



Information Update

Broward County Public Schools PROMISE Program Update – June 2019

Following is a summary of significant changes made to the PROMISE program resulting from discussions held by the School Board of Broward County on February 26, 2019, and on June 11, 2019, regarding Policies 5006, Suspension and Expulsion and 5.8, Code of Student Conduct. These changes are in response to Florida statute, including the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, the Policy of Zero Tolerance for Crime and Victimization, and the recommendations from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission.

- The PROMISE eligible incidents have been revised to align with incidents that are classified as misdemeanors.
- The PROMISE program is only eligible to students of at least 11 years of age and/or enrolled in a District 6-12 school program. Students in grades K-5 will receive age appropriate disciplinary consequences as outlined in the primary Discipline Matrix.
- PROMISE incidents for said students shall accrue through 12th grade with a maximum of three referral assignments to the program.
- Pursuant to F.S. 1006.13, Zero Tolerance for Crime and Victimization, any student committing more than one misdemeanor must be referred to the Threat Assessment Team, which includes law enforcement, to determine if the act should be reported to law enforcement for further action.
- Additionally, a student who has accrued three cumulative PROMISE eligible incidents shall be referred to a community youth support diversion program, and to the District's Behavior Intervention Committee, as appropriate.
- PROMISE incidents are recorded in the District's Discipline Management System.
- The PROMISE program does not limit the discretion of law enforcement as outlined in the Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline. For eligible incidents/violations: if the parent/student refuses the PROMISE program assignment as outlined in the Discipline Matrix, then the student shall be referred to the Juvenile Justice System of Care. Should the parent/student still refuse to participate in the PROMISE program assignment as outlined in the Discipline Matrix, the child shall be referred to the State Attorney's Office.
- Through the Chief of Safety, Security & Emergency Preparedness, the District is collaborating with law enforcement and the Department of Juvenile Justice to develop a dually shared information system.

The District is committed to continuous improvement of youth serving programs, and ensuring fidelity of implementation and compliance with reporting requirements. It is for this reason that we have engaged in auditing school and District disciplinary processes and reporting, which include the PROMISE program.

We will continue to make the community aware of changes in the PROMISE program and welcome input from internal and external stakeholders, as we strive to serve the children of Broward County through a lens inclusive of youth social-emotional development and equity.

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