

September 29, 2023

Dear Parents:

The State of Florida and the Department of Education have identified mental and emotional health education as a priority for the 2023-2024 school year, and passed Rule 6A-1.094124, F.A.C., which requires that all students in grades 6-12 receive five hours of instruction in **Resiliency Education: Civic and Character Education and Life Skills Education** each year. The components of the instruction include the following:

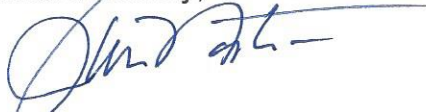
- Strategies specific to demonstrating resiliency through adversity, including the benefits of service to the community through volunteerism;
- Strategies to develop healthy characteristics that reinforce positive core values and foster resiliency such as:
 - Empathy, perseverance, grit, gratitude and responsibility;
 - Critical thinking, problem solving and responsible decision making;
 - Self-awareness and self-management;
 - Mentorship and citizenship; and
 - Honesty.

In addition to mental and emotional health education, the State of Florida and the Department of Education enacted the following:

- Rule 6A-1.094122, F.A.C. requires students in grades K-12 to annually receive substance use and abuse education; and
- Rule 6A-1.094123, F.A.C. requires students in grades K-12 to annually receive child trafficking prevention education.

This curriculum will follow health education standards and student performance standards, and will advance each year through developmentally appropriate instruction. Should you have any questions regarding this instruction please contact Joni Mock, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services at 850-229-6940.

Most sincerely,



Jim Norton, Superintendent