



DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

QUARTER 1 REPORT

2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Progress from **July 2024** through **September 2024**

Published: December 2024

WHO WE ARE

VISION

100% student success

MISSION

Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life

CORE VALUES

Commitment to children, families and community

- Making decisions and committing resources to attain each student's success
- Seeking out and connecting with families and community

Respectful and caring relationships

- Establishing positive relationships among all stakeholders
- Using the district vision to guide intentions, motives and actions

Cultural competence

- Understanding and honoring culturally-defined beliefs, needs, styles and behaviors of the students, families and communities we serve
- Valuing the benefit that individual differences bring to our school district
- Recognizing the importance of individual similarities and differences while working effectively with all stakeholders from various cultures, races, ethnicities and religious backgrounds

Integrity

- Maintaining the highest standards of behavior, ethics, fairness and honesty with ourselves and others
- Committing to doing the right things for the right reasons
- Demonstrating fairness in our judgments and actions

Responsibility

- Fulfilling commitments and promises through fact-based decision-making and problem-solving
- Taking ownership of our own behaviors
- Seeking opportunities for continuous improvement

Connectedness

- Teaming through internal and external partnerships by aligning efforts for the common purpose of each student's success
- Willing to share and transfer knowledge with others



DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

OVERVIEW

The 2023–26 Pinellas County Schools (PCS) District Strategic Plan (DSP) was Board-approved in September 2023 and provides clear direction for strategic improvement areas that will accelerate the district and student success over the next three years. These high-leverage areas of focus, in alignment with the district’s vision, mission, and core values, guide the continuous improvement efforts of schools and district departments. Further, the DSP is developed alongside the budget to ensure resources are prioritized and aligned with the initiatives that support the district goals.

The PCS District Strategic Plan can be accessed online:
www.pcsb.org/strategicplan



MONITORING

The district monitors each objective by utilizing the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) process. District departments develop targeted, cross-functional action plans to support the attainment of each objective. Interdepartmental teams monitor the DSP by:

- clearly defining strategies;
- planning and allocating supports and resources needed for implementation;
- regularly monitoring key performance indicators; and
- adjusting strategies, supports and/or resources to meet student, family, school, and department needs.

In support of the DSP, each school engages in a continuous improvement process through a School Improvement Plan (SIP). As schools build their SIPs, site-based teams review current progress, develop strategies, set goals, and create action plans to support growth.

QUARTER 1 UPDATE

This update highlights actions and progress toward each strategic priority and objective within the DSP from July 2024 through September 2024. Each page highlights the work of the district by objective and includes:

- Objective Strategies in Action,
- Fast Facts,
- Presentations of Progress (if applicable), and
- Communication Corner (if applicable).

This update report shares the district’s progress toward its goals with all stakeholders. Additionally, stakeholders can access the district’s progress on each objective through a public [DSP community dashboard](#) on the PCS website.



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 1: ACCELERATE INNOVATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR ALL STUDENTS



Progress: **July 2024 - September 2024**



OBJECTIVE 1 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Summer Camps

PCS hosted **30 summer enrichment camps** across 40 school sites, offering a wide range of high-interest subjects such as career and technical studies, visual arts, performing arts, STEM, science, and civics. **Nearly 3,800 students** participated in hands-on activities and educational field trips.

Middle School ELA

The middle school ELA curriculum includes standards-aligned local **field trips** to enhance the relevance and engagement of the learning experience. For example, eighth graders can explore Kennedy Space Center while reading about the theme *To Infinity and Beyond*.

Secondary Mathematics

Teachers engage in monthly professional learning to utilize **interactive tools like Algebra tiles and Prism VR goggles**, which enhance student learning by connecting math concepts to real-world applications. In middle school math, the focus is on **increasing hands-on practice**, allowing students to build on concepts, deepen their understanding, and receive real-time feedback for continuous growth.

FAST FACTS



Arts

The Dali Museum Traveling Art Mobile visited six elementary schools, providing tours of the mini-museum to approximately **3,000 K-5 students** with their art teachers.



STEM Explorer Club Program

More than **2,300 students** from 84 elementary and middle schools dive into hands-on engineering design challenges and robotics, boost their teamwork skills and sharpen their leadership abilities.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[District Application Program Updates, September 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[PCS students learn about coding at Summer Camp](#)

[PCS students explore the world of 3D printing](#)

[Back-to-School 2024-2025](#)

[Imagine. Innovate. Inspire with PCS Magnet & Fundamental Programs](#)

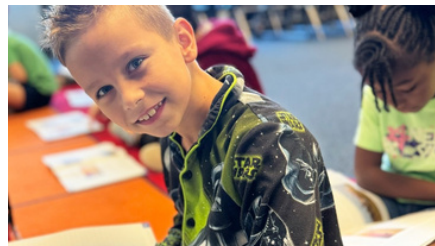


QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 2: EXPAND EARLY LITERACY INITIATIVES FOR ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES PRE-K-3



Progress: **July 2024 - September 2024**



OBJECTIVE 2 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Summer Early Childhood Institute

The 2024 PCS Summer Early Childhood Institute provided approximately **50 professional learning opportunities** for PreK3 through second grade teachers. Staff participated in **over 1,000 sessions**.

Pinellas Early Literacy Initiative (PELI)

PCS has **authored** a series of **decodable books** for kindergarten and has **expanded** the series to **first grade**. This familiarity **reinforces learning** by building upon the foundations established in kindergarten.

University of Florida Literacy Initiative (UFLI)

The UFLI phonics program, originally implemented in kindergarten, has been further developed and integrated into the **first and second grade ELA curriculum in all elementary schools**. Each school receives support for implementing UFLI phonics through site-based or district coaches. These coaches model instructional techniques, while district staff provide just-in-time training tailored to student achievement data or specific school requests. This approach ensures that phonics instruction is effectively adapted to meet the needs of all students

FAST FACTS



Summer Read Across Pinellas (RAP)

157 PCS alumni and community members worked with individual rising kindergarten through rising third grade students providing over **11,000 hours** of reading tutoring during June.



Collaborating with the Community

PCS is collaborating with the Early Learning Coalition and JWB to establish a Pinellas County Early Childhood Institute for public and private providers.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[ChangeMakers Presentation, September 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[New Worlds Reading Initiative](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 3: ENSURE GRADUATES ARE PREPARED FOR WORKFORCE AND COLLEGE SUCCESS



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 3 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Dual Enrollment

PCS began offering SLS 1301 - Career and Life Planning as its introductory Dual Enrollment course offered in high schools. This course is designed to equip students with essential postsecondary planning and soft skills for life after high school. This course benefits a broad range of students, including those entering the workforce directly or pursuing higher education. The number of enrollments in **college-credit earning courses increased by 6%** this year.

Participation in **career dual enrollment**, which focuses on career and technical workforce preparation, **increased by 16%**.

Free PSAT and SAT

All students in **grades eight through eleven** will have the opportunity to take the PSAT during the school day in October **at no cost**. **Twelfth-grade students** will have the opportunity to take the digital SAT **at no cost** in October. Similarly, **eleventh-grade** students can take the digital SAT for **free** in March.

FAFSA Completion Events

Throughout the summer, the high school College and Career Coordinators focused on FAFSA completion. The summer events, hosted in collaboration with SPC and LEAP Tampa Bay, featured a DJ, lunch, participant swag, and special scholarships awarded to attendees.

FAST FACTS



Bright Futures Scholarships

Bright Futures Scholarships awarded to PCS graduates increased by nearly 5%.



College Credit & Career Dual Enrollment Participation

The total enrollment in college-credit and career dual enrollment courses increased to over 41,500.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Pinellas Technical College students get a taste of the NFL](#)

[26 PCS students named National Merit Semifinalists](#)

[Never Give Up! Night Foreman Obtains GED](#)

[Doggie Daycare at Summer Camp](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 4: EARN A DISTRICT GRADE OF A



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 4 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

PCS is an “A” District

PCS earned a district-level **grade of an “A” for the first time** in its history. The district ranked in the state’s top quartile (15th out of 67 districts in Florida).

Data Analytics

The district has developed and launched a Data Analytics Dashboard for leaders, with ongoing updates. In Spring 2025, a teacher view will be introduced to empower teachers to deliver data-driven, differentiated instruction tailored to each student’s needs.

Cognia Districtwide Accreditation

PCS was awarded continued districtwide accreditation status by Cognia, scoring at the highest level of performance and earning accolades for noteworthy practices in leadership, strategic planning, and continuous improvement.

FAST FACTS



School Grades

83% of PCS schools earned a school grade of **A or B**, and every PCS school earned a grade of A, B, or C.

- 55 “A” schools
- 40 “B” schools
- 20 “C” schools



Graduation Rate

The senior cohort began the school year with an 11-percentage point increase in on-track graduation compared to the start of the previous school year.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What’s New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[PCS Earns District Accreditation Renewal, July 2024](#)

[District and School Grades, August 2024](#)

[School Improvement Plans, August 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Pinellas County Schools is an A District](#)

[Pinellas County Schools Continues to Elevate Academic Excellence](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: SAFE AND RESPECTFUL CLIMATE AND CULTURE OBJECTIVE 5: BUILD POSITIVE, CARING CULTURES OF LEARNING IN EVERY CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 5 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Power Up Learning

The Power Up Learning, Power Down Distractions campaign launched this school year, focusing on digital responsibility. Students across all grades are learning and practicing **age-appropriate internet safety** and **digital responsibility skills**, which empower them to utilize technology for learning and mastering the digital world. Additionally, students are learning to minimize distractions by limiting cell phone and wireless device use during the school day.

Student Mental Health

PCS Student Services developed a **resource hub** for mental health and resiliency lessons and materials. The resources were informed by student input and include state- and district-developed resources to be used in classrooms.

FAST FACTS



Positive Student Engagement

Student attendance and discipline data have improved districtwide compared to 2023-24. The percentage of students attending more than 90% of the time has increased by 5 points, and the percentage of students with disciplinary referrals has decreased by 7 points.



School Climate, Behavior and Mental Health Summer Institute

PCS partnered with 20 community organizations that provided resources for the 785 PCS staff who participated and engaged in learning.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Mental Health Plan Update, July 2024](#)

[Digital Citizenship Campaign, July 2024](#)

[Chronic Absenteeism, July 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Start with Hello Week](#)

[Students Power Up Learning](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: SAFE AND RESPECTFUL CLIMATE AND CULTURE OBJECTIVE 6: MAINTAIN SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENTS



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 6 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

School Safety

The School Safety Training Day provided an in-depth review of the new laws and accompanying procedures, which include new requirements for **securing campuses** with locked doors and gates. The district safety officers continue to work closely with the Florida Office of Safe Schools to **evaluate and improve the safety measures** at all PCS schools.

Educational Alternative Services (EAS)

The Academic Intervention Plan helps students at EAS schools **transition** to traditional K-12 schools to earn to their diploma or pursue postsecondary goals. Students collaborate with school staff to create strategies and interventions **tailored to their needs**. The plan includes academic, attendance, and behavior goals, with progress checked every quarter.

Cybersecurity

PCS implemented a **multilayered approach** to protect the network, data, devices, and user identity. The security includes testing the system's vulnerability and training staff.

FAST FACTS



Awareness of Student Services

Student Services staff attended ten family events to **raise awareness** of student mental health and wellbeing, and to inform families and students of services available.



PATHS Program

The Purposeful Attention Towards Helping Students Succeed (PATHS) program has **reached capacity** at its first two locations and opened a new location at Tarpon Springs High School in 2024-25.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Mental Health Plan Update, July 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Safety Starts with Me](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: EQUITY WITH EXCELLENCE FOR ALL OBJECTIVE 7: ELIMINATE GAPS IN OPPORTUNITY, ACCESS AND ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 7 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Core Curriculum Enhancements

The Teaching and Learning curriculum teams collaborate with the ESE and EL departments to **embed ESE and EL supports and strategies** within ELA and Math coaches' meetings and module rollouts. This collaboration ensures that all schools have access to the instructional content and strategies used in core subjects.

Student Learning Experiences

The on-campus planetarium and Crate Explorations activities, developed in partnership with Great Explorations, are designed with **adaptive and scaffolded elements**, ensuring that every learner can actively engage and benefit from these hands-on learning experiences

Transformation Zone (TZ)

All Transformation Zone schools earned the **highest proficiency** in ELA, math, and science in the last decade. **All** schools in the TZ earned a **school grade of C or higher**.

Math, Engineering and Science

PCS is partnering with USF to host a chapter of the Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) program, **encouraging underrepresented students to engage in STEM fields**. In 2024-25, 60 students from three high schools will enhance their STEM skills through competitions, field trips and support from industry and community partners.

FAST FACTS



Boys Read and Guys Read

79 schools are registered to participate in the district Boys Read and Guys Read competitions.

- 55 elementary schools
- 13 middle school
- 11 high schools

3.5x

PSAT Prep

Black student participation in PSAT preparation workshops increased by **more than threefold** compared to fall 2023.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[District and School Grades, August 2024](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: EQUITY WITH EXCELLENCE FOR ALL OBJECTIVE 8: ACCELERATE PROGRESS OF THE DISTRICT BRIDGING THE GAP PLAN



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 8 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Graduation Rate

Current seniors in the Black subgroup have an “on-track to graduate” rate of 60% as of the first quarter of the 2024-25 school year, which is **nearly 17% higher** than the subgroup’s on-track rate in same period in 2023-24.

Rigorous Coursework

Over 200 teachers participated in training at the AVID Summer Institute in June, a program **designed to close the opportunity gap** and prepare students for college and career readiness.

Academic Achievement

The Teaching and Learning department has coordinated **weekly instructional rounds** with the Minority Achievement Officer to evaluate **instructional practices** that enhance Black student achievement.

Student Discipline

The effectiveness and efficiency of the PCS student support request process has **continued to improve**. In the first quarter of the 2024-25 school year, it was utilized 178 times, marking an **84% increase** from the 97 times it was used during the same period in 2023-24.

FAST FACTS



Minority Hiring

The Human Resources department has scheduled recruitment visits at **HBCU’s, including Bethune-Cookman, Florida A&M (FAMU), Georgia State, and Tennessee State University**, and is using platforms such as National Minority Update and Diversity Net for advertisement and recruitment.



Out-of-School Suspensions (OSS)

The number of Black students with multiple out-of-school suspensions **decreased by 26%** in the first quarter of the 2024-25 school year as compared to the same period in 2023-24.



PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What’s New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[BTG End of Year Update, September 2024](#)

[Bridging the Gap \(BTG\) Plan Website](#)

QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: POSITIVE STAFF EXPERIENCES OBJECTIVE 9: ATTRACT AND RETAIN OUTSTANDING FACULTY AND STAFF



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 9 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

2024-25 Salary Increases

All PCS employees were awarded an average salary **increase between 3% and 4%**, reflecting the district's commitment to retaining outstanding faculty and staff.

Employee Child Care

The PCS Employee Child Care program launched at the beginning of the school year, providing **72 PCS employees** with **affordable, high-quality child care**.

Teacher Apprenticeship Program

The teacher apprenticeship program, launched in August 2024 with **27 apprentices**, offers current support employees the opportunity to earn a higher wage while training to become teachers. The two-year program, provided in partnership with St. Petersburg College, **combines college coursework with on-the-job training**, making apprentices **eligible for classroom teacher positions** upon successful completion.

FAST FACTS

99%

Classroom Staffing

99% of classrooms were **staffed** with full-time instructional employees.

88%

Instructional Staff Retention

88% of instructional staff were **retained** from the 2023-24 school year.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Tomlinson Update, July 2024](#)

[Prescription Drug Litigation, September 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[PCS and PESPA Reach Tentative Salary Agreement](#)

[PCS and PCTA Reach a Tentative Agreement for 2024-2025](#)

[Inspiring Teachers, The IT Factor Series](#)

[Len, Your Friend](#)

[PCS Alumni returns home to teach](#)



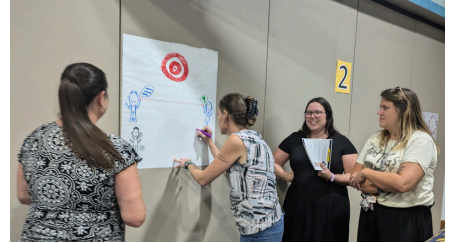
QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: POSITIVE STAFF EXPERIENCES

OBJECTIVE 10: INVEST IN ALL STAFF THROUGH CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 10 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Professional Learning Initiative

PCS is redesigning its professional learning system to offer a range of options that **meet staff interests and needs**. This initiative includes a training course for all PCS training facilitators on the **districtwide expectations for adult learning**. Currently, **over 900 employees** are trained, and more than 100 are registered for an upcoming session.

The professional development department is collaborating with the teaching and learning staff to create a **Strategy Walk Playbook and resource hub** to support instruction.

Teacher Mentoring Program

The teacher mentor program has been **reimagined** to provide specific training for both new and continuing lead mentors. The program includes monthly sessions covering the **new curriculum**, increased **salary supplements** for both site-based and lead mentors, and **site visits**, particularly to high-turnover schools, to support schools, mentors, and new and early career teachers.

FAST FACTS



Adult Learning Training

97% of participants **would recommend** the Skilled Facilitator Essentials course, which focuses on districtwide adult learning expectations.



Embrace Pinellas

357 newly hired teachers took part in the revised Embrace Pinellas training program.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Professional Development Update, August 2024](#)

[Professional Learning Catalog, August 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Embrace Pinellas](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: STRONG CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVE 11: DEEPEN AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENT WITH FAMILIES DISTRICTWIDE



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 11 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Family and Community Events

The district **hosted 27 community events** to encourage parent participation in mentoring, volunteering, and school engagement. Additionally, district staff engage in ongoing quarterly meetings with community groups and municipalities to enhance collaboration and garner feedback.

Volunteer Engagement

The district has increased the number of **active volunteers to 19,349**, which is a **6% increase** compared to the first quarter of the 2023-24 year. This year, these volunteers have contributed nearly **25,000 hours** of service, adding a **value** of more than **\$800,000** to PCS schools and students.

Parent Masterclass on the PSAT

PCS conducted **three** fall sessions of the **PSAT Parent Masterclass**, which highlighted the significance of the PSAT/SAT for their children, provided details on testing opportunities, and encouraged student participation in upcoming fall PSAT prep sessions.

FAST FACTS



Community Events

Strategic Partnerships staff participated in **77 community events** hosted by community organizations, including community forums, workshops and trainings.



Mentors

A total of **1,156 mentors** actively meet with **2,149 students** to encourage and support their success.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024

COMMUNICATION CORNER

ESOL Community Resource Fair

Family Friendly Business of the Year



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: STRONG CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVE 12: LEVERAGE PARTNERSHIPS THAT SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 12 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

School Board Legislative Platform

The school board developed its annual legislative platform and shared it to inform the statewide school board legislative platform. The platform **advocates for PCS students and staff**, outlining the board's position on various education issues to be discussed **at the state level** during legislative sessions.

STEM Center with Ark Educate

The district is collaborating with ARK Educate to develop a **STEM center** for students districtwide.

City of St. Petersburg

Mayor Ken Welch is encouraging **City of St. Petersburg** employees to mentor PCS students by providing them with one paid hour each week for mentoring. St. Pete and PCS hosted a celebratory **Mentor Match** ceremony to pair the city's **first 50 mentors** with their PCS mentees.

Great Explorations

PCS expanded its partnership with Great Explorations Children's Museum to create hands-on interdisciplinary STEM trunks. In the first quarter, **over 3,000 students** participated in an experience that included using digital microscopes, reading, practicing FAST-style ELA questions, applying math concepts, and reading maps.

FAST FACTS



PCS Partners

The district has established partnerships with **eight new community partners** to provide support resources for students, staff, and schools.



Referendum 2024

The Pinellas Education Foundation and community partners successfully advocated to increase the public schools' ad valorem property tax to one mill, which Pinellas County residents approved on November 5, 2024.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Referendum Flyer 2024](#)

[Referendum Video 2024](#)

[Pinellas County Schools Referendum 2024](#)

[ChangeMakers: Champions of Education](#)

[Independent committee sees Referendum funds in action at Gibbs High](#)

[City of St. Petersburg Employees commit to mentoring PCS students](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: STRONG CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVE 13: DELIVER ENGAGING AND CONSISTENT COMMUNICATIONS TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 13 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Strategic Plan Community Dashboard

The district introduced the **Strategic Plan Community Dashboard**, an interactive online tool that presents complex data clearly and visually. This tool helps stakeholders understand and **track the progress** of district objectives. **Quarterly reports** further enhance the dashboard by detailing the **key strategies and initiatives** driving the outcomes.

Community Connections

PCS welcomed the community to engage with the school board, superintendent, and district leaders during two **Listen and Learn** sessions in July and September. The topics and feedback discussed are used to **inform continuous improvement** efforts.

Expanding Digital Engagement

PCS expanded its multimedia production from podcasts about teaching to include showcasing alumni and athletic contests spanning 40 years on YouTube. The PCS Games of the Week have nearly **2,000 views on YouTube and over 5,000 on social media**.

TogetherPCS Alumni Spotlights

The **TogetherPCS Newsletter** features **alumni spotlights**, the most recent editions including East Lake High School alum and director of St. Anthony's triathlon **Patrick McGee**, Lakewood High School alum and Miami Dolphins offensive lineman **Isaiah Wynn**, and Osceola High School alum and first-year PCS teacher **Madison Cossairt**.

FAST FACTS



Engaging with Stakeholders

PCS website interactions increased by **more than 40%** year over year during the Back to School and Power Up Learning campaigns in August.



TogetherPCS Newsletter

Nearly 9,000 stakeholders are subscribed to receive the monthly newsletter.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024

Listen and Learn, July 2024

Listen and Learn, September 2024

COMMUNICATION CORNER

Finding Joy Podcast

AHA Moments Podcast: Conditions for Learning

Classic Game of the Week

Connect with us!



en Español



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OBJECTIVE 14: SUCCESSFULLY TRANSITION STRATEGIES FUNDED BY ESSER/ARP



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 14 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

**Updated during the Midyear Update and Annual Report.*

Summer Camp Experiences

ESSER/ARP funding provided PCS students with **summer enrichment** experiences throughout the month of July. Opportunities included STEM, arts, culinary, and robotics. PCS is exploring other funding sources for summer 2025.

Sustained Operational Activities

PCS continued to **transition** projects funded by ESSER/ARP grants to the **operating budget** (e.g., cost of substitutes, PCS Connects, sanitation).

Read Across Pinellas

The Read Across Pinellas (RAP) tutoring program, designed for children in kindergarten and first grade, was **successfully transitioned** from ESSER/ARP grants to referendum funding in 2023-24. RAP tutors are trained and compensated to engage with learners to strengthen their reading skills.

Digital Resources Review

PCS continues to review the current **digital content** tools and platforms supported by the district and ESSER/ARP funds to **prioritize programs** that will continue after fall 2024.

FAST FACTS



Employee Salaries

Salary increases for 2023-24 and 2024-25 were paid from operating funds, and there is no anticipated reliance on reserves.



ESSER/ARP Drawdown

All ESSER/ARP funds allocated to non-charter schools were **successfully utilized** within the designated timeframe, **meeting** the September 2024 **deadline**.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024

COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

[PCS students exploring the STEM of flying!](#)

[PCS students explore the 3D printing at Summer Camp](#)

[Doggie Daycare at Summer Camp](#)

[PCS students learn about coding at Summer Camp](#)



QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OBJECTIVE 15: INCREASE OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 15 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Routing and Communication Systems

PCS is developing a new bus **routing system to enhance efficiency** in routing, management, and reporting. This system will adjust routes when students are absent and use GPS data to eliminate unused stops. It will be piloted in north county before the end of the spring semester.

Driver Hiring and Retention

PCS has been actively hiring bus drivers and successfully **increased** the number for the **third consecutive semester** in August 2024, staffing enough drivers to cover all routes.

Ridership Campaign

PCS serves nearly 22,000 bus riders and has implemented a ridership campaign to confirm which eligible students plan to use school bus transportation before the school year begins.

FAST FACTS



PCS **eliminated** the school bus driver **deficit** and currently employs enough drivers for each route.



Twenty new **electric school buses** were operating on the first day of school, and **77%** of the district bus fleet is powered by **propane or electricity**.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[School Bus Safety Tips](#)

[Transportation FAQs](#)

[Transportation Adds 20 Electric Buses to Their Fleet](#)

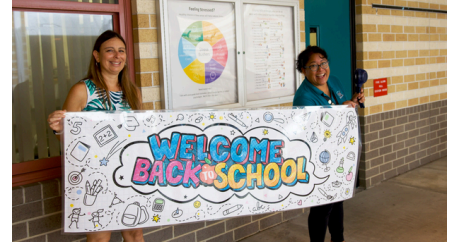


QUARTER 1 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OBJECTIVE 16: PROVIDE STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES, TECHNOLOGY, AND RESOURCES



Progress: July 2024 - September 2024



OBJECTIVE 16 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Grand Opening of New Facilities

Construction was completed on time, and **Mangrove Bay Middle School**, along with the **Employee Child Care Center**, welcomed their **inaugural** classes.

Enterprise Resource Planning

A **cross-functional team**, including Human Resources, Technology Information Systems (TIS), and Finance, meets regularly with the vendor to drive **development and implementation**. Training has begun, and an executive dashboard has been implemented to manage milestones. The ERP is on track for the October 2025 launch date.

Wireless Network Upgrade

The district is **upgrading wireless** access points across all schools to ensure a fast and reliable user experience for both staff and students. This initiative aims to **enhance connectivity** and support the increasing demand for **digital learning** and administrative operations.

FAST FACTS



Leadership Development Center

Construction of the **PCS Leadership Development Center** is underway, and the community will have the opportunity to **suggest names** for it later this fall.



Improving Learning Spaces

The district has established a process for schools to evaluate their facilities and provide **recommendations** to **enhance learning environments**, informing the 5-year capital plan.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Midtown Property Update, August 2024](#)

[Annual Budget, September 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Community to Name Three Facilities](#)

[Mangrove Bay Ribbon Cutting](#)

