

**The Florida Healthy
District Self-Assessment
is made possible by:**



May 15, 2017

Mr. Rex Mitchell, Superintendent
School District of Hamilton County
5683 US Highway 129 South, Suite 1
Jasper, FL 32052



Dear Superintendent Mitchell:

It is with great pleasure that we announce the School District of Hamilton County has been recognized as a Florida Healthy School District at the SILVER level for the period of May 2017 through April 2019 based on submission of the Florida Healthy School District Self-Assessment.

The self-assessment tool is based on sustainable infrastructure, policy, programs, and practices identified from national and state guidelines, best practices, and Florida statutes. It was developed by the Florida Coordinated School Health Partnership (CSHP) out of a desire to recognize and celebrate the hard work and success of school districts related to physical, mental and social health of students and staff. The assessment was written by school experts, evaluated, piloted and field tested for three years before being released in 2009.

CSHP, in partnership with Florida Action for Healthy Kids (FLAFHK), Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) and Florida Healthy Kids Corporation are proud to recognize 45 Florida school districts for establishing a culture and climate that embraces the Coordinated School Health approach to reduce barriers to learning and support academic achievement.

The School District of Hamilton County demonstrated outstanding scores related to policies and processes in the following areas:

District Infrastructure (83%) – A well-established district infrastructure demonstrating strong administrative and community support leads to sustainability of health policies and practices.

Nutrition Services and Education (82%) – Children who are well nourished are able to achieve in school and healthful eating reduces the risk of life-long chronic health conditions.

Healthy School Environment (97%) – A healthy school environment reflects the physical plant as well as the social climate of the district, including safety, personal interaction and violence prevention.

Family and Community Involvement (88%) – Family and Community Involvement is key to garnering support and resources from community members and involving parents as partners.

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Florida Healthy School Districts are recognized in numerous ways:

- FADSS recognizes superintendents from Florida Healthy School Districts on their website.
- CSHP and the FLAFHK Executive Committee members present the award at each district's school board meeting. The lead submitter will be contacted to arrange the date.
- Each district receives a full-size Florida Healthy School District flag and pop-up banner that can be displayed at the district office or rotated among schools as well as a Florida Healthy District logo for their website and communications.
- Press releases are sent to media outlets in each county by Florida Healthy Kids Corporation.
- Districts and superintendents are recognized on the Florida Healthy Districts website at www.healthydistrict.com.
- Local County Health Departments are notified of the award.
- Recognized districts are invited to participate in the Healthy District Collaborative (HDC) facilitated by the Florida Departments of Education and Health. Member districts are provided professional development, technical assistance and resource/funding opportunity information.

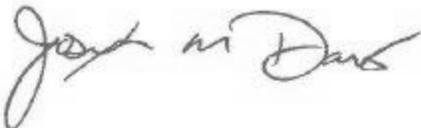
The Florida Coordinated School Health Partnership and Florida Action for Healthy Kids look forward to continuing to support and promote the efforts of the Florida Healthy School Districts. Thank you for being on the forefront of ensuring the future of a healthy Florida by creating health literate and health practicing students and staff that are fit, healthy, and ready to learn.



William J. Montford, III
Chief Executive Officer
Florida Association of District School Superintendents



Melodie Griffin
State Coordinator
Florida Action for Healthy Kids



Joe Davis
Communications Chair
Coordinated School Health Partnership



Rebecca Matthews
Chief Executive Officer
Florida Healthy Kids Corporation

CC: Johnny Bullard, Chair, Hamilton County School Board
Mark S. Lander, Administrator, Hamilton County Department of Health
Ida Daniels, Lead Submitter