



**Pine Ridge Education Center**  
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**PROGRAM HOURS**

Office Hours: 8:30am to 4:00pm  
School Hours: 9:45am to 3:45pm

**PREVENTING RECIDIVISM THROUGH OPPORTUNITIES, MENTORING, INTERVENTIONS, SUPPORT & EDUCATION**

**WHAT IS PROMISE?**

The PROMISE program is an initiative designed to address the unique needs of students (Grades K-12), who have committed a specific behavioral infraction that would normally lead to a juvenile delinquency arrest and, therefore, entry into the juvenile justice system. In addition, it serves students who have committed infractions related to bullying and harassment.

**MODEL:**

PROMISE is designed to enhance pro-social skills by both a short-term on-site intervention portion and a longer-term regular school progress-monitoring component. The foundation of the PROMISE program is both respect for community safety and a systemic understanding that [1] builds on the strengths of the participant[s], [2] employs a System-of-Care team approach, [3] embeds Response to Intervention [RTI] practices and [4] identifies clear and specific expectations and outcome measures, in order to help the youth develop more effective coping skills and pro-social behaviors. This approach focuses on the situation as being the problem rather than the individual being the problem. PROMISE also includes components that help to safeguard the rights of victims so their voices may be heard, their choices valued, reconciliation occurs, and further victimization is avoided.

**WHAT INCIDENTS QUALIFY FOR THE PROMISE PROGRAM?**

1. Alcohol – Possession / Use / Under the Influence
2. Alcohol Sale / Attempted Sale / Transmittal
3. Assault / Threat (no harm or injury)
4. Bullying
5. Disruption on Campus (Major)
6. Drug – Use / Possession / Under the Influence
7. Drug Paraphernalia - Possession
8. False Accusation Against School Staff
9. Fighting – Mutual Combat
10. Harassment
11. Theft- Petty <\$300
12. Trespassing
13. Vandalism/Damage to Property <\$1,000

The community has come together to realize that, while every delinquent act that a youth commits can legislatively lead to entry into the juvenile justice system, it does not positively serve the youth, the family or the community for this to occur. Stakeholders have agreed, in fact, that the long-term social cost savings [not to mention fiscal savings] of children being given the opportunity to learn effective pro-social skills is a more opportune use of community resources. These interventions are highly predictive of the individual adapting more effective socially-normed behavior.

Consequently, the PROMISE program has been designed to provide youth who have committed a delinquent act

[that is classified as a non-violent misdemeanor and does not negatively affect public safety] the opportunity to participate in a series of evidence-based experiences, designed within the six PROMISE domains [Prevention, Recidivism, Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Supports & Education]. Successful completion of the PROMISE program will serve as the acceptable consequence in lieu of an external suspension, expulsion, or delinquent referral to the juvenile justice system.



### HOW WILL STUDENTS GET TO THE PROMISE PROGRAM?

Transportation will be provided by Broward County Public Schools. The assigning administrator at the youth's sending school will arrange transportation. Transportation arrangements must be confirmed by the sending school, District Transportation Department and the receiving PROMISE program location. The District has a depot stop model to identify appropriate pick up / drop off locations. Behavior will be closely monitored during the transportation segment of the school day and expectations will be embedded into the student's PROMISE plan. Student behavior while on the bus will be taken into account when determining if the student successfully completes the PROMISE program.

### WHAT SUPPORTS ARE THERE FOR VICTIMS?

With the consent and active participation of the student, each victim is referred to on campus/community resources that offer immediate crisis intervention and initial support, as well as information and/or remedy to meet the student's specific immediate and ongoing needs. Staff may initiate necessary changes that may result from the immediate offense and the long-term impact of that offense on the student's academic success.

### HOW LONG IS A STUDENT ASSIGNED TO A PROMISE LOCATION?

Assignment at a PROMISE site can be from two [2] to ten [10] days, depending on the assignment days called for by the District's Discipline Matrix.

### WHAT INTERVENTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED?

- Direct instruction, tutoring, and other academic assistance
- Counseling (individual and/or group) provided by school counselors, family counselors, therapists, social workers, mentors, or graduate students
- Social Skills/Conflict Resolution instruction
- Prevention activities in the areas of violence, drugs, gangs, etc.
- Restorative Justice supports
- Direct communication with parents (counseling, etc. as needed)
- Referrals to community agencies

### WHAT IS CONSIDERED SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE PROMISE PROGRAM?

The development of successful pro-social behavior as demonstrated by completion of the transition plan components [both short and long-term goals], along with outcome measures including student attendance and numbers and types of behavioral referrals will be factors pointing to successful program completion.

### WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES IF A STUDENT DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PROMISE PROGRAM?

Successful completion of the PROMISE program will serve as the acceptable penalty/consequence in lieu of an external suspension and/or delinquent referral to the Juvenile Justice System. The student may be arrested as the conditions to avoid the mandated Code of Student Conduct consequence have not been met.

### WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE RAMIFICATIONS IF A STUDENT DOES NOT COMPLETE THE PROMISE PROGRAM SUCCESSFULLY?

In order to avoid external suspension and/or referral to the Juvenile Justice System of Care, the student must fully and successfully complete all assigned activities and all requirements of the PROMISE program. The student may



be arrested as the conditions to avoid the mandated Code of Student Conduct consequence have not been met.



The School Board of Broward County, FL

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### Need more information regarding PROMISE?

Contact your school administrator,  
contact the PROMISE Program,  
or  
contact Diversity, Cultural Outreach &  
Prevention, a department of  
Student Support Initiatives  
754.321.1655

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