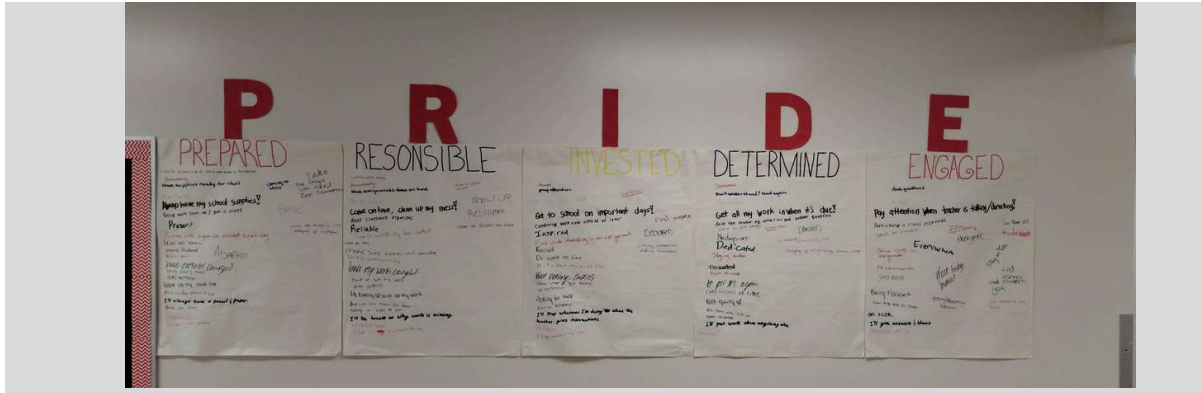


# DISSTON ACADEMY

## FOR PROGRESS AND ENTERPRISE

End of First Semester Newsletter 2024-2025



## Mission Statement

Disston Academy's mission is to educate and prepare each student for college, career and life through expectation of performance and infusion of pride.

### Vision Statement

100% Student success through preparation, performance, and pride.

# *Assistant Principal*

Of the  
**YEAR**

Our own Mrs. Ramdohr, was  
was chosen to be Assistant  
Principal of the year.



# Rundown with

*Mrs. Ramdohr*

## **New Beginnings**

At the start of the school year, we welcomed 20 new students and several members of staff to fortify academic rigor. Around the same time, our Principal, Tamika Hughes-Leeks, unexpectedly resigned due to moving out of Pinellas County. As the Assistant Principal, I became the lead administrator for Disston Academy and Pinellas Teleschool.

## **Overcoming Obstacles**

September brought the first of two devastating hurricanes to Pinellas County. As a result of Hurricane Helene, Gulf Beaches Elementary School was rendered unusable for education and students were relocated to our Disston Academy campus. Consequently, our students were relocated to Lealman Innovation Academy; Disston Academy Version 2.0 was born. Within one week after this monumental change, Hurricane Milton struck, placing further strain on our parents, students, and staff. Resuming school, our students and staff were prepared, responsible, invested, determined, and engaged (PRIDE) to continue their academic endeavors. Collaborating with each other and overcoming emotional, mental, and physical difficulties; like a phoenix, they ascended from the ashes and soared to greatness!

## **Successes & Events**

**15** of our High School Juniors and Seniors passed concordant assessments to meet state required high school diploma expectations.

Students, parents, and staff participated in various activities, such as the food drive for Thanksgiving, Great American Teach-In, monthly HS Senior event, Safe Club, SWAT, and Title 1 Parent Event.

We welcomed our new Social Studies Teacher, Mrs. Fanelli, and Science Teacher, Mr. Tran.

Ms. Pippert is our Instructional Personnel of the Year.

Coach Cooper is our Support Staff of the Year.

Mrs. Ramdohr is the Pinellas County Schools Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year

## **Thank you to All of You**

Parents – thank you for supporting your child and our staff in the educational voyage.

Students – thank you for attending school daily and focusing on your academic success.

Colleagues – thank you for your resilience, patience, and commitment to our students, parents, and each other.

Happy Holidays and a Healthy and Happy 2025!

Mrs. Ramdohr, Acting Principal



# Sly's Corner



## TITLE I 2025 KICK OFF FAMILY EVENT

### AGENDA:

- Second Semester Goal Setting
- Team Building Activities
- ▶▶▶ • Grad Check
- Online Resources Training and Refresher
- Light Refreshments

JANUARY 8, 2025

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**DISSTON ACADEMY**

4900 28TH ST N,  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL  
33714

All Families  
come join us

RSVP @ [SLYN@PCSB.ORG](mailto:SLYN@PCSB.ORG)



# PBIS

With

## Pippert

The PBIS store is now open during lunch on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Students can purchase items from the top of the D-wing staircase. Teachers will award points to students who embrace Pheonix PRIDE by being Prepared, Responsible, Invested, Determined, and Engaged.



### Top 3 Point Earners

1. Mylove Harrington
2. Gareonna Nichols
3. U'niqueTaliaferro

KEEP UP  
• the good •  
WORK

# congratulations Scholars

## THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARS HAVE COMPLETED A COURSE THIS SEMESTER

Alameda-Cervantes	Bryan
Ashpole Cork	Serenity
Bowman	Ke Miya
Burnett	Connor
Clark	Keith
Clark	Faith
Clarkson	Hy'suan
Detvongsa	Angelina
Dixon	Jerome
Dudley	Amiyah
Evans	Cromartie
Flowers	Taraji
Galarza Ortiz	Chelsy
Gamble	Vontativis
Gareonna	Nichols
Grant	Manajah
Guardado	Martin
Haliburton	Dutchess
Harrington	Mylove
Hawk	Elizabeth
He	Lyana
Jean-Giles	Eric
Koleznar	Coral

Mandzik	Amiya
Martin	Ethan
McGraw	Jennifer
mcrae	Zion
Miller	Semaj
Nichols	Gareonna
Pearson	Carlee
Pollard	J'shanti
Prater	Jeremiah
Rady	Aliza
Reynolds	Byron
Smith	Jackson
Smith	Ashilah
Smith	Jamarion
Taliaferro	U'nique
Thompson	Shirl'iya
Tran	Khavan
Triolo	Wyatt
Wade	Nyhimah
Washington	Jamar
Washington	Daegeana
Williams	Mya
Wright-Thompson	Julian
Young	Jenae'shia
Zapote-Mayorga	Alejandro

# TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



## HASSLER

### What inspired you to become a teacher?

In 2005 the family Doctor I worked for 20 years told me he was thinking about retiring. What I liked most about my job was the lab work and patient education. I also like working with the children. So, I went back to college for Science Education

### Most important lesson you want your students to know

Anything is impossible with an education

### Motto/ Quote that you live by

"Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom."

-George Washington Carver

Did you know Ms. Hassler likes to camp and be outdoors. At 62 years old she still car and tent camps.

## CLEVELAND

### What inspired you to become a teacher?

I was inspired by my track coaches and coaching to become a teacher. My pathway wasn't always clear, and I tried a few different things. I started coaching at Gibbs and seen how I could help some of my students succeed in the classroom as well as on the track.

### Most important lesson you want your students to know

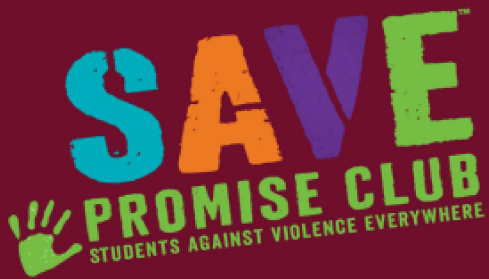
The most important lesson that I would like my students to learn is that everyone paves their own pathway.

We cannot blame anyone for the decisions that we make. You are responsible for your own successes and losses.

### Motto/ Quote that you live by

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world"

Did you know that Mrs Cleveland loves to play games. She likes games that challenge her and was addicted to Candy Crush



THE PURPOSE OF SAVE PROMISE CLUB IS TO CREATE A MORE CARING AND CONNECTED SCHOOL COMMUNITY. MEMBERS WILL BE EMPOWERED TO BE THE LEADERS OF CHANGE AND HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT WITH THEIR PEERS. THROUGH THE SAVE PROMISE CLUB, STUDENTS WILL ORGANIZE ACTIVITIES AND REMINDERS THAT REINFORCE IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED THROUGH SANDY HOOK PROMISE'S KNOW THE SIGNS PROGRAMS, SUCH AS START WITH HELLO, THUS CREATING A CULTURE OF LOOKING OUT FOR ONE ANOTHER.



LIVE FREE MISSION.... is to reduce youth substance abuse by creating a safe and healthy community through public and private collaborations that link youth, adults, families and neighborhoods to public awareness, advocacy, education and healthy solutions.





Dec. 20, 2024:	End of second quarter
Dec. 23, 2024 - Jan. 3, 2025:	Winter holidays – No school for students
Jan. 6, 2025:	School in Session – Hurricane Makeup Day
Jan. 7, 2025:	Second semester begins
Jan. 20, 2025:	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No school for students
Feb. 17, 2025:	School in Session – Hurricane Makeup Day
Mar. 14, 2025:	End of third quarter
Mar. 17, 2025 -Mar. 21, 2025:	Spring holidays – No school for students.
Apr. 18, 2025:	No school for students.
Apr. 21, 2025:	No school for students.
May 26, 2025:	Memorial Day holiday – No school for students.
May 29, 2025:	End of fourth quarter. End of 2024-2025 school year. The last day for all students will change from an early-release day to a full day.

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Submit A Tip

Submit a tip through our secure website

Call Hotline

Call our 24/7 crisis hotline counselors at 1-844-5-SayNow

Get the App

Download our mobile app at Google Play or Apple Store

Follow Up

Request follow up information on the tip you submitted



HEAT (Helping Educate All in Transition)

727-507-4766

**988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**



**CHAT WITH LIFELINE**



Quickly Sends To Authorities FortifyFL automatically routes your tip report to the appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

- Your School Officials

The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.

- Local Law Enforcement

Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.

- State-Level Officials

State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.