

How does a student return to the home school?

When a student demonstrates consistent success on the daily point sheet, a transition meeting is scheduled to plan for the student's return to his/her home school. Staff from the PRIDE program, the student's home school, Friendship Valley staff, and the student's parents are involved in the transition. Students begin the transition process by first participating in classes at Friendship Valley Elementary School. If successful, the student then participates in supervised non-academic visits to the home school with PRIDE staff. Finally, the student participates in academic visits to the home school without direct supervision from PRIDE staff.



CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 125 North Court Street Westminster, Maryland 21157

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The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

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CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC

The P.R.I.D.E. PROGRAM

*Positive Response to Issues
of Discipline with
Elementary Students*

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What is P.R.I.D.E.?

PRIDE is an elementary alternative education program designed to help students gain self-control and insight into their behavior in order to reduce disruptive behaviors and increase positive school behavior/adjustment and achievement. PRIDE is also designed to provide parents with the supports needed to initiate and maintain productive changes in their homes.

The program is located at Friendship Valley Elementary School and serves up to 21 students at a time. Students receive instruction in CCPS math, reading and language arts curriculum, and specials at their individual instructional level. Students also receive instruction in behavior management through a structured behavior support system and direct teaching of social skills.

PRIDE is an intra-agency program supported by CCPS teachers and assistants, a therapist, a school psychologist, and a behavior specialist. All PRIDE students and their parents must sign a contract agreeing to participate in counseling to address student concerns and related family issues in order to improve student behavior.

How are students referred to P.R.I.D.E.?



Students may be referred to PRIDE by a School Psychologist, Behavior Support Specialist, or Pupil Personnel Worker.

A student who may be considered for a referral to PRIDE is one who has demonstrated severe behavior problems and who has been resistant to Student Services Team interventions, including a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) and Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP).

Specific circumstances may include:

- The student has made a serious threat of violence or committed a serious violent act and been assessed by the Youth Services Bureau to be an ongoing high risk of violence.
- The student has been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons and the Student Services Team recommends that the student transition into an alternative program.
- The student has been placed on extended suspension from the home school.
- The student has been administratively placed in the program.

When a student meets PRIDE requirements and space is available, a parent/student intake is scheduled. If parents/guardians agree to the PRIDE contract, the student is accepted into the program.

What is counseling like at P.R.I.D.E.?

Students are counseled informally by PRIDE staff as the need arises throughout the day to address behavioral issues. In addition, students may receive individual, group, and family counseling by CCPS staff trained in counseling theory and technique. Counseling is designed to help students improve behavior by gaining insight, and learning healthy strategies to express feelings. Family counseling is intended to assist parents with behavior management, school support, and other relevant issues. Should a PRIDE family already be engaged in private counseling, the CCPS counselor will coordinate services with the private counseling agency. Psychiatric services and medication management are not available through the PRIDE program.

Are P.R.I.D.E. students still part of their home school?

PRIDE is a short-term placement that has as its goal to return students to their home schools as soon as possible. PRIDE students maintain contact with their home schools via progress meetings and visits while enrolled in PRIDE.

