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## What Is TAPP?

TAPP is an acronym for Teenage Parent Programs. The TAPP program hosted at the Academy of Academics and Technology is designed to provide comprehensive and ancillary services to facilitate the parents' completion of high school.

### Who Is Eligible?

A teen parent, who meets the compulsory school attendance age range, who is a resident of Santa Rosa County and enrolled in a Santa Rosa County District School, is eligible to access services through the Santa Rosa County School's Teenage Parent Program.

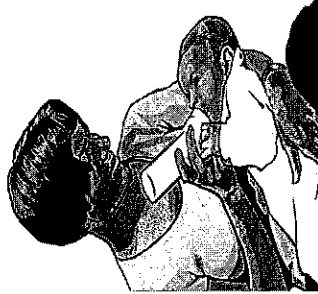


*Education - the building blocks for the future.*

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## Services Offered

- ▶ Curriculum/Counseling in parenting, pregnancy health, child growth and development, etc.)
- ▶ Child Care
- ▶ Access to Health Care
- ▶ Social Service Agency Access
- ▶ Assistance with make-up work assigned due to pregnancy-related absences
- ▶ Graduation Planning



## For Information Contact:

- ♦ Your school guidance counselor
- ♦ Your school nurse
- ♦ Your school principal
- ♦ Student Services Department  
(850) 983-5052)

# TAPP

## Teenage Parent Program

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*Santa Rosa County District Schools*

*Milton, Florida*

*850-983-5052*

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## What is The Santa Rosa County Schools'

### Teenage Parent Program?

The Santa Rosa County School Districts' Teenage Parent Program (TAPP) is accessed at each student's home school site. TAPP provides assistance to meet the needs of school-age students living in Santa Rosa County who are pregnant or who are teen mothers or fathers. Children of teen parents receiving TAPP services are also eligible for services through TAPP.

This program is designed to help the students who are pregnant or parenting students remain in school to earn a high school diploma.

Classes in child care, child growth and development, nutrition and parenting classes are offered. The program offers auxiliary services that include childcare, health care and transportation.

## Goals of the

### TAPP Program

- ◆ Teen Parents will complete course work and receive a high school diploma.
- ◆ Teen Parents' literacy skills will improve.
- ◆ Teen Parents will have reduced dependence on public assistance as educational levels increase.



**From the Beginning  
to the End ...  
TAPP can be there!**



## Your Rights ...

- **Continued Education**  
Earn a high school diploma.
- **Health Services**  
Early education and health care services for you and your child is provided during the hours when you are earning credit towards a high school diploma.
- **Social Services**  
Social Services may include: Referral Services; counseling and coordination with appropriate social service agencies (food stamps, AFDC, Medicaid) for you and your child.
- **Transportation**  
Transportation for you and your child will be provided from your home to your school and to the child's early care program regardless of the distance involved.

## **TEENAGE PARENTING PROGRAM (TAPP)**

This Teenage Parent Program has been established to help at risk pregnant or parenting school age students to remain in school and continue their educational opportunities for a regular high school diploma. This opportunity is available at the regular school site with a Student Support and Assistance Plan. This program is designed to prevent pregnant or parenting students from dropping out of school by providing them with necessary child care and ancillary support services to remain in school.

### **I. AGENCY COORDINATION**

All Dropout Prevention Programs of the Santa Rosa Schools coordinate with other school programs and appropriate agencies to provide services and meet the needs of students to ensure success in school. As needed, the school staff works with the Department of Children and Families, Healthy Start, Lutheran Ministries, County Health Department and similar agencies to coordinate the provision of services to students.

### **II. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the school year:

- A. 80% of the participating students will remain in school or graduate.
- B. 100% of the participating students will continue an academic program while enrolled in the Teenage Parent Program.
- C. 100% of the participating students will complete instruction to improve parenting skills and knowledge of child development or will have previously completed the instruction.
- D. 65% of the participating students will not have a repeat pregnancy during the school year.
- E. 80% of the pregnant students who enter the program before the end of the second trimester will have infants weighing at or above 5 pounds and 8 ounces.

### **III. EVALUATION**

At the end of the school year:

- A. The number of students that participated in the program will be compared to the number of participants who completed the program or graduated.

- B. The number of students that participated in the program will be compared to the number of participants continuing an academic program while enrolled in the Teenage Parenting Program.
- C. The number of students that participated in the program will be compared to the number of participants who have completed the parenting instruction.
- D. The number of students that participated in the program will be compared to the number of participants that had a repeat pregnancy during the school year.
- E. The number of pregnant students that participated in the program that gave birth to a child will be compared to the number of participants that gave birth to a child whose birth weight is at or above 5 pounds and 8 ounces.

#### **IV. CRITERIA**

- A. To be eligible to participate in the program the following criteria must be met:
  - 1. The student must be school age and pregnant or parenting a child.
  - 2. Any child (birth to five years) of an eligible student who is not eligible to participate in a pre-kindergarten program.
- B. Eligibility for the GED option will be for those students who have:
  - 1. Continued in their participation in their current dropout prevention program.
  - 2. Passed the FCAT graduation requirement.
  - 3. Fallen behind the graduating class representing the peer group with whom they entered kindergarten.
  - 4. Demonstrated probability for success on the GED test as documented by a GED practice test or reasonable substitute.

#### **V. ADMISSION**

- A. Information for admission may be received from the program counselor, or school counselor.
- B. Application for admission to the program is made through the program counselor who will determine eligibility of the student.
- C. Parents/Guardian will be notified that student placement is voluntary and a conference will be scheduled with staff members, the student, and the student's parent(s) to affect student admission and parental consent for placement.
- D. Students meeting the eligibility criteria for the GED option shall receive counseling and a thorough review of records prior to being administered practice test.
- E. Children of parenting students will be referred by the parenting student to the program counselor for determining eligibility and placement in an approved child care unit.

## **VI. PROGRAM OPERATING PROCEDURES**

### **A. Curriculum**

Students will continue with the regular schedule of classes. Prenatal/ parenting classes will be required of all students including child growth and development, methods for aiding in the intellectual language, physical and social development of children, and guidance in constructive play activities, sexual abstinence and consequences of subsequent pregnancies.

### **B. Strategies**

A program plan for a regular high school diploma will be established for each student. Individualized counseling and career planning assistance will be available for each student. An individual Student Support and Assistance Plan will be developed for each student.

Students exercising the GED Exit Option will continue to be enrolled in courses for credit and mastery of student performance standards will be documented. Supplemental test taking instruction and materials may be provided. The administration of the GED test shall occur no sooner than March of the year of graduation. A standard district high school diploma will be awarded for those who successfully pass the GED and have met the other GED Exit Option requirements.

### **C. ESE and ELL**

An exceptional student referred for placement into a dropout prevention program shall have an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) review prior to that placement. Appropriate school and/or district staff shall participate in that review.

English Language Learners (ELL) students who meet program eligibility criteria shall have equal access to the program. When an ELL student is served in the program, the curriculum and related services will be designed to appropriately address the needs of ELL students in order to ensure that the instruction is understandable.

#### **D. Services**

Counseling services are provided by the school counselor and/or counselors from community agencies such as The Avalon Center.

A school based child care unit licensed by Children and Families is operated by district personnel at the program site at Locklin Technical Center for a specific number of eligible children. Additional child care needs are met through contracted services.

Bus transportation for eligible students and their eligible children is provided by the school district, if needed.

Health care services such as prenatal/postnatal care, health care, immunizations, nutrition, family planning, and follow-up visits for eligible students and their eligible children are provided by the County Health Department and other agencies. The school counselor assists each student in determining eligibility and referrals to appropriate agencies.

Social services are coordinated through the program counselor to include referrals for economic assistance through the Department of Children and Families and counseling through appropriate agencies.

#### **E. Implementation Sites**

All middle and high schools, as needed

#### **F. Stay**

Students may remain in the program until graduation. Children of eligible students may remain in the program until eligible for another pre-kindergarten program, or the teenage parent graduates.

## **G. Attendance**

Students are required to adhere to the district attendance policy. Evidence of a pattern of non-attendance is determined when a student has 5 Unexcused absences in 30 days or 15 unexcused in 90 days for which reasons are unknown. If there is evidence of nonattendance then:

1. The principal shall, unless there is clear evidence that the absences are not a pattern of nonattendance, refer the case to the school's Integrated Services Team.
2. The parent/guardian shall be invited to attend the meeting with the Integrated Services Team. If the student is 18 years of age, he/she does not have to have a parent/guardian present.
3. Social Services will also be invited to attend the meeting.
4. The parent/guardian and student will be informed of the following:
  - a. The attendance requirements for the TAPP program
  - b. The possibility of the District to impose sanctions reducing the benefits of the Teen-age Parent Program (ex: daycare).
5. In concert with those in attendance at the meeting, an attendance plan will be written which will include:
  - a. Interventions which best address the issue of nonattendance.
  - b. Monitoring of attendance.
6. If attendance does not improve then a determination that the student is not participating in the Teen-age Parenting Program may be made and benefits may be reduced and or terminated.