



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

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Bulletin #P-14884-COO/RBM

Contact:

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Action By: August 20, 2014

TO: All Principals

FROM: Michael J. Burke, Chief Operating Officer *MJB*

SUBJECT: ALLIANCE FOR A HEALTHIER GENERATION-HEALTHY SCHOOLS PROGRAM

This is an opportunity to participate in an exciting program that is available to help your school address the childhood obesity crisis and support our District's wellness efforts. Nearly 25 million young people in the United States are either obese or overweight, putting this generation at risk of being the first in American history to live shorter lives than their parents. This also increases the likelihood of suffering from illnesses, such as type 2 diabetes and asthma, social problems, and miss more school than their average-weight peers.

We know the power schools have to shape the lifelong health and well-being of children and adolescents. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation recognizes this, and has created the Healthy Schools Program to help provide tools, resources, and support to schools in the areas of nutrition, physical activity, and staff wellness. The Alliance for a Healthier Generation was founded by the American Heart Association and the Clinton Foundation and is supported with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

All schools in Palm Beach County are able to participate in the Healthy Schools Program and can receive personalized hands-on technical assistance at **no cost**. Participation in the Healthy Schools Program is funded by a national foundation looking to make schools a healthier environment. This is an excellent way to jump-start/complement other ongoing efforts surrounding the implementation of the District wellness policy and to be recognized for our efforts.

Currently, 33 Schools have participated in the Healthy Schools Program; 8 of these schools have received National Recognition. Hagen Road Elementary was the first school in the District to achieve **Silver-Level** Recognition in 2010.

<i>Allamanda ES</i>	<i>Forest Hill Community HS</i>	<i>Meadow Park ES</i>
<i>Atlantic HS</i>	<i>Forest Hill ES**</i>	<i>Odyssey MS</i>
<i>Banyan Creek ES*</i>	<i>Gove ES</i>	<i>Orchard View Community ES</i>
<i>Benoist Farms ES</i>	<i>Hagen Road ES *</i>	<i>Palm Springs MS</i>
<i>Berkshire ES *</i>	<i>Heritage ES</i>	<i>Pierce Hammock ES</i>
<i>Boca Raton HS</i>	<i>Hope Centennial ES</i>	<i>Pine Grove ES</i>
<i>CO Taylor/Kirklane ES</i>	<i>Jeaga MS</i>	<i>Pine Jog ES</i>
<i>Carver MS</i>	<i>John I. Leonard HS</i>	<i>Plumosa ES</i>
<i>Crosspointe ES *</i>	<i>Lake Shore MS</i>	<i>Santaluces HS</i>
<i>Equestrian Trails ES</i>	<i>Manatee ES *</i>	<i>South Olive ES *</i>
<i>Everglades ES *</i>	<i>Meadow Park ES</i>	<i>Starlight Cove ES</i>

* Received national recognition

** Received both the Silver and Bronze Award


Here are a few things the Healthy Schools Program has to offer its member schools:

- **National Recognition** to help celebrate small victories and big successes
- **Professional Development** to build leadership competencies and implement purposeful action
- **Customized Support** to help create a healthier school environment through a liaison available by phone, email, and face-to-face (if possible)
- **Implementation Support and Tools** that are robust and informative to help schools achieve lasting change
- **Networking Opportunities** with schools across the country on the quest for a healthier school
- **A Resource Database** that includes quality resources and grant opportunities to suit every school's work to implement healthy changes that promotes physical activity and healthy eating

The Healthy Schools Program recognizes that each of our schools is unique and faces different challenges on their paths to greatness, which is why the support provided by the Alliance is customized to propel each school to success. We hope you will choose to participate and join the other schools in our District, as we work together to make our schools a healthier place to learn. If you decide to join, please contact Cindy Hughes, Healthy Schools Program Manager for the Alliance for a Healthier Generation at Cindy.Hughes@healthiergeneration.org, or 954-647-5110. Your school will need to sign a Memorandum of Understanding by August 20, 2014, and designate a school wellness champion who will attend the first technical assistance training session that will be scheduled in September. For additional details, visit their website at HealthierGeneration.org.

EWG/MJB/DH/KS:lb/ac

Approved: _____


E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent