

**COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FOR HEALTHY STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**

**A. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:** THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY BELIEVES THAT SCHOOLS SHOULD SERVE AS COMMUNITY RESOURCES TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO HEALTH, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR FAMILIES THROUGH COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIPS. ALL SCHOOLS SHALL PROVIDE INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES (Level I) AND SCHOOLS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COOPERATE WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROVIDERS TO COORDINATE RESOURCES AND LINKAGES TO SERVICES AND TO ALLOW CO-LOCATION OF SERVICES AS APPROPRIATE (Levels II and III).

THE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL THEREFORE ESTABLISH A PROCESS THAT RESULTS IN COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH AGENCIES TO ADDRESS NEEDS DEFINED BY COMMUNITIES.

POLICY ADOPTED: 8/15/95  
POLICY AMENDED: 12/21/04

**1. RULES**

Guidelines for establishing a process in order to implement the Community Initiatives for Healthy Students and Families philosophy shall meet the following guidelines.

- a. The process shall determine, through an assessment of community needs, the level of service at each school (Level I, II, or III) and which community needs can be addressed through cooperative relationships between service providers.
- b. The process shall include provision for a District Oversight Committee with internal and external representation.
- c. The process shall include provision for schools to establish Oversight Committees. The committees shall include school personnel, community members and agency representation as appropriate to the level of services provided at the school site.
- d. The process shall provide for the encouragement of schools cooperating with other schools within Innovation Zones with the goal of having at least one Level III school within each zone.
- e. The process shall include evaluation of the District's effort to facilitate service provision and procedures to monitor District progress.

**2. DEFINITIONS**

- a. **Level I** - Schools designated as Level I will provide information about social, health, educational and economic services available to parents in the district, area, zone and community. Coordination of family support and neighborhood activities are the primary functions performed directly. Level I schools will also provide referral of individuals and families to appropriate community resources through a direct link with Level II, Level III schools, and other community providers within the zone. The school Oversight Committee will monitor progress toward provision of information and referral services.
- b. **Level II** - Schools designated as Level II schools can provide, in addition to information and referral, additional health, social, economic or other community-identified services which meet the needs of service consumers through cooperative agreements and other

relationships with service providers. Limited core services are provided on site. Level II schools maintain close relationships with Level III schools within the zone and other community service providers to ensure coordination of service delivery. The Oversight Committee will monitor progress in identification and coordination of services.

- c. **Level III** - Schools designated as Level III will provide a full range of health, social, educational and support services to families according to needs identified within the community through cooperative agreements with service providers. Although there is some expected variation in the precise services to be provided on site depending upon community need, a basic core of services will be available to community members. Each Level III Oversight Committee will maintain a menu of comprehensive services, identify those appropriate to the community, and monitor coordination of services.

**B. STUDENT SUPPORT SYSTEMS: STUDENTS WHO HAVE GOOD PHYSICAL HEALTH ARE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE SUCCESSFUL EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR STUDENTS' PHYSICAL HEALTH IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY AMONG PARENTS, THE STUDENTS THEMSELVES, THE COMMUNITY AND THE SCHOOLS, AND THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY HEALTH/HOSPITAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE RESPONSIBILITY ENCOMPASSES EDUCATION AND PREVENTION AS WELL AS INTERVENTION. FAMILIES PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE PHYSICAL HEALTH OF STUDENTS. THE PHYSICAL HEALTH OF STUDENTS IS LIKELY TO BE ENHANCED WHEN THE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS WHICH PROVIDE AND/OR ADVOCATE FOR PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS COMMUNICATE AND COLLABORATE. STUDENTS' HEALTH IS ALSO ENHANCED WHEN MAJOR COMMUNITY HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS OFFER SERVICES THAT LINK TO AND COMPLEMENT SCHOOL-BASED INITIATIVES. THE SCHOOL BOARD'S GOAL IS TO MAINTAIN AND, WHEN POSSIBLE, EXPAND SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS.**

IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY AND PROMOTE COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES THAT COMPLEMENT SCHOOL-BASED INITIATIVES, THE DISTRICT WILL CONVENE THE **COMMUNITY INITIATIVES FOR HEALTHY STUDENTS AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE**. THIS COMMITTEE WILL INCLUDE UPPER-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES FROM MAJOR ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY HEALTH, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE HOSPITAL DISTRICTS, THE BROWARD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE HEALTH ACCESS COMMITTEE OF THE COORDINATING COUNCIL OF BROWARD. THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMITTEE WILL BE TO REVIEW SCHOOL-BASED INITIATIVES AND DETERMINE IF THERE ARE RELEVANT COMMUNITY LINKAGES OR RESOURCES THAT CAN BE USED TO ENHANCE THE SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH INITIATIVES.

- I. The school district will establish and maintain an infrastructure for school-based health initiatives that promotes parent and community involvement in health-related issues. The infrastructure will include:
  - A. **A standing committee that will address issues related to students' health and fitness.**
    - (1) This committee will be coordinated by the Core Curriculum Department and will include parent, principal, student, teacher and community representatives as well as a representative of the Broward County Comprehensive School Health Advisory Committee (BCCSHAC).

- (2) Any policies proposed by the standing committee will be “looped” through the standard school and parent organizations prior to presentation to the School Board.
- B. A **standing committee that will address issues related to food and nutrition.**
- (1) This committee will be coordinated by the Food and Nutrition Services Department and will include parent, principal, student, teacher and community representatives as well as a representative of BCCSHAC.
- (2) Any policies proposed by the standing committee will be “looped” through the standard school and parent organizations prior to presentation to the School Board.
- C. The **Broward County Comprehensive School Health Advisory Committee** that, in accordance with Florida Statute 381.0056, will collaborate with the Broward County Health Department and the school district in the development of the School Health Services Plan that is mandated by the School Health Services Act. BCCSHAC will address the state-designated components of the School Health Services Plan such as health screenings, medication administration procedures, immunizations, etc. The School Health Services Plan will be submitted to the School Board for approval.
- II. The Health Education Services Department will annually compile and submit to the School Board a status report for the Community Initiatives for Healthy Students and Families.

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