



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
STUDENT INTERVENTION SERVICES
2936 Lone Pine Road
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Ph: 561-366-6940 Fax: 561-366-6961
www.palmbeachschools.org

KIM C. WILLIAMS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR


KEITH OSWALD
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

September 29, 2011
Bulletin#P-13991-SCLE/SIS

Contact Person:
Susan Knight: PX 76945

**ACTION BY:
Information Only**

TO: All Principals

FROM: Judith Klinek, Chief Academic Officer 

**SUBJECT: CHARACTER EDUCATION: SUN SENTINEL CHARACTER COUNTS!
STUDENT RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

The Florida State Legislature requires that all public schools offer character education in all grades (Section 233.061, Florida Statutes).

This is the eighth year that the School District is partnering with the *Sun Sentinel* to recognize and support students who demonstrate exemplary character. Each month, classroom teachers, guidance counselors, afterschool staff and/or other school staff select students who best exemplify good character. Each of these students receives a *free* certificate and recognition from their school. From these honorees, the school chooses one student per month to receive the school's *Sun Sentinel Character Counts! Award*, which includes a *Sun Sentinel Character Counts! plaque and certificate*. Each participating school receives **one free** plaque per month. In May 2012, the *Sun Sentinel* will publish a special Sunday Character Counts! article highlighting students recognized throughout the school year.

In order to participate, your school must complete the attached *Sun Sentinel Character Counts! School Participation Request Form*. Detailed instructions are included. Student Intervention Services in the Division of Safety, Culture, and Learning Environment will assist you in the required development and implementation of your Character Education efforts. We encourage all schools to participate in the 2011-12 Character Counts! Student Recognition Program.

WFM:JK:KO:KCW:slk:cy

Attachments

Approved:



William F. Malone, Superintendent



Sun Sentinel Character Counts! Program Instructions



We encourage all schools to participate in the 2011-12 Awards Program.

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1. Complete the *Sun Sentinel Character Counts! School Participation Request Form*. Select a *Sun Sentinel Character Counts!* designee, who may be your Character Education Contact.
2. Fax the completed Participation Request Form to 366-6961/PX76961. Or pony mail the document to Susan Knight, Student Intervention Services, Old DD Eisenhower Elementary.
3. Each month, classroom teachers, guidance staff, after school staff or administrators select one student from each class who best exemplifies one or more of the six character traits: *Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Fairness and Citizenship*. Each of these students receives a *Sun Sentinel* certificate. Schools are asked to mention these students' names on the morning broadcast and on Edline; list them in the school newsletter along with the *Sun Sentinel Character Counts!* logo, and/or distribute the certificates at an awards assembly, parent assembly or open house.
4. **From these honorees, ONE student per month is chosen** to receive the school's *Sun Sentinel Character Counts!* plaque. **ALL CERTIFICATES AND PLAQUES ARE FREE. One free plaque is available to each school each month from Edco.** Schools order plaques online at www.edco.com (scroll down main page to bottom right and click on the CC! Logo). Monthly honorees should also receive acknowledgement via morning broadcasts and/or assemblies, a profile in the school newsletter, and their photo displayed on a *Sun Sentinel Character Counts!* School Bulletin Board to be prominently placed in a centralized high visibility location. A Character Committee, the Character Education Contact, student leadership groups, or other existing school committees may select the monthly honorees.
5. The Character Counts! designee may offer submissions through the year for students to be recognized in the paper's Community News and Society sections and online site. A Student Appearance Release Form is attached.
6. The *Sun Sentinel Character Counts!* logo should be prominently included in all related printed material, including, but not limited to, back pack flyers and school newsletter articles. Schools are asked to prominently display the *Sun Sentinel* "Partners in Education" poster that is provided by the paper.
7. If you have any questions regarding this program, contact Susan Knight at knight@palmbeachschools.org or by telephone at 366-6945 or PX 76945.

Thank you for participating in this FREE Student Recognition Program!



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Sun Sentinel Character Counts! Newspaper Appearance Release 2011-12

Student Name: _____
(Print student name)

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Date: _____

Program Announcement: Sun Sentinel Character Counts! in Palm Beach County

The undersigned does fully realize that he/she may appear in newspaper, print, video or electronic production of the above account. Programs or announcements for the aforementioned account may be used in newspaper on an unlimited or unrestricted basis.

The undersigned does further realize that he/she will receive no compensation for this appearance. At no time will *Sun Sentinel* be in any way responsible for the liability arising from such appearance or statement or both.

The undersigned further acknowledges that Consent and General Release has been read and understood and that he/she is eighteen (18) years or older.

In witness thereof, the undersigned has affixed his/her signature:

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

If the above is not of legal age, this release is hereby signed by:

Parent or Guardian _____
(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

Parent or Guardian Printed Name _____

Who is the _____ of said person.
(Relationship to student)

Home Telephone Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Witnessed for the *Sun Sentinel* by:

(School Character Coach/Teacher Signature and Title) Date: _____

(Printed name and title)



Sun Sentinel Character Counts! Student Recognition Program



School Participation Request Form for 2011-12

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School Name: _____

Principal Signature: _____

Printed Name of Character Education Contact: _____

Email Address for Contact: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Certificates

Certificates can be obtained in one of the two following ways:

1. Order on-line from EDCCO at www.edco.com OR
2. Contact Susan Knight at knight@palmbeachschools.org or by telephone 366-6945 or PX 76945.

Plaques

Each school is entitled to ONE *free* plaque per month at no cost to the school or the School District. Plaques can only be ordered on-line from Edco at www.edco.com. Certificates can be ordered with plaques.

Posters

Sun Sentinel posters to display in prominent areas of your school will be available for *free* by contacting Susan Knight @ knight@palmbeachschools.org or by telephone 366-6945 or PX 76945.

Additional comments/needs of the school:

Please pony form to
Susan Knight, Student Intervention Services
c/o Old DD Eisenhower Elementary
or fax to 366-6961 / PX 76961
If you have any questions, call 366-6945 or PX 76945
or email knight@palmbeachschools.org