



"Together We
Touch Lives
Forever"

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We are off to an exciting start to this school year and our teachers and staff are so eager to have our students back at school learning new skills. This month we are thrilled to welcome all parents to Open House on Thursday, September 29th at 6:00pm. It is a night to engage with our families and provide parents a lens into the classroom.

Students are well into their first progress monitoring assessment. This year, standardized testing has been moved from the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) to the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST). The FAST will be administered in September, December, and May. This progress monitoring tool will assess students' growth in reading and math three times throughout the school year.

Remember that our school mission is to challenge students to achieve in academics and behavior. Therefore, students are monitored based on behavior and academic goals that are discussed with their teachers, behavior technicians, and our behavior specialist.

Educationally Yours,

Dr. Henry L. Brown, III

BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOLS DISCLAIMER

The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

9/13– Interim Reports	
9/26– No School	
10/5– No School	
10/6– Open House @ 6pm	



"Diversity is the mix. Inclusion is making the mix work."- Andre Topia

Parent's Corner

We invite all parents to join our School Advisory Council (SAC) and our School Advisory Forum (SAF). It is not too late to join. The next meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2022. We look forward to seeing you soon.



ELA Curriculum Updates

CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN ELA

- Pine Ridge increased by **28%** in reading during the 2021-2022 school year.

FACTS ABOUT THE F.A.S.T. ASSESSMENT

- On September 14, 2021, Governor DeSantis announced that the state will file Legislation to eliminate the common-core based, end-of-year Florida Statewide Assessment and create the new Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.).
- Florida is becoming the first state in the nation to fully implement progress monitoring instead of end-of-year standardized testing and will fully eliminate Common Core.
- F.A.S.T. ASSESSMENT aligns with the Florida B.E.S.T. standards
- Hours rather than days to administer
- 3 opportunities to check-in on growth
- 75% less testing time = more time for learning
- Informs teachers so they can better help students
- Customizable, unique to each student
- Timely data during the school year



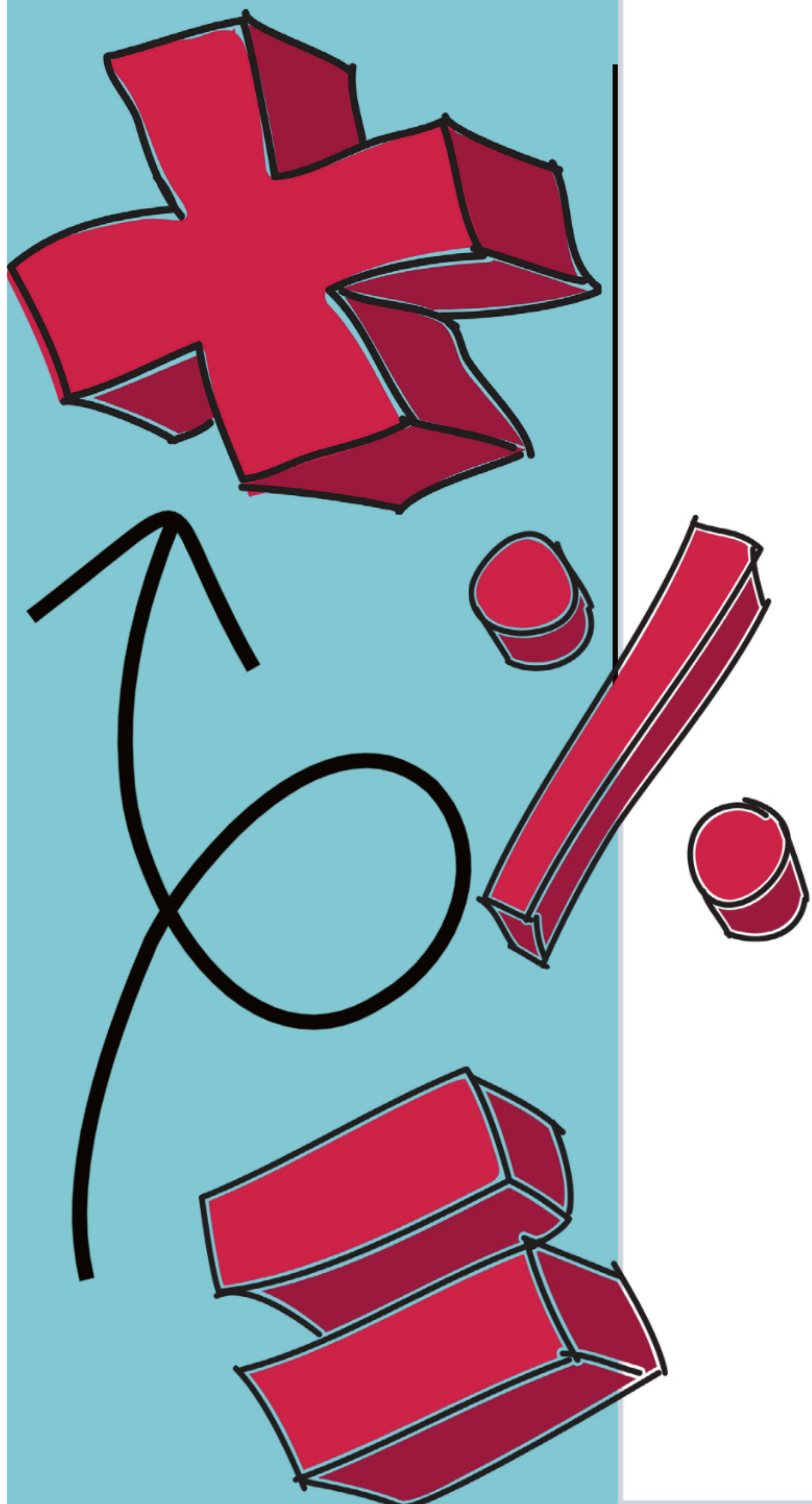


"MEN OF PINE RIDGE"

The purpose of the Men's Group is to provide professional, social, and emotional support to the males of Pine Ridge. We have monthly meetings and topics with planned outings and outreach opportunities.

Math Curriculum Updates

Congratulations!!! Pine Ridge!! The Math Department is proud to announce that the hard work and dedication put forth towards math made a great impact to the "MAINTAINING" rating that was earned for the 2021-22 school year. Maintaining means 33% of our math students scored Level 3 or higher. For the 2022-23 school year, we have set a goal to earn a "COMMENDABLE" school rating. That goal can be attained if 50% or more of math students score level 3 or higher. With our theme being "Together We Touch Lives Forever", a partnership among the faculty, staff, students, and community, lives will be touched, and we will meet our goal to be commended on a job well done! Therefore, we need the help of every stakeholder. We invite you to support our efforts by making sure your child completes his/her homework and returns it daily.



Counselor's Corner

Parents and Families, we welcome you to a new year! Our school theme for the 2022-2023 school year is all about sticking together. Our mental health team is here to let you know that you are NEVER alone, and we are always here to help! In the "Counselor's Corner" area of our newsletter, you can expect to find tidbits of advice to help support you and your family's connections, and overall mental health. This year at Pine Ridge Education Center, we long to inspire and maintain hope. As long as we have hope, we know that there are possibilities for positive change to occur. Here are some pointers for how to uphold a hopeful perspective:

- * Shift from negative to positive talk -- rather than getting stuck on the problem, or what is "wrong," talk more about what could be, or what things would look like if they were going "right."
- * Identify strengths -- everyone has them. Find out what they are and amplify!
- * Exaggerate positivity - when things are going well, ask about how that was able to happen.
- * Use reflection -- ask about what went well today or this week. Or, ask about what was difficult, and how they were able to overcome it.

WE
STICK
TOGETHER



Counseling Department

- Mrs. Alfaro - ESE Family Counselor
- Ms. Augustin - Family Therapist
- Dr. Blair - Family Therapist
- Mrs. Mogul - School Guidance Counselor
- Ms. Espejo - School Social Worker
- Mr. Petit-Clair - School Social Worker

If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our front office at 754-321-7250, and ask for any of our mental health team members!

ESE Corner

Pine Ridge Education Center is happy to report that we currently have 14 students enrolled who receive some type of Special Education Services and our numbers are gradually increasing. We are working hard to make sure the students are receiving services appropriately. For the month of September our ESE Goal as a staff is to improve our understanding of How to effectively utilize and implement strategies from an FBA/PBIP to increase positive behaviors!

Our ESE Department consists of:
Mrs. Brenda Rudolph-Brown- ESE Specialists
Ms. Jackie Williams- ESE Support Facilitator

Character Trait of the Month: September
Cooperation

- listening to each other without interrupting.
- encouraging others to join in.
- willing to hear and accept the ideas of others.
- willing to change roles in a group; may be a leader sometimes and a follower at other times.
- recognizing the skills and strengths of others.

National Suicide Month

National Suicide Prevention Week is an annual week-long campaign in the United States to inform and engage health professionals and the general public about suicide prevention and warning signs of suicide.

The Yellow Ribbon Program is based on the premise that suicide is not just about death, but rather about ending pain and that it's OK to ask for help. Yellow Ribbon cards are distributed and carried as a simple, effective tool to use to ask for help when feelings of suicide arise.

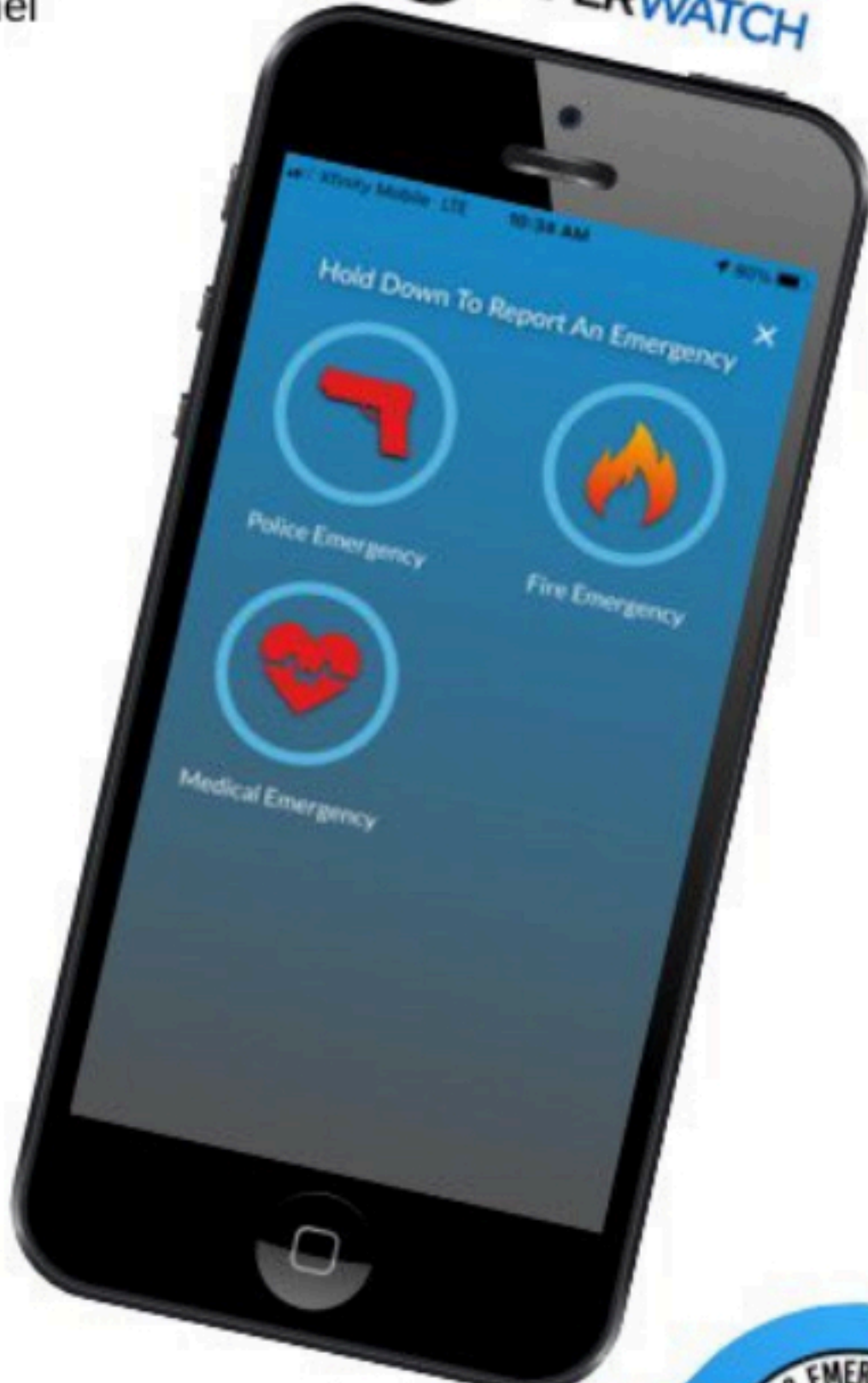


“There is hope, even when your brain tells you there isn’t.” John Green



Mobile Duress Alert App

Alyssa's Alert is a mobile duress alert application that empowers staff members to immediately notify first responders in the event of an emergency. Receive potentially life-saving aid with the push of a button.



Get Help Instantly

Upon activation*, local first responders & District personnel receive an immediate notification of the emergency.

Easy to Use

Select one of the three buttons (shown right) to activate Alyssa's Alert. Assistance will immediately be dispatched to your location.**

Stay Connected

Administrators will be able to push important updates regarding an emergency situation to anyone who has downloaded Alyssa's Alert.

*Duress buttons can only be activated while physically on school property.
**ONLY first responders may access location information upon button activation. Under no other circumstances is location information accessible.

DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW



Visit Learning Across Broward and search for "Alyssa's Alert" under the "Courses" tab to learn more about using Alyssa's Alert in the event of an emergency.

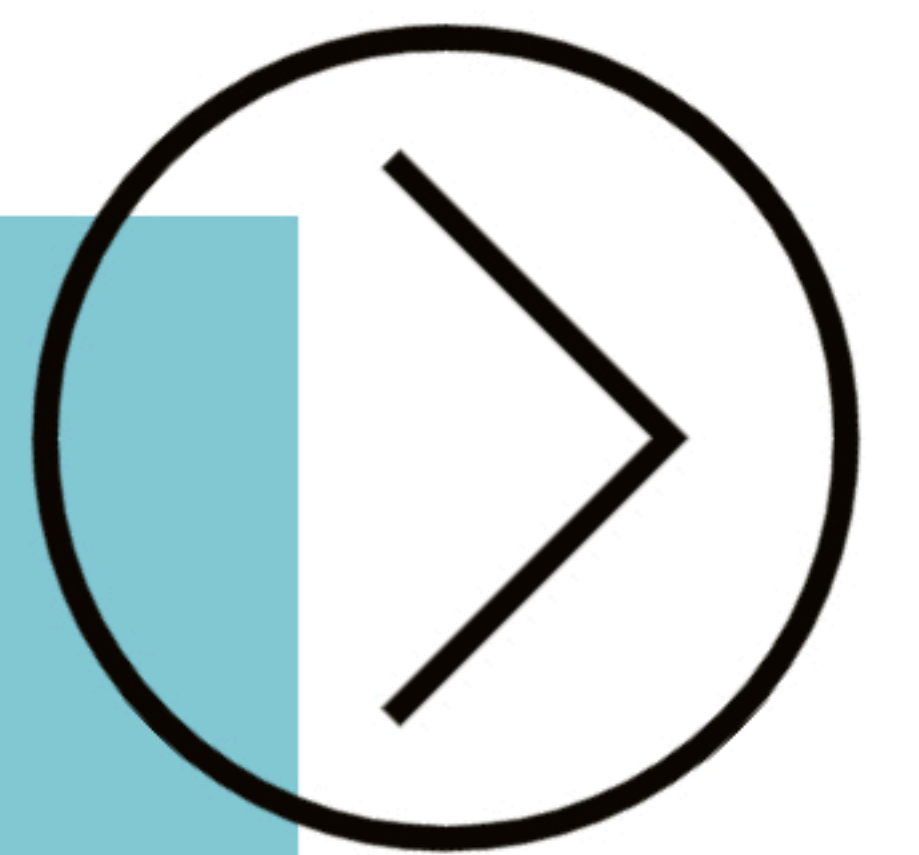
ALYSSA'S ALERT

During the 2020 Legislative Session, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 70, and Governor Ron DeSantis signed it into law to provide an extra layer of protection in Florida's schools. The Legislature allocated \$6.4 million in recurring state funds to ensure every Florida public school has this critical life-saving tool.

In accordance with Section (s.) 1006.07(4), Florida Statutes (F.S.), all Florida public schools, including charters, must implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responder agencies beginning with the 2021-2022 school year. Such system, known as "Alyssa's Alert," must integrate with local public safety answering point infrastructure to transmit 911 calls and mobile activations.



“A team’s collective belief must be greater than all the adversity and negativity they face. It only takes one person who doesn’t believe to hurt the team”



Pine Ridge Education Center is a school where second chances are given. We’re the only Alternative Center for grades K-6; we also house the Promise Program (K-12), The R.I.S.E Program (7), and the AES Program (K-6). Even though we are an alternative center, we have high expectations for our students as it relates to academics and behavior. Our curriculum is the same as every other elementary school in the District , but we do implement the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) standards through our Life Skills class. We teach our students if no one else believes in them, they have to believe in themselves first.



September 11th, 2001 is a day in history that we the United States will never forget. “Gone but never forgotten.”