



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

ANN KILLETS
Chief Academic Officer

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April 24, 2007
BULLETIN # P-12409-CAO

Contact Person:
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**FOR
INFORMATION
ONLY**

TO: Principals

FROM: Ann Killets *AK*
Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Cooperation with the Justice Teaching Program

The Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, Fred Lewis, has recently initiated the Justice Teaching Program for attorneys and judges to enter the schools and engage students concerning the justice system. I have endorsed this Justice Teaching Program and want to encourage your school's cooperation with the program.

Under this program, attorneys and judges have received training to engage students in stimulating discussions as to various aspects of the legal system. The program aims to benefit students in the following ways: promote an understanding of Florida's justice system and our laws, develop critical thinking abilities and problem solving skills, and demonstrate the effective interaction of our courts within the constitutional structure.

At least one attorney or judge has been assigned to each school. (Some of the School District attorneys will also be participating.) If an attorney or judge has not already contacted the school, the school may want to contact the assigned attorney or the Justice Teaching Program. The assignment matching lists can be found on the Justice Teaching website at http://www.justiceteaching.org/school_lists.shtml. (Click the link and scroll down to Palm Beach County and click. All the schools appear and are arranged alphabetically, starting with the high schools.) This website also provides additional information concerning the program.

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Please be reminded that **before entering the schools, the volunteer attorneys or judges must be registered with your school's VIPS program** so that a standard criminal background check may be conducted. This does not apply to attorneys employed by the District who appear during their regular workday. They should sign in as visitors. Schools should make sure that all Justice Teaching Program volunteers contact the School Volunteer Coordinator at the school to receive the required volunteer orientation and to register in the VIPS Count Tracking System.

Thank you for your support of this fine program.

ACJ/AK/BT:bt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ACJ', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D.
Superintendent