



Vision:
100% Student Success

Mission:
"Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life."

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Executive Summary

The Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool serves as a guide for school districts to analyze all aspects of health and safety in the district. In Pinellas, the survey is completed annually by a team of district personnel from departments such as Schools Police, Transportation, Food Services, Maintenance, Student Services, and the office of Safety and Security. The survey examines how well the district has implemented health and safety programs and procedures in the following seven categories:

1. Effective and Efficient Operations
2. Health and Safety Planning
3. Discipline Policies and Student Code of Conduct
4. School Climate and Community Outreach
5. Safety Programs and Curricula
6. Facilities and Equipment
7. Transportation

As a school district, Pinellas meets or exceeds the best practices thresholds in all seven categories. The results of the assessment survey indicate Pinellas has well-rounded and robust health and safety programs and procedures in place. Of particular note are the following survey items which have been strengthened over the past year:

- The District Safety and Security Council (DSSC) has updated its guiding principles to align with current issues in school safety and security. In addition, the DSSC has brought consistency to district guidelines for physical security features at all schools and members of the DSSC work closely with the district facilities department to ensure new construction meets Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles as indicated in the survey.
- District personnel annually review all school emergency plans to ensure plans meet the unique needs of each campus. All new school administrators and aspiring administrators are provided in person training on the use and application of the district developed Safety and Security Self-Assessment. This training includes information on how to use the results of the self-assessment as a guide to developing an emergency plan that is aligned to the unique needs of each campus.
- The district Student Code of Conduct now includes a discipline chart for administrators to refer to when dealing with student behavior.
- Schools Police continues to work with local law enforcement agencies and continues to train all administrators in the Collaborative Agreement which has worked to reduce arrests by 37 % since the inception of the program in 2012.

In closing, the district understands that we cannot practice for every health and safety situation which may arise but we can be prepared for any emergency through planning, prevention, and training. This survey reinforces that belief while providing assurance that the district is employing best practices to ensure the health and safety of our students, employees, and visitors.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
301 Fourth St. SW
P.O. Box 2942
Largo, FL 33779-2942
Ph. (727) 588-6000

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