

TOGETHER PCS

KEEPING PACE WITH PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

Welcome to TogetherPCS, the district's monthly newsletter featuring students, staff, alumni, coaches, curriculum, community partners and so much more!

In this issue, we catch up with Beau Zimmer, a Lakewood High School graduate who enjoyed a successful television news career with Channel 10 and is now the manager of communications at Tampa International Airport. We also reminisce with the 2023 PCS Volunteer of the Year who has stepped away from her many roles at Osceola High School after 17 years as a district volunteer. And we celebrate the 50-year career of Izella McCree, a paraprofessional at North Shore Elementary School.

If you know someone who should be featured in TogetherPCS, please click the "Nominate Here" button below. Let's do this TOGETHER!

[NOMINATE HERE](#)



In developing the 2023-2026 District Strategic Plan, the School Board and District staff heard from our stakeholders through surveys, Listen and Learn sessions in the community, staff focus groups, student input, as well as business & partner feedback.

Our District Strategic Plan was developed to intentionally guide transformational change and set the vision for where we want to be as a district over the next three years and includes six Strategic Priorities

- **Academic Excellence through Innovation**
- **Safe and Respectful Climate and Culture**
- **Equity with Excellence for All**
- **Positive Staff Experiences**
- **Strong Connections and Communication**
- **Fiscal and Operational Responsibility**

Within these priorities are specific objectives and key results that describe measures for what we will accomplish together.

Over the course of this year, we will dive deeper into each of the Strategic Priorities as a community while also connecting how we work together with our Core Values always at the forefront.

[Read the plan](#)
[Watch Mr. Hendrick's video](#)

WHAT'S INSIDE



In addition to neighborhood school, Pinellas County Schools offers more than 80 magnet, fundamental and career-focused programs. through the District Application Program (DAP). You can also apply for a Special Assignment Request (SAR), which provides your child the opportunity to attend a non-DAP, non-zoned school.

SAR Application Period:

Nov. 6-17, 2023

Learn More

DAP Application Period:

Jan. 9-19, 2024

Learn More

Oct. 23, 2023 - Jan. 19, 2024

DAP Discovery Nights

January 8, 2024: 5:30 p.m.

How to Apply for a District

Application Program

Facebook/YouTube Live Event



Last year's PCS Outstanding School Volunteer Brenda George has volunteered at the district for 17 years.

Volunteer extraordinaire Brenda George has dedicated 17 years to the district

Brenda George has made a lot of memories on a number of campuses in her 17 years as a volunteer with Pinellas County Schools.

And she counts Osceola High School Principal Michael Bohnet as one of her biggest cheerleaders along the way.

“Her value, input and insight and all the things she does to make our school complete are immeasurable,” Bohnet said. “She can’t help but bring a smile to your face.”

Brenda George first registered as a volunteer in 2006 when her oldest son, Camden, started kindergarten at Starkey Elementary. She has consistently logged more than 500 hours each year.

Watch the video and read the full article

ACHIEVE TOGETHER

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Beau Zimmer was doing what he did most of his life - covering breaking news for Channel 10 - when he learned a position had opened in the communications department at Tampa International Airport.

“I had two big interests in my life... television and aviation,” said Zimmer, who graduated from Lakewood High School’s Center for Advanced Technologies (CAT) program in 1997 and worked as a broadcast journalist for Channel 10 for the majority of his career. “I had



been doing the same thing for 16 years – I was ready for a new adventure.”

So, he took the opportunity to pivot and now uses his journalism skills to promote all things airport related.

“I use a lot of the same skills – writing, editing, shooting video – and I get to cover something I am super interested in,” Zimmer said from the television production studio of his alma mater. “Nothing beats getting to be on the runway when a cool plane is landing or a historical moment is happening at the airport.”

[Read the full article](#)

Beau Zimmer, Lakewood High School class of 1997, is the Communications Manager at Tampa International Airport after a 16-year career at Tampa Bay's Channel 10.



Are You a PCS Alumni?

What are you up to now? Use the link below to update Pinellas County Schools on family, career and life for a chance to be featured in TogetherPCS!

[Click here to be featured](#)



Palm Harbor 'besties' crowned king and queen

For the first time in Pinellas County Schools history, both the homecoming king *AND* queen received their crowns donning football uniforms.

That’s because wide receiver Esther Breitling was in the middle of a big game with Palm Harbor University High School’s varsity football team when her name, along with running back Mykehl Boebert, was called over the loudspeaker to accept her crown last month.

“It was a surreal feeling to be selected,” said Breitling, who is a biomedical senior in the school’s Center for Wellness and Medical Professions. “I will always remember that moment for the rest of my life.”

[Read the full article](#)



Celebrating the 50-year career of Izella McCree

Izella McCree tried to retire once in 2004 after 40 years of service with Pinellas County Schools, but for someone who knew she wanted to be in education since high school, that proved more difficult than expected.

“I couldn’t stand it. I was going crazy,” McCree said of her very brief time off. “I was bored. I missed the children. I said, ‘my babies need me. I’ve got to go back.’”

McCree, better known as “Grandmama McCree” will turn 82 years old in December. She has worked in the Pre-K classrooms at North Shore Elementary School for five years after being at Lakewood Elementary for 30 years and James B. Sanderlin in between. October 22 marked her 50-year anniversary with the District.

[Watch the video and read the full article](#)



The Superintendent Says...

"I am so excited to introduce the 2023-26 District Strategic Plan and very thankful to everyone who has worked so diligently to launch it. I look forward to our collaborative work ahead and am thrilled to share and promote the accomplishments of our district with our entire community as we fulfill our vision of 100% Student Success."

To help spread the word, please forward this newsletter to community members who are interested in public education. Sign up by clicking the button below.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)



VISION: 100% STUDENT SUCCESS

MISSION: EDUCATE AND PREPARE EACH STUDENT FOR COLLEGE, CAREER AND LIFE

PCS Compliance Statement

Pinellas County Schools | 301 Fourth St. SW, Largo, FL 33779