



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
STUDENT INTERVENTION SERVICES
Division of Safety, Culture & Learning Environment
2936 Lone Pine Road
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

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

KEITH OSWALD
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

JUDITH KLINEK
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

October 14, 2011
Bulletin # P-14044-SCLE/SIS

Contact Person:

Susan Knight, PX 76945

ACTION BY:
Information Only

TO: All Principals

FROM: Judith Klinek, Chief Academic Officer *JK*

SUBJECT: *RED RIBBON WEEK: OCTOBER 23-31, 2011*

Adolescent Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) use negatively impacts students' academic achievement. The consequences of ATOD use, which include absenteeism, poor academic achievement, disruptive behaviors, suspensions, and below grade-level test scores, pose a significant and severe problem for the entire school community.

- Students who begin drinking early are more likely to earn grades below a C and to be held back a grade.
- Early tobacco and marijuana use are linked to poor performance in school. Marijuana use has been found to lead to problems with attention span, short-term memory, verbal memory, and test performance.

Student Intervention Services in the Department of Safe Schools will address the issue of adolescent substance use by supporting October 23-31, 2011 as *Red Ribbon Week*. This week provides us with an opportunity to renew our commitment to a healthy and drug-free lifestyle and show our dedication to education and prevention efforts in our schools and communities. This year's theme is, "It's Up to Me to Be Drug-Free."

Packets of age-appropriate activities will be available at www.pbcpreventioncenter.com. Click on the *Campaigns/Clubs* tab to access the information. These materials support academic standards. Teachers may choose the level of participation for students. Please help make *Red Ribbon Week* a success at your school.

WFM:JK:KO:KCW:slk:cy

Approved:

William F. Malone
William F. Malone, Superintendent *JK*