

40 Orange Street St. Augustine, Florida 32084 (904) 547-7500 www.stjohns.k12.fl.us

August 11, 2025

SCHOOL BOARD

Beverly Slough District 1

Anthony E. Coleman Sr. District 2

> Jennifer Collins District 3

> > Kelly Barrera
> > District 4

Dr. Linda Thomson
District 5

Dear Elementary School Parents/Guardians:

I'm writing to share the annual required instruction information, per State Board Rule. All students in grades kindergarten through 12 are to receive instruction related to youth substance use and abuse health education and child trafficking prevention and awareness (Rule 6A-1.094124, F.A.C).

These are important topics that will help our students have the knowledge and ability to act when faced with difficult situations. I believe this instruction will be extremely beneficial for your children and reinforce what is taught at home.

School counselors and classroom teachers will lead the instruction and discussions on substance use and abuse health education. Only school counselors will lead the instruction and discussion on child trafficking.

Parents, you are encouraged to access the list of instructional materials utilized in all of our schools by visiting https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/instructional-materials/approved/. If you have questions or would like to review available print or digital resources, please call the Instructional Resources office at 904.547.8900. I am proud of the work district staff has done to select and develop instructional materials that are age appropriate. This is statutorily required instruction, and there is no opt out for students. To learn more about the lessons, topics, and to review the frequently asked questions, I encourage you to visit our website https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/mental-health/instruction/elementary/.

As always, I thank you for the support of our schools, and your time and commitment to your children's education.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brennan Asplen

Superintendent of Schools