



Information Update

March 2, 2018

Statement Regarding Broward County Public Schools PROMISE Program and Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) takes all matters involving student safety seriously. In response to recent media reports, the following information is provided regarding the District's PROMISE (Preventing Recidivism through Opportunities, Mentoring, Interventions, Support and Education) program and school discipline reform efforts for **non-violent offenses**.

Please note, contrary to media reports, the District has no record of Nikolas Cruz committing a PROMISE eligible infraction or being assigned to PROMISE while in high school.

The PROMISE program is a BCPS disciplinary initiative that emphasizes intervention and prevention. Through the PROMISE program, students receive behavioral supports, counseling and mentoring in an environment focused on helping them make better choices.

PROMISE provides:

- **Extended behavioral supports**
- **System for addressing victims' rights as part of a restorative justice process**
- **Referrals to the juvenile justice system for students and families who do not comply with and complete the PROMISE program**

There are specific guidelines and School Board policies regarding the **non-violent, misdemeanor types of infractions** that are eligible for the PROMISE program. Weapons infractions are among the offenses **not** eligible for the PROMISE program.

The District's [Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline](#) establishes guidelines and processes for handling **non-violent, misdemeanor offenses** on school campuses to eliminate the school to prison pipeline. It outlines for school personnel when it is necessary to involve law enforcement and when **non-violent offenses** can be handled through school resources and programs, such as the PROMISE program.

The District partnered with numerous agencies and community leaders to develop the Collaborative Agreement on School Discipline. Among the District's partners: local law enforcement, Division of Juvenile Justice, NAACP, The Advancement Project, Public Defenders Office, State Attorney's Office, State Representatives, Juvenile Court System, Teachers Union, Children's Services Council, local universities, parent affiliate groups, district advisory groups and others.

The District's position with the PROMISE program and school discipline reform efforts, in partnership with local law enforcement, has always been explicitly clear – that there is no intent to limit or tie the hands of law enforcement in doing their jobs in addressing school safety.

Additional information on [eliminating the school to prison pipeline](#).

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ABOUT BROWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"Committed to educating all students to reach their highest potential." Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is the sixth largest school district in the nation and the second largest in the state of Florida. BCPS is Florida's first fully accredited school system since 1962. BCPS has over 271,500 students and approximately 175,000 adult students in 234 schools, centers and technical colleges, and 93 charter schools. BCPS serves a diverse student population, with students representing 204 different countries and 191 different languages. To learn more, visit browardschools.com. Follow BCPS on Twitter @browardschools and Facebook at facebook.com/browardschools, and download the free BCPS mobile app.