying Prevention 588-6348

Joan Reubens, Coordinator

Section 504 588-6296

Sarah Douglas, Coordinator

Psychological Services 588-6054

Michael Cowley, Managing Officer

**Hope Mauck, Administrative
Assistant**

School Counseling 588-6053

Jonathan Blair, Managing Officer

**Sonja Cooper, Administrative
Assistant**

School Social Work 588-6355

Tari Connell, Managing Officer

**Carole Stucki, Administrative
Assistant**