



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

WILL J. GORDILLO
DIRECTOR

KEITH OSWALD
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION
3378 FOREST HILL BLVD., A-203
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406-5813
Phone: 561-434-8626 Fax: 561-434-8384
www.palmbeachschools.org

November 30, 2012
Bulletin #P-14478-CLS/ESE

Contact:
Marsha Kufel, PX 88180

Information Only

TO: All Principals

FROM: Janis Andrews, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer 

SUBJECT: SCHOOL ESE PARENT CONTACT

The Department of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) through the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) currently offers parents of ESE students support services through the Parent as Liaisons (PALs) program.

The purpose of the PALs program is the following:

- Disseminate information and provide training programs of school personnel concerning strategies to reach out and build effective partnership with parents.
- Disseminate information and provide technical assistance to parents concerning parenting skills, disabilities, and strategies to be effectively involved in their child's education.
- Provide support to and/or facilitation of parent liaison meetings to promote and exchange of ideas and resources and accuracy of information sharing.

These services are available for all ESE parents and school staff, Prekindergarten through 12th grade, in all areas of the district. Services are provided by contracted consultants through FDLRS and can be reached at PX 48393. Attached is an article explaining the PALs program for you to consider including in your school or parent newsletter.

In order to enhance the PALs program and to better serve parents at the school level, the ESE Department is requesting that each principal identify an ESE Parent Contact for their school who would volunteer to collaborate with the PALs consultants. The ESE Parent Contact would assist with the identification of specific school needs, coordination of parent trainings, and dissemination of information to other ESE parents. This collaboration would ensure continuous support, expand capacity and promote the exchange of ideas and information in order to maintain effective partnerships. Please complete the attached ESE Parent Contact form and return to Marsha Kufel at marsha.kufel@palmbeachschools.org.

If you have any questions, please contact Marsha Kufel, at 904-8180 (PX 88180).

EWG/JA/KOW/JG/MK:jb

Attachments 

Approved by: _____
E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent

The School District of Palm Beach County - Rated "A" by the Florida Department of Education 2005 - 2012
"Home of Florida's first LEED Gold Certified School"
www.palmbeachschools.org

The School District of Palm Beach County is an Equal Education Opportunity Provider and Employer

Need A PAL?

Parents as Liaisons (PALs) are parents of students with disabilities who reside in Palm Beach County. The PALs are contracted consultants with the Department of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) through the Florida Diagnostic & Resources System (FDLRS/Alpha). They have received special training in many areas in order to provide the needed supports to parents and schools.

As parents of children with special needs, the PALs are uniquely able to assist parents and educators in a variety of ways. PALs encourage school/home relationships by facilitating positive proactive communication between families and educators.

PALs can answer questions about:

Your child's education
IEPs and other acronyms
District Policies and Procedures

PALs can provide:

Information on parenting the child with special needs
Information and guidance on how to access educational and community services
Referrals to community, state or federal resources

PALs can attend IEP/504 meetings:

Assisting parents
Assisting schools

Need a PAL?

Call 561-434-8393 or 561-718-2968

Randee Gabriel

ESE Parent School Contact

School _____

Principal _____

Name of Parent	
Address	
Cell Phone	
Home Phone	
Email Address	

Please return this form to Marsha Kufel, FDLRS/Manager

Fax: 561-904-8179, marsha.kufel@palmbeachschools.org