



Media Release

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NEW HEALTH CENTER AT MANATEE ELEMENTARY OFFERS COMMUNITY EASY ACCESS TO MEDICAL SERVICES

(Bradenton, FL – September 3, 2020) The School District of Manatee County and MCR Health are excited to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Manatee Elementary School Based Health Center at **9 a.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2020**. The new School Based Health Center is the product of a partnership between MCR Health, School District of Manatee County, Manatee Elementary School - A Community Partnership School™, Children's Home Society of Florida and University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee. Manatee Elementary School, A Community Partnership School™ is located at **1609 6th Avenue East in Bradenton**. A brief ceremony will be taking place on the school basketball courts.

There are more than 2,500 School Based Health Centers in the United States, and these centers have been linked to improved academic outcomes, such as improved GPAs, attendance, grade promotion, college preparation, and reduced rates of suspension. This falls right in line with the Manatee County School District Mission of providing education and development to all students today for their success tomorrow.

The Manatee Elementary School Based Health Center is open to enrolled students for their pediatric and behavioral health needs with parental consent. Some of the ongoing services available to Manatee Elementary students through the center include: Well Child Exams, Sick Visits, Counseling Services, Immunizations, Vision Screenings and Dental Services.

The Manatee Elementary School Based Health Center includes a Family Practice that also provides adult family medicine services to the general public including Annual Wellness Exams, Sick Visits and Immunizations. MCR Health accepts most insurance including Medicare and Medicaid and as a Federally Qualified Health Center a sliding fee scale is available for those who qualify.

This is the second School Based Health Care Center of its kind in Manatee County. The first opened at Southeast High School in February 2020 and offers on-site medical care services to enrolled students who have parental consent. The Southeast High School Based Health Care Center is not open to the general public.

We hope you'll join us for the Grand Opening of the Manatee Elementary School Based Health Center at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2020. Invited guests, including media, must follow School District of Manatee County and MCR Health protocols to include: receiving a temperature check, wearing a mask and social distancing. Please RSVP to Melissa Parker, Communications Specialist at parkerm@manateeschools.net.

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Manatee Elementary School, A Community Partnership School™, is a partnership among School District of Manatee County, Children's Home Society of Florida, MCR Health and the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee. Community Partnership Schools provide support, services and solutions to help alleviate burdens including hunger, homelessness, poverty, violence, mental health struggles and illness, so that students can focus on learning and realize their full potential. Community Partnership Schools also engage parents and the community to empower students and families to succeed. For more information, please visit www.chsfl.org/schools/manatee.