



News Release

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DATE: March 13, 2015

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More than 4,500 Students Participate in the Above the Influence March and Rally

Today, March 13, 2015, more than 4,500 students, ranging from elementary through high school, united together to walk from Pompano Beach Middle School to Pompano Beach High School in the third annual Above the Influence March and Rally. The event started at Pompano Beach Middle where students gathered to support their decision to live above the influence, standing up to negative pressures, such as drug and alcohol usage, as well as other influences with negative impacts.

The festivities included marching bands, cheerleaders, drill teams and other student organizations from across the District.

In addition, this year's event included a balloon release. Students from local schools including Northeast High School, Mirror Lake Elementary School, Apollo Middle School and J.P. Taravella High School, selected the No Place for Hate message for the special project. Students set the balloons free as a symbol of their commitment to releasing all forms of hate.

Once reaching Pompano Beach High, students re-affirmed their decision as a symbol to make positive choices and enjoyed student performances.

For more information about this project, contact Amalio Nieves, Director of Diversity, Prevention & Intervention, 754-321-2568 or email amalio.nieves@browardschools.com.



Pictured: Cheerleaders from Margate Middle School march to Pompano Beach High School.



Pictured: Students working on the No Place for Hate project release balloons to urge students to let go of hate.



Pictured: Students from Watkins Elementary School walk with signs showing they are above the influence.



Pictured: Students from Blanche Ely High School show their support in making decisions above the influence.

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ABOUT BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is the sixth largest public school system in the United States and the second largest in the state of Florida. BCPS is Florida's first fully accredited school system since 1962. BCPS has over 260,000 students and approximately 175,000 adult students in 238 schools, centers and technical colleges, and 99 charter schools. BCPS serves a diverse student population. Students are from 204 different countries and speak 135 different languages. For more information about BCPS, visit browardschools.com, follow us on Twitter [@Browardschools](https://twitter.com/Browardschools), like us on Facebook at facebook.com/browardschools, and download the free BCPS mobile app.