



Middle School Parent Information Session



Immigrant Support Plan

- Passed on April 19, 2017, by the Superintendent and the School Board.
- The District **continues to work** with all stakeholders to provide a clear message that will ensure the safety and welfare of all students, regardless of immigration status.
- The Immigrant Support Plan for the SDPBC was designed to provide resources and information to support immigrant students and families.

Welcoming and Inclusive Schools District website:

<https://www.palmbeachschools.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=270616&pageId=7388074>



Welcoming & Inclusive Environment

In order to affirm that the school is a safe, welcoming, trusting, nurturing, and culturally sensitive environment for our students; regardless of their immigration status.

- Provide a culture of empathy for diverse learners that come from different cultures and backgrounds.
- Demonstrate an attitude of being supportive, caring, and respectful to all students that are of different races, color, ethnicities, or national origin.
- Emphasize the importance of celebrating all students so that they feel a sense of belonging.
- Demonstrate optimistic positive affirmations when working with all students.



Welcoming & Inclusive Schools Resolution

RESOLUTION PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS FOR ALL STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

WHEREAS, The Palm Beach County School District envisions a dynamic collaborative multicultural community where education and lifelong learning are valued and supported, and all learners reach their highest potential and succeed in the global economy.

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court decision in Plyler v. Doe (1982) prohibits public schools from denying undocumented students access to free public education.

WHEREAS, the federal consent decree entered into in LUI-AC et al v. Florida Board of Education et al. (1990) prohibits Florida public schools from inquiring or collecting data regarding the immigration status of students or their families.

WHEREAS, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), prohibits public schools from sharing educational records with outside agencies without parental consent, a court order, subpoena, or other exception as provided by law.

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County School Board is committed to ensuring its schools provide a safe and welcoming environment for all students regardless of their immigration status, religion, or national origin.

WHEREAS, recent reports of changes in national immigration policy have worried many students and their families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

- Palm Beach County's Public Schools will continue to celebrate the diverse multicultural character of its student body by continuing to welcome and support all students regardless of immigration status, religion or national origin.

In order to protect the safety and welfare of all students, promote a safe and stable learning environment, and ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws, the Superintendent shall direct school based staff to forward any requests from federal law enforcement agents to obtain confidential student information or enter District property to the Office of General Counsel and School Police.

The District shall offer training to district staff on the rights of English language learners and the importance of supporting the needs of immigrant students and their families.

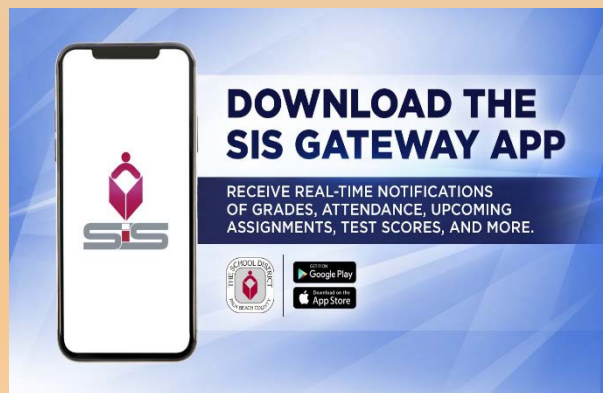
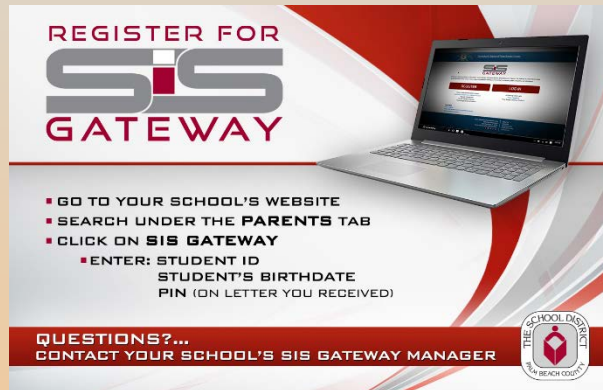
The District School Police will continue to recognize the unique needs of immigrant students and their families, particularly those with limited English proficiency. School Police shall continue to exercise discretion and limit the referral of all students to the criminal justice system only as a last resort or when mandated by law.

- The District will continue to offer all students and their families counseling and supports and bullying prevention programs for all students, including those affected by increased immigration enforcement. High school guidance counselors shall continue to have information readily available for students regarding opportunities to access college, in-state tuition, out of state fee waivers, financial aid, and career opportunities available to all students regardless of immigration status.
- The Superintendent shall designate staff to increase and enhance partnerships with community based organizations to create a Safety Plan to support students attending District schools in the event they are deprived of adult care or supervision as a result of a federal law enforcement action or deportation. This plan may include: encouraging School Advisory Councils (SACs) to work with community based organizations to provide informational sessions for students and parents; establishing a communications plan between schools, community based organizations and district staff in the event an immigration enforcement action affects a substantial number of students from a particular community.
- This Resolution shall be shared with District staff, students, and parents or guardians, in Spanish, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Q'anjobal and Mam via telephone calls, email, Facebook, or by posting on the District's website.



SIS GATEWAY

The Student Information System (SIS)



- Access schedule, assignments, assessment reports, grades, and attendance
- Email teachers
- Students access to *SIS Gateway* via the icon available on District's student portal
- Parents register for their *SIS Gateway* account using an active email address with an activation code provided by the school
- Parents are encouraged to review the information on *SIS Gateway* on a regular basis to prevent minor academic problems from becoming major ones



Middle School Grades & Report Cards

- Students receive quarterly grades (4 times a year)
- Grades are based on a 5 point grading system (A, B, C, D and F)
- Grades, report cards and additional information can be viewed in student portal and on SIS Parent Gateway

Quarter	Report Card Distribution
1 st Quarter 08/10/21 - 10/14/21	October 22, 2021
2 nd Quarter 10/18/21 - 12/22/21	January 12, 2022
3 rd Quarter 01/05/22 - 03/11/22	March 28, 2022
4 th Quarter 03/22/22 - 05/26/22	TBD



Promoting Student Success

Here are some actions parents can take to ensure their students obtain their academic goals:

Communicate with school staff regarding homework, assignments, and health and safety protocols

Talk with your child about strategies to stay healthy and safe

Encourage students to talk about school, social activities, and their interests

Homework: Set clear expectations, provide a set place and time, and regularly review homework

Teach standards of right and wrong and set an example

Monitor where your children go and encourage them to seek friends who will be helpful to them

Get acquainted with teacher(s) and share your child's social, emotional, mental, physical, and academic strengths and needs

Try to do something enjoyable with your student *at least* once a week

Talk to your child about tobacco, drugs, alcohol, gangs, and violence

When possible, attend school functions and encourage your participation in school-related activities

Consistently enforce household rules

Monitor your child's choices of TV programs, video games, and music



Attendance Policies & Procedures

Students must attend school every school day of the school year until their 16th birthday.

Parents are expected to notify the school when their child is absent and inform the school of the reason for the absence within 24 hours by written or verbal communication.

School officials may require medical verification of absences.

It is the responsibility of the student to make-up work missed because of absences.

Students must be in attendance for a minimum of 90% of the class time to earn a passing grade in a *middle school course*.

Students who are absent more than 10% of class time may earn a passing grade by earning a minimum grade of "D" for the quarter, and passing the quarterly assessment with a minimum grade of "D".



Attendance Matters

Missing 2 days of school per month from Kindergarten - 12th Grade
= 108 hours per year
= 11 months
= over 1 school year lost

Chronic absenteeism means missing 10% or more of school days in a year.

Missing 10% of school days make it harder to learn to read.

Students can fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.

Students who are chronically absent are less likely to succeed academically and more likely to drop out of school.



Attendance Matters

ACHIEVEMENT

Keep up with daily lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and pass reading and math assessments

BELONGING

Develop valuable social and citizenship skills

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXPOSURE

Increase in language acquisition

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

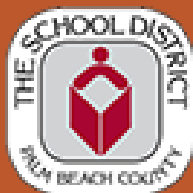
Learn that going to school is critical to academic success



Parents and Families Should:

- Make getting to school on time everyday a high priority in your family.
- Talk with your child about the importance of school attendance from an early age and the negative effects of too many absences.
- Create a safe space for your child to share what's keeping them from participating in school on a regular basis.
- Have a back-up plan for getting your child to school when there are difficulties with transportation, family illness, or other challenges.
- Schedule doctor and other appointments for after school hours whenever possible.
- Monitor students' school attendance to make sure your child is in class every day.
- Contact your child's school to discuss supports and services that can help your child maintain regular school attendance.





STUDENTS UNDER STAY-HOME DIRECTIVE

❖ *Under a stay-home directive, students can be marked "Present" if they are engaged in work as indicated. If a student is sick and will not complete work for that day, the parent must contact the school to notify them the student will not be engaged on that day. The student will then be marked "Absent."*



INSTRUCTIONAL CONTINUITY SITE

https://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/dl2/stayhomeinstruction

Make-up Work: Teachers will provide students with make-up work in a timely manner. These assignments can be provided in one of three ways:

- Google Classroom for students to access independently
- Emailed to student once contact has been made that student will be out
- Packets of missed work sent to the office to be collected by family member

Standards-based Instruction: Students will have access to standards based videos and resources to provide curricular support and instruction. Students can access the site via the Instructional Continuity Site tile on the Portal.

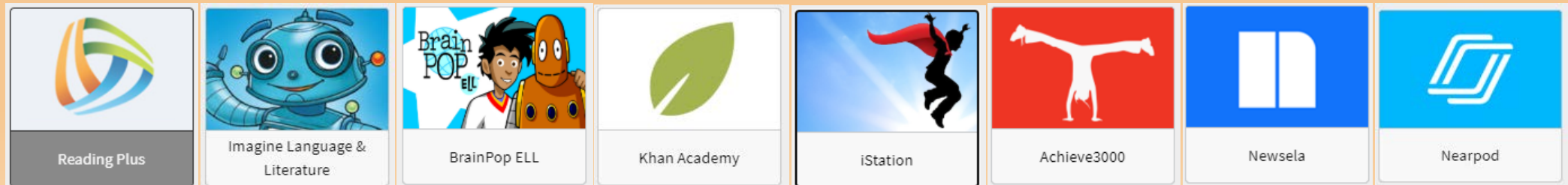
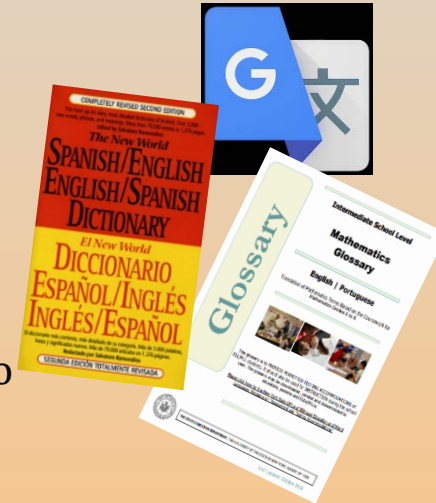
<https://sites.google.com/palmbeachschools.org/sdpbc-distance-learning/instructional-continuity-support?authuser=0>

Tutoring: Assistance by instructional personnel will be provided to students from teachers at their individual school sites. Students can join these sessions as needed in an "Office Hours" format. Each school will provide the Google Meet codes to students under stay-home directives. The Meets will occur for two hours each day, Monday through Thursday, directly after school.

Supports & Resources for English Language Learners (ELLs)

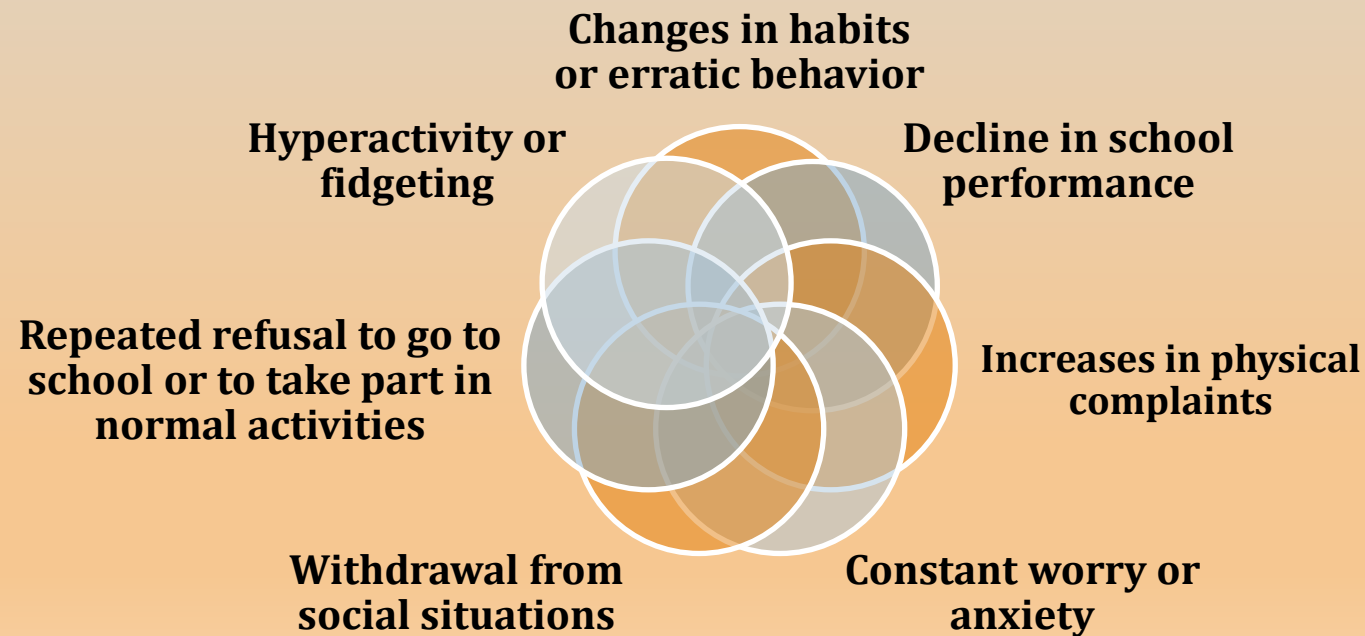
Appropriate services are provided for all ELL students based on each student's language proficiency in accordance with an individual's ELL Plan

- School-based language support embedded into lessons.
- Collaboration with ESOL teachers, Community Language Facilitators (CLFs), and general classroom teachers ensure students receive accommodations and targeted skills per ELL Plans.
- Online technology-based literacy and language practice.
- Access to Word-to-Word Glossaries.
- Students may access the various content-specific online learning activities below by logging in to their portal.



Youth Mental Health

Mental health is our ability to live fully, engage with others, and respond to challenges. Recognizing signs of emotional or behavioral concerns can help to determine when to seek help so your child can reach his or her full potential.



Wellness Resources

Supporting the whole child requires a team approach. Behavioral and emotional supports promote academic, mental health, and social-emotional well-being.

- Highly-trained and skilled professionals such as School Counselors, School Psychologists, and School Behavioral Health Professionals, are trained in youth mental health to recognize early signs of mental illness and distress.
- Community-based co-located agency mental health professionals and therapists provide therapeutic interventions. Parental consent is required prior to your child receiving ongoing therapeutic support.
- Social Service Facilitators support students experiencing a mental health crisis and collaborate with agencies with Behavioral Health Agreements.
- When concerned about mental health, reach out to a School Counselor, School Psychologist, or School Behavioral Health Professional at your school who can connect you to school and community resources. Your child's pediatrician may also provide a referral to a mental health professional.

It's OK to be OK. It's OK to not be OK. It's OK to ask for help.



Bullying & Suspicious Activity

See Something, Say Something!

Bullying: If you or someone you know is a target of bullying, abuse, mistreatment, harassment, threat or intimidation, report anonymously:

- Alert the teacher and/or administration immediately
- Call District Bullying Hotline: (561)434-8200
- Complete Bullying Report online: <https://sites.google.com/palmbeachschools.org/bully>



Suspicious Activity:

- Access **FortifyFL**, a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.
- Provide description of the threat, share pics and videos.
- Access your previous tips, and submit updates and additional information.



Questions . . .

