

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING #5
BETWEEN
THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
AND
THE ORANGE COUNTY CLASSROOM TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

This Memorandum of Understanding is made on this 3rd day of October 2022, by and between the School Board of Orange County, Florida (District) and the Orange County Classroom Teachers Association (OCCTA).

1. Mental Health Awareness education shall be provided through virtual modules developed by ReThinkEd.
2. The five hours of instruction required by Rule 6A-1.094121 will be provided on five separate days in one-hour increments. Classroom instructional personnel will not be required to supplement the provided content. Student generated written work will be solely for the student's own benefit and is not to be collected by the staff for purposes of review. These sessions will be conducted in the months of October, November, January, February and March.
3. The curriculum to be used for Mental Health Awareness education will be available for review by the OCCTA bargaining team for the purposes of providing input and feedback for consideration.
4. To offset the time required to be spent in preparation for Mental Health Awareness instruction, High School teachers who deliver the session will be released with students on the day of their presentation and the Friday following their presentation. Middle School teachers will arrive at 9:00 am on the day of their presentation and the Friday following their presentation.
5. Instructional personnel teaching Mental Health Awareness instruction shall not be observed for evaluation purposes during Mental Health Awareness instruction. The five-hour course will not be used for the calculation of the Student Learning Growth score.

This MOU expires June 30, 2023.

Dated this 3rd of October 2022.

For School Board of Orange County, Florida



Jeffrey E. Mandel
Chief Negotiator

For Orange County Classroom Teachers
Association



Clinton McCracken
President



Orange County Public Schools

Date: September 29, 2022
To: Middle School Principals
From: Mary Bridges, Executive Director
Student Services
Recipients: Instructional Personnel, SAFE Coordinators, School Counselors, School Social Workers
Subject: 5 Hours of State Mandated Mental Health Instruction 22-23

Rule 6A-1.094121 establishes Mental and Emotional Health Education for grades 6-12.

Rule 6A-1.094121 provides that:

“School districts must annually provide a minimum of five (5) hours of instruction to students in grades 6-12 related to youth mental health awareness and assistance, including suicide prevention and the impacts of substance abuse.”

For the 2022-2023 school year, the following procedures will be followed to implement this requirement.

Scheduling

- Schools will follow a modified bell schedule on the Tuesday or Thursday the lesson takes place. This will provide time for a 60-minute lesson. No changes will be made in Skyward. Bell schedule is included.
- Dates this year will be:
 - October 20, 2022
 - November 17, 2022
 - January 19, 2023
 - February 16, 2023
 - March 9, 2023
- Students will follow a Wednesday schedule through 5th period. They would then stay in 5th period and their 5th period teacher would facilitate the lesson. After, students would attend their 6th and 7th period classes.
 - If a student has “B” lunch, they would attend 5th period, go to lunch and then be asked to return to 5th period.
- All classes would meet on these days, just with reduced time
- Teachers on planning during 5th period will take planning time and then assist in classes where there is a substitute or classes that may be large (band, PE, etc.).

Parent Notification

- In order to ensure that parents are fully informed of the Five Hour Mental Health and Wellness requirement, we have created a parent letter and a Connect Orange message.
- There is also an Opt-Out form, which is *only* to be used if the parent contacts the school with a specific concern as this is state mandated instruction.
- Please send the Connect Orange message below and electronic letter home the week of October 10-14.

- **Connect Orange Script**

The Florida Department of Education requires that students receive instruction in Health Education every year. A minimum of five hours of required instruction related to mental and emotional health for students in grades 6-12 is required for the 2022-2023 school year. In order to comply with this requirement, OCPS has designated days the instruction will take place. The first lesson will take place on October 20, 2022. Following this date, lessons will take place on November 17, January 19, February 16, and March 9.

[Parent Letter 5-Hour Course 22-23](#)

[Mental Health Education Curriculum Opt-Out 22-23](#)

Training

- FDOE states that any teacher with a teaching certificate is qualified to teach this curriculum.
- Each teacher will be provided with all the resources through Canvas. Each middle school teacher will be auto-enrolled in the "5-Hour Mental Health and Wellness MS Course," which will be located on the Canvas dashboard.
- Each teacher will be asked to review a short, online training video that explains how to access the lessons and expectations for facilitating the lessons.
- Statute states that any teacher with a teaching certificate is qualified to teach this curriculum. However, if a teacher needs additional assistance, please address this on a case-by-case basis.
- Mental Health Designees will receive training on October 6th at 9:30 a.m. during the monthly SAFE/MHD meeting. At this time, they will be provided step-by-step instructions for facilitating the curriculum, that will be shared with classroom teachers.

Curriculum

- This year's content has been updated. A focus group of teachers and students previewed the new content for appropriateness and engagement. It is now differentiated by grade level.
- The process for teachers will be the same as it was last year, except that in the past all teachers used the same Canvas course, and this year teachers will select either middle school or high school, and then will have a grade level option within that course to choose from. If a teacher has multiple grade levels, they can select the lowest level that fits their student population.
- Two of the five lessons will also incorporate a 30-minute time period so students can complete their Panorama student surveys.
- Each lesson will have two topics, including a video portion that is approximately 5 minutes. Teachers will be asked to present the video portions to the students. Independent student activities are paired with each video.

- Written work, a self-care plan, for instance, will be solely for the student’s benefit and should not be collected for purposes of review or grading.
- If at any time, a student makes any concerning comments, the teacher should give their name to the school SAFE Coordinator immediately. If a student voices concerns during a lesson, the student may be given a pass to see a counselor immediately.
- Students will not be graded on this material.

October 20 --- 40 min- 1 topic and 20 min Panorama	Mental Wellness	Panorama
November 17--- 60 min- for 2 topics	Online Safety	Human Trafficking
January 19 --- 60 min- for 2 topics	Suicide Prevention	Mental Wellbeing, Depression, and Strategies for Support
February 16 --- 40 min- 1 topic and 20 min Panorama	Trauma/Stress Management	Panorama
March 9 --- 60 min- for 2 topics	Substance Abuse Prevention	Anxiety and Coping Strategies

Instructional personnel facilitating the Mental Health lessons shall not be observed for evaluation purposes during the Mental Health course instruction.

The five-hour course will not be used for the calculation of the Student Learning Growth.

MS Bell Schedule - Three Lunches, MHP 5th

Start Time	Passing	MTRF Instructional Minutes	W Instructional Minutes
9:30 AM	0:04	0:38	0:38

MTRF	Start (A)	End (A)	Non Instr (A)	Start (B)	End (B)	Non Instr (B)	Start (C)	End (C)	Non Instr (C)
Period 1	9:30 AM	10:12 AM	0:04	9:30 AM	10:12 AM	0:04	9:30 AM	10:12 AM	0:04
Period 2 / Lunch A	10:16 AM	10:54 AM		10:16 AM	10:54 AM		10:16 AM	10:54 AM	
	10:54 AM	11:24 AM	0:30						
Period 3 / Lunch B	11:28 AM	12:06 PM		10:58 AM	11:36 AM		10:58 AM	11:36 AM	
				11:36 AM	12:06 PM				
Period 4 / Lunch C	12:10 PM	12:48 PM		12:10 PM	12:48 PM		11:40 AM	12:18 PM	
							12:18 PM	12:48 PM	
Period 5	12:52 PM	1:30 PM		12:52 PM	1:30 PM		12:52 PM	1:30 PM	
Mental Health Period	1:30 PM	2:33 PM	1:03	1:30 PM	2:33 PM	1:03	1:30 PM	2:33 PM	1:03
Period 6	2:37 PM	3:15 PM		2:37 PM	3:15 PM		2:37 PM	3:15 PM	
Period 7	3:19 PM	3:57 PM		3:19 PM	3:57 PM		3:19 PM	3:57 PM	

If you have any questions, please contact [Kimberly Beckler](#), Director of Mental Health Services.