

Plaquemines Parish Schools

1484 Woodland Highway

Belle Chasse, LA 70037

504-595-6400

Denis Rousselle, Superintendent

The Plaquemines Parish School Board (PPSB) takes a proactive approach in providing a safe and orderly environment conducive to teaching and learning.

Students will adhere to the Student Code of Conduct and our behavioral expectations will remain high. However, schools will seek to reduce office discipline referrals and suspensions by improving school climate through improved student-teacher Connectedness. **School Connectedness refers to an academic environment in which students believe that adults in the school care about their learning and about them as individuals.** We will improve our school climates through teacher education and collaboration amongst stakeholders.

Advancing students' health and academic outcomes by improving school connectedness is a team effort. It involves the school community as well as individuals, groups, and organizations outside the school grounds. Making changes of this kind requires 1) convincing these stakeholders of the importance of school connectedness in helping students learn and stay healthy, 2) involving them in the development, implementation, and evaluation of these actions, and 3) securing their buy-in to ensure the changes happen.

School Principals

BCHS	Jemi Carlone	jcarlone@ppsb.org	504-595-6600
BCMS	Joe Williamson	jwilliamson@ppsb.org	504-595-6640
BCPS	Shelly Ritz	sritz@ppsb.org	504-595-6620
PXHS	Kristie Williams	krwilliams@ppsb.org	504-595-6480
SPES	Tonika Peavy	tpeavy@ppsb.org	504-595-6415
SPHS	John Barthelemy, Jr.	jobarthelemy@ppsb.org	504-595-6435
BVES	Maria Prout	mprout@ppsb.org	504-595-6455
PPLC	John Vanison	jvanison@ppsb.org	504-595-6410

MEMBERS

DARILYN DEMOLLE -TURNER	District 1
DANIEL MORRILL	District 2
COREY ARBOURGH	District 3
JOYCE LAMKIN	District 4
SHAYNE MEYERS	District 5
FRAN BAYHI-MARTINEZ	District 6
CARLTON LAFRANCE	District 7
PAUL LEMAIRE, JR.	District 8
CHARLES P. SOILEAU	District 9

Students who experience school connectedness...

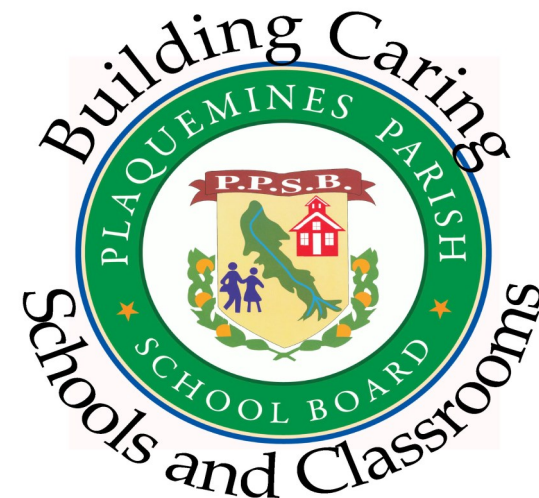
- Like school
- Feel they belong and are respected
- Believe teachers care about them and their learning
- Believe that education matters
- Have friends at school
- Believe that discipline is fair
- Feel safe at school
- Have a voice in some school decisions
- Have opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities

Robert Blum, Educational Leadership, April 2005

What factors can increase school connectedness?

Four factors can help strengthen school connectedness for students: adult support, belonging to a positive peer group, commitment to education, and a positive school environment. School staff members are important adults in students' lives; the time, interest, attention, and emotional support they give students can engage them in school and learning

Students are more likely to engage in healthy behaviors and succeed academically when they feel connected to school.



WHY BUILD A CARING CLASSROOM COMMUNITY?

- Develops and models caring relationships
- Engages students in learning
- Increases prosocial skills
- Decreases aggressive and at-risk behaviors
- Improves academic achievement

For teachers:

http://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/protective/pdf/connectedness_teachers.pdf

Families, schools, and communities all need to work together to create an environment that facilitates healthy development of children and adolescents.

For families:

http://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/protective/pdf/connectedness_parents.pdf

PPSB contact information:

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Safe Schools Coordinator