



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT of
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
3330 FOREST HILL BOULEVARD, C-316
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406-5869

Phone: 561-434-8200 Fax: 561-434-8571
www.palmbeachschools.org

E. WAYNE GENT
SUPERINTENDENT

FRANK A. BARBIERI, JR., ESQ.
CHAIRMAN

DEBRA ROBINSON, M.D.
VICE CHAIRMAN

MARCIA ANDREWS
MONROE BENAÏM, M.D.
KAREN BRILL
JENNIFER PRIOR BROWN, ESQ
CHARLES E. SHAW

September 25, 2012

Dear Richard David Kann
Melanoma Foundation,

An Opportunity to Save Lives

This year marks a renewed effort in education, as we recognize the need to solve a hard problem that plagues our young people - skin cancer, especially melanoma. During the first 18 years of a child's life, they are exposed to more sun than they most likely will experience for the rest of their adult lives. This is the time when they are susceptible to burn which increases their risk of developing melanoma. These are also the years when they are the most malleable and the knowledge that we provide will sustain them during adulthood. One person dies from melanoma every 50 minutes, one in every 50 people will be at risk to get melanoma, and Florida is the state with the second highest incidence of melanoma in the country.

The School District of Palm Beach County partners with the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation as we support their development and implementation of a body of work that educates students in grades K-12. These life-saving programs include the SunSmart America™ K-12 curriculum (www.melanomafoundation.com), peer-based Students Against Melanoma (SAM) Clubs in middle and high schools, and the K-12 Melanoma Monday Art Contest in May.

The SunSmart America curriculum contains grade appropriate lessons and activities that have been adapted to meet all FCAT and Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. Students will learn the basics regarding skin cancer, and ***most importantly, the prevention and early detection of a disease that is almost 100% preventable with education!***

I want to thank the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation of Palm Beach County for providing valuable resources and educational materials regarding sun safety education. The Foundation has been an active member of our Wellness Task Force.

Sincerely,

E. Wayne Gent
Superintendent

EWG/JA/KO/LP/ES:du

Palm Beach County Schools - Rated "A" by the Florida Department of Education 2005 – 2011
"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