



THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Lauderdale Manors Early Learning & Family Resource Center 1400 NW 14 Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33311 • Office: 754-321-1660

STUDENT SUPPORT INITIATIVES
MICHAELLE VALBRUN-POPE
CHIEF STUDENT SUPPORT INITIATIVES OFFICER
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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey provides school districts, and other youth service agencies, first-hand information on sexual influences and experiences of young people in middle and high school. The data from that survey drives our commitment and guides our work towards providing comprehensive sexual health education and programs. Broward County Public Schools' (BCPS) goal is to ensure the health of our students by helping them understand and make informed decisions about relationships, sexuality and sexual behavior.

BCPS, in conjunction with community partners, is proud to offer voluntary and confidential sexual health consultations for high school students. As part of these consultations, students will have the option to be screened for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and tested for HIV. The screenings are provided under the direction of a licensed clinician. These screenings may be offered at BCPS high schools throughout the school year.

Florida statutes 381.004 and 384.30 state that students may consent to and receive sexual health services without parental consent. Florida statutes also state that all test results are strictly confidential and are only given to the student, not the parent or guardian.

Below is an outline of the sexual health screening procedure:

1. Students view a brief video detailing the screening procedures.
2. If students wish to participate in sexual health screenings, they will indicate their interest to BCPS staff representatives from Student Support Initiatives (SSI).
3. Students will have a one-on-one consultation with a trained sexual health counselor that may include screening for HIV and/or STIs. Testing procedures consist of a urine sample, finger prick, oral swab, and/or blood draw. Students may elect to participate in all, some, or no aspects of the screenings/testing.
4. No results are delivered to students on the day of initial consultations.
5. Within a month, BCPS staff and community partners will return to deliver results and post-test counseling to students.
 - If test results indicate a student has HIV or any STI, the student will be contacted by the Florida Department of Health in Broward County (DOH-Broward), who can provide linkage to free and confidential treatment and care. If DOH-Broward is unable to contact the student, the student may return to the testing location on the high school campus the following month to receive their results, and be linked to free and confidential treatment options.
 - If DOH-Broward is unable to contact the student, DOH-Broward may go to the address provided by the student to inform the student of their results.

If you have any questions, please contact **Dr. Dominic Grasso, Instructional Facilitator, Equity & Academic Attainment** at **754-321-1632**.

Sincerely,

Michaelle Valbrun-Pope
Chief Student Support Initiatives Officer

MVP/DW/DG:jw

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Broward County, Florida**

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