



*Growing Greatness through
Student Art*



My Choice. My Pinellas County Schools.
www.pcsb.org

Pinellas County Schools

2019-2020 Parent's Guide

Educating and preparing each student for college, career and life



Pinellas County School Board

Dear Parents and Families,

On behalf of Pinellas County Schools, we want to wish you a successful and rewarding 2019-2020 school year. We remain focused on elevating student achievement and preparing all our students for college, career and life.

We are excited about the new programs and initiatives we are introducing this year, including our new Center for Gifted Studies and Center for Literacy Innovation at Elisa Nelson Elementary, new career and technical certification programs at several schools, a new collegiate program at East Lake High School and the implementation of Reading Recovery programs at several targeted elementary schools. We are dedicated to increasing student achievement, providing more choices for families and making school a place where students are engaged and feel welcomed.

We are committed to meeting the needs of each and every child in our district and challenging them to exceed their own expectations. We are on the forefront of innovative programming and practices, and offer a wealth of educational choices, including more than 75 application programs suited to students' interests, talents and abilities. We provide dozens of career-focused programs, ranging from culinary arts to computer programming, and boast award-winning arts and music programs that prepare students to be well-rounded citizens.

We know that family involvement is a key factor in student success. We hope this guide helps you to actively participate in your student's education. Thank you for making Pinellas County Schools your choice and for partnering with us in our collective vision of 100 percent student success.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Grego, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Pinellas County Schools

Rene Flowers
Chairperson, Pinellas County School Board



Sitting left to right: Carol J. Cook, Vice Chairperson, Rene Flowers, Chairperson, Nicole M. Carr, Ph.D.
Standing left to right: Bill Dudley, Eileen Long, Michael A. Grego, Ed.D, Superintendent, Joanne Lentino, Lisa N. Cane

About PCS

With approximately 150 schools including neighborhood schools, magnets, career academies, technical and adult education centers, and our own Pinellas Virtual School, we offer families a wealth of educational choices suited to individual students' interests, talents and abilities.

We are the eighth largest district in the state and the largest employer in Pinellas County. One of our many strengths is the diversity of our more than 120,000 pre-kindergarten through adult education students with more than 75 choice programs that serve them.

To learn more about Pinellas County Schools, to include Board meeting schedules, visit pcsb.org.

Guiding your Child's Academic Progress

Get Certified:

Students can leave their high school with career skills by earning industry certifications in areas such as Microsoft Office, Adobe programs, drone piloting, food services, health services and more.



Technically Speaking:

If your child is interested in a technical career, check out the opportunities through Pinellas Technical College by visiting pcsb.org/myptc.

Graduation Pathways:

Students are offered three pathways to help guide them in their education planning: Advanced Scholar, College Scholar and Technical/College. Visit pcsb.org/Pinellas-pathways for more information.

Test Success:

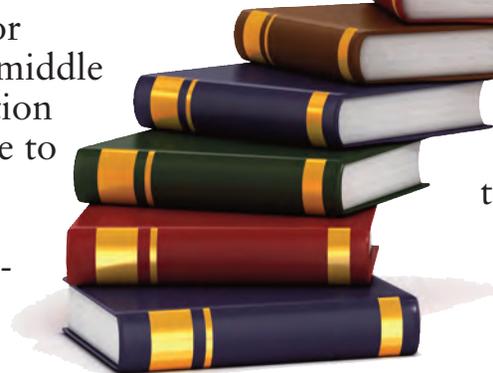
All students in eighth grade take the PSAT 8/9 in the fall at no charge and students in ninth and tenth grade take the PSAT at no charge during the school day each October. Students in eleventh grade take the SAT in school in March. Additional SAT and ACT testing dates are available. Students have access to personalized test preparation through SATpractice.org

Transitions:

If your child is in fifth or eighth grade, ask about middle and high school orientation events or schedule a time to visit your neighborhood middle or high school. Explore District Application programs and check important dates at pcsb.org/choice.

Update Records:

All incoming seventh grade students must be up date on the Tdap vaccination and provide documentation to their school.





Dillion Brewer Anona Elementary, Grade 2

August 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 All schools open. All Pre-K and postsecondary schools classes begin.	15	16	17
18 St. Petersburg College Fall 2019 Term begins St. Petersburg College Foundation Spring 2020 Scholarship application opens	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 School Board Meeting 10 am	28	29 Countywide Graduation	30	31



Mandatory Screening

Pinellas County School District, in accordance with FL Statute 381.0056(4)(a), provides health screenings for students enrolled in public school. These screenings include vision, hearing, scoliosis (grade six only), and Body Mass Index, along with any appropriate follow-up. If you do not want your child to participate in any of these screenings, you must notify your child's school in writing. For questions regarding physical exams, immunization requirements, or screenings, please contact School Health Services at (727) 588-6320.

“Osceola Middle School’s commitment to teaching challenging and engaging courses ensures our students meet the same rigorous standards that are expected from students globally. With the support of our families and the efforts of our teachers and staff, we will set the course for your child to develop his/her skills in order to be college and career ready.”

*Solomon J. Lowery, Principal,
Osceola Middle School*





GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

After School, Holidays, and Summer spent at a Boys & Girls Club means a young person in grades K-12 has access to:

- CERTIFIED TEACHERS
- ACT & SAT PREP
- TUTORING & MENTORING
- SCHOLARSHIPS
- COLLEGE TOURS
- FREE HEALTHY SNACKS
- HIGH-YIELD PROGRAMS

6 LOCATIONS SERVING PINELLAS COUNTY



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SUNCOAST

727-524-2427



BGCSUN.ORG

September 2019

National School Success Month
National Attendance Month

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	Labor Day holiday No school for students 2	St. Petersburg College 2020 Presidential Scholarship application opens 3	4	5	6	7
8	9	School Board Meeting 5 pm Budget Hearing 6:30 pm 10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	School Board Meeting 10 am 24	Dads Take Your Child To School Day St. Petersburg College Foundation Spring 2020 Scholarship application deadline 25	26	27	28
29	30					



Family Communication

Parents are encouraged to make sure that their phone numbers and email addresses are updated in FOCUS. Peachjar is the electronic flyer tool used by the district. With Peachjar, eflyers are sent directly to parents' email inboxes and posted on school websites for easy access. Learn more at pcsb.org/peachjar

“Garrison-Jones Elementary is dedicated to developing the whole child through diverse learning experiences to achieve their highest potential in preparation for their future.”

*Karen Buckles, Principal,
Garrison-Jones
Elementary School*





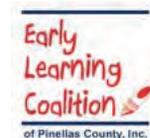
Strengthening Children, Families & Communities



- 49 Convenient Locations in the Tampa Bay Area, 10 Early Learning Academies for Children as Young as 8 Weeks
- Nationally Accredited Early Childhood Education Centers & VPK, Head Start, and Early Head Start throughout Pinellas County
- Project Challenge for Children 0-5 Years with Special Needs

- Nutritious Meals and Snacks Provided
- Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum
- Elementary and Middle School Before and After School Programs, Promise Time Tutoring
- FREE 21st Century Community Learning Centers in Middle Schools

MORE Information!
Online: www.rclub.net
Phone: 727-578-5437



October 2019 *National Principals Month*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the 2020-2021 Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) 1	2	3	4	5
6	Pinellas County College and Career Fair 6-8 pm Countryside High School 7	School Board Meeting 10 am 8	9	10	End of first quarter 11	12
13	No school for students * Possible hurricane make-up day 14	15	PSAT 16 SAT School Day for opt-in seniors	17	18	19
20	21	School Board Meeting 5pm 22	St. Petersburg College Spring 2020 open registration starts 23	24	25	26
27	28	Report cards distributed Choice Programs North County Information Fair, Countryside High School 6-7:30 pm 29	District Application Discovery Nights 30	31		



Elevating Excellence

The Elevating Excellence initiative provides high-achieving high school students with a personalized path to college success. The platform equips students and families with the tools to be accepted at competitive universities and to thrive throughout their postsecondary careers. Learn more at pcsb.org/ee

“Tarpon Springs High School is a place where students can explore multiple college and career paths in an environment of high academic standards. The support for our teachers, our athletic teams, and, most importantly, our students, is what makes Tarpon High special and is what leads to our students’ success.”

*Leza Fatolitis, Principal,
Tarpon Springs High School*





ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE

TITAN

— TODAY —



BULL

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA®

— TOMORROW —



FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

RATTLER

— TOMORROW —

fuse

GUARANTEED ADMISSION TO THE USF SYSTEM
Tampa / St. Petersburg

IGNITE

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
TRANSFER PROGRAM

These programs guarantee admission to specific bachelor's programs at a University of South Florida System institution or Florida A&M University for eligible students who first complete an associate degree at St. Petersburg College.

- Tuition at SPC is half the cost of Florida universities, saving students money on lower level courses.
- FUSE and IGNITE students have clear, customized academic pathways with no wasted credits.
- Students have dozens of academic programs to choose from.

SPC St. Petersburg College

SPCOLLEGE.EDU

November 2019 *Family Involvement Month*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Choice Programs Mid-County Information Fair, Pinellas Park High School 9-11:30 am
3	4	5 Choice Programs South County Information Fair, Lakewood High School 6-7:30 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 School Board Meeting 10 am	13 Great American Teach-In	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 St. Petersburg College Dual Enrollment deadline for Spring 2020	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Nov. 25 - Nov. 29 Thanksgiving Holiday Week - No school for students. *possible hurricane makeup days on Nov. 25-26, 2019						



Choices Abound

PCS offers more than 75 District Application Programs, which include themed, career and fundamental programs that cater to students' interests, talents and abilities. Learn more at pcsb.org/choice.

“Azalea Elementary School staff work with parents and students to instill a love of learning and high academic success with all our students.”

*Michael Rebman, Principal,
Azalea Elementary School*





LaNaya Johnson
Ponce De Leon Elementary, Grade 3

December 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 End of first semester	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Dec. 23 - Jan. 3 Winter Holidays - No school for students.						
29	30	31				



Parent Academy

Parent Academy workshops promote parental engagement and enhance student academic success. Parents can access many of the workshops from their home. Learn more at pcsb.org/parentacademy. For more information, contact the Office of Strategic Partnerships at 727-588-6000, ext. 1846.

“At Brooker Creek, we believe in being the best people we can be, not only in our studies, but as people that share the world. We believe that the very best thing we can do for the whole world is to make the most of ourselves every day.”

*Jennifer Mekler, Principal,
Brooker Creek Elementary*





DID YOU KNOW

**SPC GRADUATES EARN THE
HIGHEST ENTRY-LEVEL WAGES
IN THE STATE AMONG FLORIDA
COLLEGES?**

We also offer:

- More than 110 programs in high-demand fields
- Short-term certifications to help students enter the workforce sooner
- Free tutoring and advising to help students succeed
- Scholarship and financial aid assistance
- Dozens of online programs, and campuses throughout Pinellas County

January 2020 *National Mentoring Month*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
		Dec. 23 - Jan. 3 Winter Holidays - No school for students.				
5	No school for students. *possible hurricane make-up day 6	Schools reopen classes begin Second semester begins 7	8	9	10	11
		Jan. 8 - Jan. 17 District Program Application Period				
12	13 St. Petersburg College Spring 2020 Term begin	Jan. 8 - Jan. 17 District Application Program Application Period				
		Jan. 14, 15, 16 - Ready...Set...Kindergarten!				
19	20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday no school for students	Report cards distributed St. Petersburg College Foundation Summer 2020 Scholarship application opens 21	22 St. Petersburg College 2020 Presidential Scholarship application deadline	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Early Childhood Education

Pinellas County Schools offers families numerous early childhood education opportunities with the goal of preparing students for kindergarten and beyond. Learn more about early childhood education at pcsb.org/early or call 727-588-6513.

“Dunedin Highland Middle School has a character that is all its own. We are proud of our academies and support our student learning initiatives with arts, community involvement, and character education. Our focus is to educate the whole child.”

*Michael J. Vasallo, Principal,
Dunedin Highland Middle*



EVERY DAY COUNTS ... PARENTS TAKE THE PLEDGE!



I pledge to send my child to school on time every day because EVERY DAY COUNTS. I know missing even one or two days a month adds up and that good school attendance is an indicator of my child's future success.

ATTENDANCE TIPS

- ✓ Know the attendance policy for your child's school and keep a copy handy.
- ✓ Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- ✓ Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- ✓ Do not allow your child stay home unless he or she is truly sick.
- ✓ Make a back-up plan for getting your child to school when you cannot, such as calling on a neighbor, family member or other parent.
- ✓ Avoid scheduling appointments for your child or taking family vacations when school is in session.

February 2020 *Black History Month* *Volunteer Appreciation Month*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1 St. Petersburg College FAFSA priority deadline for Summer 2020
2	3	4	5	6	7 St. Petersburg College 2020 Presidential Scholarship transcripts/scores due	8
9	10 St. Petersburg College Early College and Early Admission deadline	11	12	13	14	15
	Feb. 10 - 21 2020 District Application Programs Acceptance					
16	17 No school for students	18	19 St. Petersburg College Foundation Summer 2020 Scholarship application deadline	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



Get Engaged in Education!

There are a wide array of mentoring and volunteering opportunities in our district for dedicated, caring individuals who wish to support and guide students. Those opportunities include 5000 Role Models, Girlfriends, Lunch Pals and Take Stock in Children. Learn more at pcsb.org/mentors or call (727) 588-5050.

“We can and we will build the future scholars and productive citizens of tomorrow.”

*Willette Houston, Principal,
Bear Creek Elementary*





Maria Fatolitis Tarpon Springs Fundamental, Grade 2

March 2020 *Reading Awareness Month*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 End of third quarter	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Mar. 16 - Mar. 20 Spring Holidays - No school for students.						
22	23 No school for students. *possible hurricane make-up day	24 Schools reopen Classes resume	25 SAT School Day for all juniors St. Petersburg College Summer 2020 open registration starts	26	27	28
29	30 St. Petersburg College Foundation Fall 2020 Scholarship application opens	31				

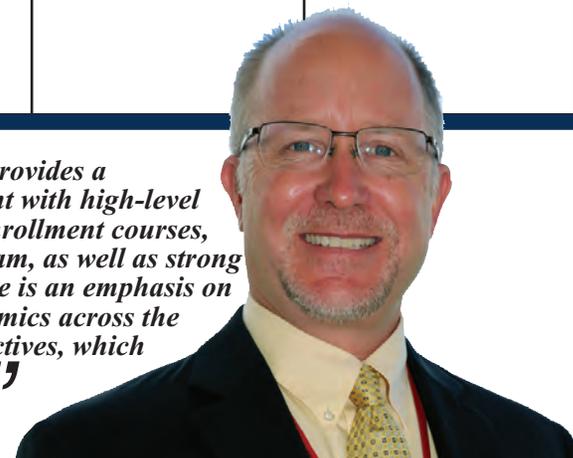


Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is national legislation that protects individuals from discrimination solely based on their disabilities. For more information regarding students in grades K-12, call (727)-588-6054. For more information regarding adult students, call the Office of Equal Opportunity, (727)-588-6000, ext. 1936.

“Pinellas Park High School provides a stimulating learning environment with high-level advanced placement and dual enrollment courses, an exceptional traditional program, as well as strong career/technical programs. There is an emphasis on technology and high-level academics across the curriculum. There are many electives, which maximize individual potential.”

*Brett Patterson, Principal,
Pinellas Park High*





United Way Suncoast is proud to partner with Pinellas County Schools, offering programs that support early literacy, youth success and financial stability.

Why? Because children who are reading at grade level by the end of third grade are **FOUR TIMES** more likely to graduate high school. And high school graduates have greater career opportunities and the potential to earn 75% more over a lifetime than those who do not graduate. Along with access to learning opportunities, family financial stability is a key contributing factor to a child's success.

With the support of local businesses, volunteers, families and individuals, United Way Suncoast continues to fight for the education and financial stability of every person in our community.



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
unitedwaysuncoast.org



United Way Suncoast

April 2020 *National Autism Month*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Report cards distributed	7	8	9	10 No school for students	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 National Library Week	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Pinellas Pathways to Graduation

The district has created three Pathways to Graduation to boost student achievement and assist families with educational planning: the Advanced Scholar Pathway, the College Scholar Pathway and the Technical/College Pathway. To see the graduation requirements, visit the website at pcsb.org/graduation.

“Students develop leadership, entrepreneurial and technical skills under the guidance of excellent instructors. Our students receive a relevant education that empowers them to have choices for life beyond high school.”

*Marti Giancola, Principal,
Richard O. Jacobson
Technical High School at
Seminole*





BEST SUMMER EVER™

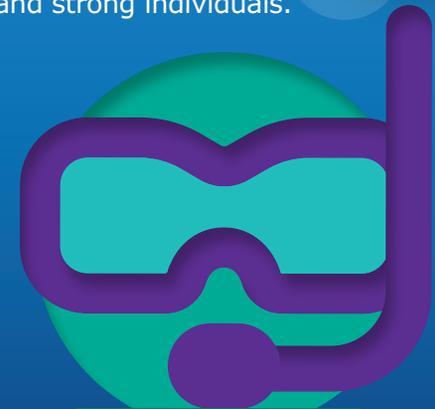
From swimming to the arts, your child will discover a summer of exploration and new skills taught by our highly-trained staff. Our renowned curriculum has been developed to help close the summer learning gap.

We integrate physical exercise, structured and spontaneous play, literacy, STEM-based activities and so much more. At the Y, our goal is to cultivate curious, happy and strong individuals.



YMCA OF GREATER ST. PETERSBURG
stpeteymca.org/camp

YMCA OF THE SUNCOAST
suncoastymca.org/summercamp



May 2020 *May 4-8 National Teacher Appreciation Week*

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 St. Petersburg College FAFSA priority deadline for Fall 2020	2
3	4	5	6	7 AVID Pinning Ceremony	8	9
10	11	12	13 St. Petersburg College Foundation Fall 2020 Scholarship application deadline	14	15	16
17	18 St. Petersburg College Summer 2020 Term begins	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day holiday No school for students	26	27	28	29 Last day for all students Elementary Report cards distributed St. Petersburg College Dual Enrollment deadline for Fall 2020	30
31						



AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is a program that takes students with the potential and determination to go to college and provides them with instruction that allows them to acquire the skills to be independent and successful in college. Students take the rigorous courses necessary to gain admission into four-year universities. To learn more about AVID, visit pcsb.org/AVIDapp.

“Learning is a journey, one we embrace together as a community. Our staff are dedicated to learning, supporting, and teaching our students and enabling them to become positive and productive members of the community.”

*Heidi D'Ambrosio, Principal,
Richard L. Sanders School*





Arianna Alzaphur Bay Vista Fundamental, Grade 5

June 2020

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 Middle and High School Report cards distributed	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

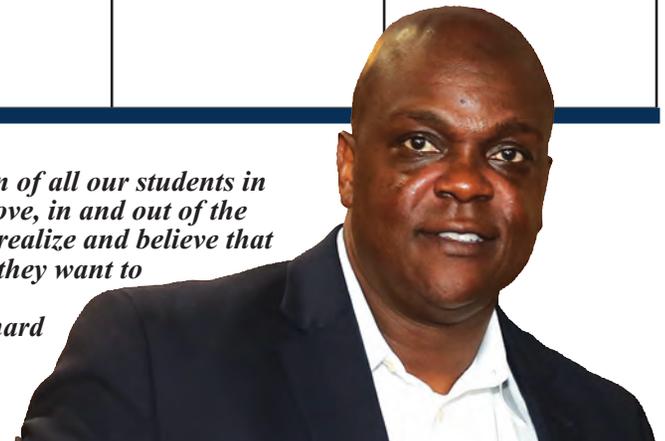


Parent Advocacy Program

The Parent Advocacy Program provides support to parents with concerns about student retention and placement, suspension, expulsion, IDEA and 504 compliance issues, discipline and advancement. If you need parental advocacy assistance, contact the Office of Strategic Partnerships at (727) 588-6537.

“Excellence is the expectation of all our students in everything we do here at the Grove, in and out of the classroom. We want students to realize and believe that they can do or be anything that they want to be in life, as long as they are committed and willing to work hard and put forth the effort.”

*Barry Brown, Principal,
Oak Grove Middle School*





Sophie Raszka Palm Harbor University High, Grade 10

July 2020

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



School Advisory, PTA, PTSA

School Advisory Committee (SAC) members are a school-based group that work to guide the school toward continuous improvement. Florida law requires each school to have a SAC to plan and implement its School Improvement Plan. For more information on your child's SAC, contact your school. PTA and PTSA provides ways for parents, teachers, administrators, students and community members to work together. For more information visit pccpta.org or contact your school's PTA/PTSA.

“Our total community, confirming that Tyrone Middle School is an outstanding educational institution that provides a safe and quality educational setting for ALL students to grow.”

*Robin N. Mobley, Principal,
Tyrone Middle School*



Area Offices

- Area 1 Ward Kennedy, Area Superintendent (727) 588-5023
- Area 2 Dr. Barbara Hires, Area Superintendent (727) 588-5024
- Area 3 Robert Poth, Area Superintendent (727) 588-5020
- Area 4 Patricia Wright, Area Superintendent (727) 588-5022

Nikita J. Reed, Chief Transformation Officer (727) 588-6339
School Leadership/Transformation Zone Schools

Emergency Information

Parents can call the district's emergency information phone line at (727) 588-6424 to hear emergency messages, such as school closings due to hazardous weather. Emergency messages will also be communicated on the district website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Contact Us

English for Speakers of Other Languages
(ESOL) 588-6068

Exceptional Student Education (ESE)
588-6032

School Board Office588-6300

Homework Helpline.....547-7223

All numbers are (727) area code

Home Education.....588-6209

Strategic Partnerships.....588-6405

Student Assignment588-6210

Student Services.....588-6307

Superintendent's Office588-6011

Teaching and Learning.....588-6121

Transportation Call Center587-2020

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, prohibits any and all forms of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, marital status, age, sexual orientation or disability in any of its programs, services or activities.



www.pcsb.org

