



Dutch Researchers, Educators Visit Martin County Schools to Learn More About Positive Behavior Support

Researchers from the Windesheim Expertise Centre for Positive Behavior Support and other educators from the Netherlands visited Spectrum Academy and Dr. David L. Anderson Middle School earlier this week.

The purpose of the visits was to witness and learn first-hand how Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) are implemented in Florida schools. Martin County was one of only four school districts selected to host visitors by the University of South Florida's Florida Positive Behavioral Interventions & Support Project (Florida PBIS). PBIS refers to Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support, which encompasses "a range of research-based strategies used to increase quality of life and decrease problem behavior by teaching new skills and making changes in a person's environment."

Research indicates that when school teams implement these practices with fidelity, their student populations tend to experience decreased behavior problems, increased academic achievement and improved attendance.

Spectrum Academy and Dr. David L. Anderson Middle School were selected due to their unique school demographics, as well as the overall success each school has had with implementing PBIS practices. The FLPBIS Project has recognized both schools as Gold Model Schools for several consecutive years.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Florida's PBIS Project.

Click here to view photos from the cohort's visit to Dr. David L. Anderson Middle School.