

Hamilton County School District

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"Changing Lives Through Quality Education"

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Dear Business Owner:

The Florida Legislature created A Business – Community (ABC) School Program to promote business partnerships in education. An ABC school is a public school that offers instruction to students in kindergarten through third grade or any single or multiple grade levels within this range at facilities provided by a local business. The host business would be responsible for providing the appropriate types of space for the school. The school district would be responsible for providing the appropriate instructional supports, administration and staff, teachers, textbooks, materials, supplies, and curriculum for the school. First priority for admission of students to an ABC school will be given to the children of the owners and employees of the business. Parents would be responsible for providing transportation to and from the school for their children. Within an ABC school, parents have the opportunity to spend more time with their children during the commute together to school each day and some parents choose to serve as volunteers in the classroom based on its close proximity to their work area.

An ABC school must have a reasonable number of students in attendance to support an educational program. If additional capacity remains after children of the owners and employees are admitted, the host business may designate other neighboring businesses whose owners or employees may also participate to generate a reasonable number of students for the school. However, the ABC school must comply with the constitutional class size requirements.

An ABC school program at a business workplace is an incentive for employees. Studies of worksite schools show that employees who have students enrolled in the worksite school have increased productivity and a decreased absenteeism and turn over rate. If your business is interested in submitting a proposal for this program or to find out about further partnership opportunities, please contact Rex L. Mitchell, District ABC Program Liaison, at 792-6571 or email at mitchell_r01@firn.edu or Joy Howell, ABC Evaluation Committee member, at 792-1300 or email at howelle@ffsb.com.

Sincerely,

Harry J. Pennington
Superintendent

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