



**Dr. Brennan Asplen**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

40 Orange Street  
St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
(904) 547-7500  
[www.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://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 High School Parents/Guardians:

Students in grades 6-12 will have five hours of required instruction on substance use and abuse, child trafficking prevention and awareness, and mental and emotional health education (Rule 6A-1.094124, F.A.C.). Students in grades 7-12 will be required to receive instruction on healthy relationships per section 1003.42 (2)(n), Florida Statutes and also on the DOE website <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/healthy-schools/comprehensive-health-edu.stml>. 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 beneficial for your children and/or reinforce what is taught at home. This required instruction will be led by teachers utilizing evidence-based, high-quality instructional materials infused in monthly Character Chats videos created by district staff.

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, I encourage you to visit our website <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/mental-health/instruction/>.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Brennan Asplen  
Superintendent of Schools