



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

SECONDARY EDUCATION
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October 21, 2013
Bulletin #HSP-1987-TL/SE

Information Only

Contact:

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TO: High School Principals

FROM: Cheryl C. Alligood, Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: WORLD AIDS DAY VOLUNTARY REMEMBRANCE ACTIVITY *cca*

The first week of December is nationally recognized as **World AIDS Awareness Week**, and December 1st is known as **World AIDS Day**. The Palm Beach County HIV/AIDS Community Planning Partnership (CPP) has requested the School District of Palm Beach County to voluntarily participate in marking this event through the reading of a passage to students and staff. You are invited to read the attached statement on the morning or afternoon announcements during the week of November 25 – December 2, 2013, particularly on the Monday following **World AIDS Day**, December 2, 2013.

The CPP also has AIDS Awareness Ribbon stickers for all high school students. If you would like to distribute these stickers, please contact William Stewart at PX 48974 or William.Stewart@palmbeachschools.org with the number of students at your school and the contact person to whom they shall be delivered.

For more information, please contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) or www.cdc.gov.

EWG/CCA/KO/DF/DF/WS:al
Attachment

Approved: 
E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent



World AIDS Day, December 1, 2013



The following information may be read on the morning or afternoon announcements to recognize **World AIDS Day, December 1, 2013**:

On the occasion of this 26th World AIDS Day, December 1, 2013, Americans are asked to celebrate the enormous progress that has been made in preventing and treating HIV/AIDS and to remember those we have lost to the disease. More than a half million Americans have died from AIDS.

The World Health Organization (WHO) says over 33 million people are living with HIV and AIDS worldwide. Just in the US, over a million people are living with HIV/AIDS, and about one in four don't even know they have it. The statistics are astounding:

- The Miami, FL Region (which includes Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties) ranks **#1 in the country** in the rate of new HIV cases **and** the rate of new AIDS cases.
- Half of all new US infections **occur in youth** under the age of 25.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 56,000 people are infected with the HIV virus each year in the United States. While this is discouraging news, HIV is 100% preventable and **you** can take precautions to protect yourself from becoming infected. You have the power to prevent it.

This year's theme is "Getting to Zero: Zero new infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS related deaths." Show compassion for those who have been infected. It's up to all of us to get the facts about HIV, get tested, and take control to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

For more information, go to www.cdc.gov, www.redcross.org, or www.who.int.