



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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E. WAYNE GENT
SUPERINTENDENT

May 23, 2012

Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation – *Letter of Support*

621 Clearwater Park Road

West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Attention: Ms. Lisa Richman, Executive Director

Dear Ms. Richman:

We would like to take an opportunity to thank you for speaking at our District's *Wellness Promotion Task Force* meeting on May 10, 2012. Your Foundation support of our district-wide health and wellness efforts helps us to bring important information into the community, to all students, their families, teachers, and health care providers.

We are pleased to have worked with the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation, the first Foundation of its kind in South Florida. Your mission to save lives through education about the prevention and early detection of skin cancer, especially melanoma, has been invaluable to the District's *Wellness Promotion Policy Annual Reports* and the *Wellness Promotion Task Force*.

The data reflects that during the first eighteen years of a student's life, we have the opportunity to change attitudes and behavior that will help support them in their adult lives. Your SunSmart America™ curriculum is doing just that, taking our kindergarten classes, and continuing to reinforce their learning until they graduate high school. We will be promoting sun awareness from your Foundation as part of our voicemail Parent Link message that our Superintendent – Mr. E. Wayne Gent at the end of the school year will deliver to all families with students in Palm Beach County with regards of Sun Safety prevention during their summer vacation.

We really enjoyed the addition of your SAM Club (students against melanoma) in 2007. Middle and High School years are very important, especially for these young people who are being seduced into looking fit and tan and under such social and peer pressure. The clubs have been a great success, as students educate their peers through school and community programs. We understand the School Board has made a huge push to get as many clubs going for 2012-2013 school year.

Also, congratulations are in order, we heard that the Melanoma Monday Art Contest in schools was a great success, as was the event and awards ceremony that was held on May 5th. We were glad to help you get the word out to the schools in our county. We hope this can become a statewide program and look forward to see the growth of this fun and educational awareness event.

The *Wellness Promotion Task Force* is looking forward to including your Foundation in the District's *2011-2012 Wellness Promotion Policy Annual Report*. It is our intention to continue partnering and collaborating with the Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation to build health awareness which will benefit the lives of our students in Palm Beach County.

With Kindest Regards,

Steve Bonino

Steven Bonino, Director SFS Department
District's Wellness Promotion Policy Chair

Paula Triana

Paula Triana, R.D., L.D./N.
District's Wellness Promotion Policy Co-Chair

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