



A MESSAGE

FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

@PBCSD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3300 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33406
(561) 434-8000



August 7, 2023

Hello Students, Parents, and Guardians!

On September 7, 2022, the School Board of Palm Beach County voted to adopt [School Board Policy 5.0115](#), “Student Photo Identification Badge (ID Badge).” The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all Palm Beach County students utilize a uniform, school-issued photo identification badge, thus providing for greater campus safety, accountability, and operational efficiency.

This letter is to inform you that on or by the first day of the FY24 school year (i.e., August 10, 2023), all District students will be issued a standard, double-sided student identification badge. The front of the badge will display the student’s name, photograph, and a unique barcode. The back of the badge will contain contact information for the National Suicide Prevention Hotline, as well as local crisis and suicide hotline phone numbers and text lines, in accordance with [Florida House Bill 590](#). Badges will be printed by the student’s assigned school.

Badge Use Cases

Although many schools already utilize student badges, the new badge offers a standard design, as well as some new features and capabilities.

Currently, student badges are intended to support the following four use-cases:

1. [Enhanced campus safety and security](#) - students will be expected to display their badge at all times when on campus and when appropriate, at other school-based events. This will allow school staff to readily and quickly identify active students and/or, potentially, unauthorized persons.
2. [School bus ridership](#) - students will scan their badges when boarding and departing District school buses. This will allow bus drivers to know which students are riding the bus, whether the students are riding the correct bus, and also when and where students depart from the bus; all of which supply additional safety and security measures.
3. [School cafeteria](#) - students will scan their badges for meals, snacks, and beverages in school cafeterias. This will allow for expedited service, as well as greater accountability. *This use-case has been in place at most schools for several years.*
4. [Media center](#) - students will be able to check-in and check-out media materials using their badge. This will allow for expedited service, as well as greater accountability.

Future Use Cases

Going forward, some schools may choose to use the badges to support other initiatives, such as attendance, tardies and others. Additional District-wide initiatives may be added, and will be communicated if, and when, they are approved for implementation.

Denial of Services

Per [School Board Policy 5.0115](#), schools may not deny services to any student if the student's ID badge is not present.

Timing

All schools are tasked with providing students with a universal identification badge by the beginning of the FY24 school year.

Badge Display Options

Students will be required to display the badge at all times during regular school hours and during certain specified school-sponsored activities. Some possible exceptions may be during certain physical activities, such as recess and physical education classes. To ensure the safety of all students, only breakaway-type lanyards may be worn and will be provided to the students by their home school. Schools may also choose to allow wristbands or clips and/or may allow ID badges to be affixed to backpacks.

Cost and Replacement Information

Per [School Board Policy 5.0115](#), students will not be charged a fee to receive their initial badge, nor will they be charged for a replacement badge (if the badge becomes lost or stolen).

Parents, please direct any questions you may have to your child's assigned school.

Thank you for your support of the School District of Palm Beach County. Enhancements like universal student ID badges help make our District schools **YOUR BEST CHOICE** in education!