



# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

*giving our students the world*

## **Superintendent of Schools**

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has long prioritized the social, emotional and mental well-being of students. As per guidelines established by the state legislature and M-DCPS School Board Policy 2410, the district provides various mental health services to support students. In particular, the Department of Mental Health Services was established in July 2018 to enhance the coordination of school and community resources, as well as to deliver evidence-based mental health services, which includes prevention and support to our students.

School-based mental health professionals support all district K-12 schools. Our district has a number of school-based mental health professionals who are uniquely trained to support our students. These professionals include school counselors, TRUST counselors, EBD Clinicians, social workers, psychologists, Student Services Support Specialists, and Mental Health Coordinators. The district also utilizes outside resources to provide an additional layer of support. Through a referral process, this includes community agencies who offer more specialized support for students based on their specific needs.

School-based mental health professionals provide counseling and services which enhance mental wellness and support students' personal and social development as well as address barriers that impede student success.

These services include the following:

### Targeted Interventions

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Family Counseling
- Mental Health Assessment (non-emergency)
- Referrals to contracted agencies and other community mental health services, as needed

### Intensive Interventions

- Individual Counseling
- Collaboration and Coordination of Services
- Wraparound Collaboration and Support
- Risk Assessments, as needed

When a school based mental health professional initiates service or there is a change in service for your child, you will be notified by school personnel at which point you can withhold consent or decline the specific service. In addition, the district will continue to provide emergency health services to students when necessary.

If you have any questions about the services or support your child is receiving, please contact the school. If you have any concerns about your child's mental health, please contact the Parent Mental Health Assistance Line at (305) 995-7100.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alina M. Diaz-Blanco  
Principal