

# Pinellas County Schools 2017-2018 Parent's Guide

*Educating and preparing each student for college, career and life*



My Choice. My Pinellas County Schools.  
[www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org)



# 2017-18 Pinellas County School Board



**Sitting left to right:** Rene Flowers, Vice Chairperson, Peggy O'Shea, Chairperson, Carol Cook

**Standing left to right:** Michael A. Grego, Ed.D, Superintendent, Linda S. Lerner, Joanne Lentino, Eileen Long, Terry Krassner

Dear Families,

Pinellas County Schools is committed to growing greatness with each and every child. We are increasing our focus on ensuring every child is challenged to exceed their own expectations. Through extensive professional development and support of our teachers and school leaders, we are able to provide enriching learning opportunities for students. As a scholar in Pinellas County Schools, your child will have caring teachers and find programs that meet every interest, talent and ability. Thank you for making Pinellas County Schools your choice.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Grego, Ed.D.

*Michael A. Grego*  
Superintendent, Pinellas County Schools

Peggy O'Shea

*Peggy R. O'Shea*  
Chairperson, Pinellas County School Board

## 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 nearly 116,305 pre-kindergarten through adult education students.

## School Board Meetings

The School Board generally meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

and the fourth Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the Conference Hall of the Administration Building, 301 Fourth St. SW, Largo. Meeting dates and times are available on [pcsb.org](http://pcsb.org). Live and recorded video of the meetings can be viewed on [pcsb.org](http://pcsb.org). The meetings are televised for two weeks following the meeting on WPDS-TV14. For more information, contact the board office, 727-588-6300.

Like us on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/mypinellasschools](https://facebook.com/mypinellasschools)



Follow us on Twitter: [twitter.com/my\\_pcs](https://twitter.com/my_pcs)





# Tips to Help Guide Your Child's Academic Progress

## Elementary

**Talking and listening:** Talking and listening build strong foundations for learning. Ask questions. Encourage your child to provide examples to support what they tell you.

**Interactive reading:** Read aloud with your child every day. When reading, ask about the story. Ask your child to retell the story in his or her own words. If reading a picture book, ask your child to tell you what is happening in the pictures.

**Add non-fiction:** Read grade-level appropriate non-fiction books, newspapers and magazines with your child. Read biographies, articles and historical stories with your child.

**Offer an example:** Let your child see you enjoy reading books.

**Stay in touch:** Attend your school's back-to-school night and other parent events. Stay in touch with your child's teacher about your child's progress.

**Monitor progress:** Do you see your child's knowledge and vocabulary growing? Do you see your child learning to use new words in speaking and writing? Is your child being asked to solve real-world problems in math?

**Beyond the school day:** Check out your school's STEM Academy, an after-school enrichment program. Check with your school for other clubs and activities.

**Support at home:** Homework assignments help your child master skills they practice in school. Establish good habits early and help your child value the importance of homework.

**Transitions:** If your child is in fifth grade, ask about middle school orientation events or schedule a time to visit your neighborhood middle school. Explore District Application Programs and check important dates at [pcsb.org/Choice](https://www.pcsb.org/Choice).

## Middle School

**Get acquainted:** Attend back-to-school night and meet your child's teachers, grade level administrator and/or school counselor.

**Know the options:** Review your child's class schedule and the student handbook. Courses students take in middle school impact high school course options. If you have questions, contact your school early in the school year.

**Encourage online safety:** Middle school students may need guidance understanding safe and responsible online use. Visit [www.common SenseMedia.org](https://www.common SenseMedia.org) for resources.

**Explore the arts:** Students in middle school have access to a robust offering of performing and fine arts courses.

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

**Test success:** All students in 8th grade take the PSAT 8/9 in the fall at no charge and have access to personalized test preparation through [SATpractice.org](https://www.SATpractice.org). High-performing seventh-graders are invited to take the SAT in the spring.

**Career exploration:** Middle school students have a growing list of opportunities to explore career and technical education and earn industry certifications. Ask your school about courses and clubs available for your child.

**Transitions:** If your child is in eighth grade, ask about orientation events at your child's high school. When your child registers for high school, ask to review their course selection. Explore District Application Programs and check important dates at [pcsb.org/Choice](https://www.pcsb.org/Choice).

## High School

**Graduation Pathways:** Has your child determined their Pathway to Graduation? Pinellas County Schools offers three Pathways to help guide students in their educational planning: Advanced Scholar, College Scholar and Technical/College. Visit [pcsb.org/Pinellas-pathways](https://www.pcsb.org/Pinellas-pathways) for more information.

**Know the requirements:** Review graduation requirements before your child begins 9th grade. Ask your school for information or visit [fldoe.org/academics/graduation-requirements](https://fldoe.org/academics/graduation-requirements).

**Get certified:** Students can leave high school with career skills by earning industry certifications in areas such as Microsoft Office, Adobe programs, network security, food service, health services and more.

**Early experience:** High school students can complete internships during the summer and during the school year with local companies, government organizations and nonprofits.

**College prep:** Preparing for college admissions and scholarships starts early. 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, and the college application process begins in August of senior year. Additional SAT and ACT testing dates are available. Contact your child's school for more information.

**Score higher:** Free, personalized preparation for the SAT is available online through [SATpractice.org](https://www.SATpractice.org). A smart phone app, called Daily Practice for the new SAT, is also available. Visit [SATpractice.org](https://www.SATpractice.org) for more information.

**Explore Options:** Learn about post-secondary options at one of several college and career fairs held for high school students. Check the calendar for dates.

**Technically Speaking:** If your child is interested in a technical career, check out the opportunities through Pinellas Technical College by visiting [pcsb.org/myptc](https://www.pcsb.org/myptc).



**Vision** - 100% student success   **Mission** - educate and prepare each student for college, career and life



STEM Academies offer students opportunities to conduct hands-on STEM investigations, explore careers in STEM, improve team building and leadership skills, learn about business planning and interact with community partners.

High school students attending Pinellas Technical College (PTC) have the opportunity to be dually enrolled in post-secondary courses tuition free.



Career Academies are four-year programs designed to blend a student's required academic courses with the career technical program of the academy. Find a Dual Enrollment course at a PTC campus near you at:  
[www.pcsb.org/PTCdualenrollment](http://www.pcsb.org/PTCdualenrollment)

**PINELLAS**  
**TECHNICAL**  
**COLLEGE**

Opportunity starts here



# August 2017

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SAT

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 All schools open	11	12
13	14 St. Petersburg College Foundation Spring Scholarship Application Open	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 School Board Meeting 10 a.m.	23	24	25	26 SAT test date
27	28	29	30	31		

## Electronic Flyers

All schools use an electronic flyer communication and delivery tool called PeachJar. This service saves paper and reduces copy costs. Parents can customize the service by choosing how frequently they receive eflyers via email.

All current eflyers at each school can be viewed by clicking the PeachJar button on the school's website homepage. This system is used exclusively for distribution of school-approved eflyers. Parent email addresses are not shared or used for any other purpose. Please make sure you have an updated

email on file at your child's school.  
**Tip:** Add [school@peachjar.com](mailto:school@peachjar.com) to your email contacts. When you receive your first eflyers, click the option to "always display images."



For more information, visit [pcsb.org/peachjar](http://pcsb.org/peachjar).



# 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary **R'Club** Child Care, Inc.

1976-2016

Strengthening  
Children, Families  
&  
Communities

- 46 Convenient Locations in the Tampa Bay Area, 11 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](http://www.rclub.net)**  
**Phone: 727-578-5437**





# September 2017

National School Success Month  
National Attendance Month

SUN

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					1	2	
3	Labor Day holiday Schools and district offices closed  St. Petersburg College 2018 Presidential Scholarship Application Opens	4	5	6	7	8	9
							SAT test date
10	11	School Board Meeting 5 p.m.  Public Budget Hearing 6:30 p.m.	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	ESE College, Career & Life Fair 6 p.m.	19	20	21	22	23
Pinellas County College Fair, USF St. Petersburg	Sept. 18-29 Pinellas Technical College Early Registration						
24	25	School Board Meeting 10 a.m.	26	St. Petersburg College Foundation Spring Scholarship Application Deadline	27	28	29
							30
							Parent University 8-11:30 a.m. Pinellas Park High School

## National Attendance Month

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good

attendance will help children do well in high school, college and at work. Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school, and missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read. Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks. Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up. By sixth grade, absenteeism

is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school. By ninth grade, regular and high attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than eighth-grade test scores. Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day and make that the expectation.

- Help your child maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- Don't let your child stay home unless truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety.
- Find out if your child feels engaged by his classes and feels safe from bullies and other threats. For more information, visit [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org).





**The Pinellas County Academic Team** won the Division 1 state championship at the 32nd annual Commissioner's Academic Challenge in April 2017. The Commissioner's Academic Challenge is a highly academic statewide high

school tournament inaugurated in 1986. Pictured is the winning team practicing for the state competition. Each team consists of six members, with four students competing during each of three rounds and two alternates. Players are asked questions

relating to language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, the fine arts, world languages (French and Spanish) and technology. The Academic Team prepares by practicing once a week for two months with the support of two team coaches.

The team members are selected via nomination and three team tryouts. If you're interested in having your child get involved, contact your child's school.

# October 2017

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1	2 Pinellas County College & Career Fair Countryside High School 6:00 - 8 p.m.	3 ACT test date	4 Pinellas Technical College Open House Clearwater Campus 5:30 - 7 p.m.	5 Pinellas Technical College Open House St. Petersburg Campus 5:30 - 7 p.m.	6	7 SAT test date
8	9	10 School Board Meeting 10 a.m.	11 PSAT test date St. Petersburg College's College Visit Day	12	13 End of first quarter	14
15	16 No school for students	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 School Board Meeting 5 p.m.	25 St. Petersburg College Spring 2018 Registration Opens	26	27 St. Petersburg College Foundation Spring Scholarship Application Deadline	28 ACT test date
29	30	31				

## Get Engaged in Education!

Pinellas County Schools offers a wide array of possibilities for dedicated, caring individuals who wish to support and guide students through their volunteerism. Volunteers are needed to mentor or tutor students; assist in classrooms, the media center or the front office; share their experiences as part of the

district's Speaker's Bureau or the annual Great American Teach-In; chaperone field trips; and serve with PTAs or SACs. To learn more, call (727) 588-5050 or visit [pcsb.org/volunteers](http://pcsb.org/volunteers).

**PTA and PTSA** provides ways for parents, teachers, administrators, students and community members to work together to help children succeed. For more information about Pinellas County Council PTA/PTSA, visit [pccpta.org](http://pccpta.org) or contact your school's PTA/PTSA.

## School Advisory Committee

members work together to guide the school toward continuous improvement. Florida law requires each school to have a SAC to plan and implement its School Improvement Plan. SAC membership includes the principal, teachers, support employees, students, parents, and business and community members. For more information on your child's school's SAC, contact your school.

**Lunch Pals** is a one-to-one mentoring program where a company or organization's employees are matched with students to provide the additional support of a caring, consistent and committed adult during lunch once a week.

For other mentoring opportunities visit [pcsb.org/mentors](http://pcsb.org/mentors).





### **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 while taking the rigorous courses necessary and to gain admission into four-year universities. AVID is designed for students who are in the academic middle who wish to maximize their

potential. Many AVID students will be the first in their families to attend college, come from low-income or minority families, or have unique personal circumstances that require a greater academic support system within the school day. All 16 of Pinellas County

Schools' traditional high schools and 19 traditional/fundamental middle schools have AVID programs. The number of AVID elementary schools is expanding annually. There are presently 15 AVID elementary schools. To learn more about AVID, visit [pcsb.org/AVIDapp](https://pcsb.org/AVIDapp).

# November 2017 Family Involvement Month

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Choice Programs Parent Info Session Boca Ciega High 6:30 p.m.	2 Choice Programs Parent Info Session Countryside High 6:30 p.m.	3	4 SAT test date
5	6 Choice Programs Parent Info Session Pinellas Park High 6:30 p.m.	7	8	9 Choice Programs Information Fair Boca Ciega High 6-8 p.m.	10	11 Choice Programs Information Fair Pinellas Park High 9 a.m.-noon
12	13	14 School Board Meeting 10 a.m.	15 Great American Teach-in	16	17	18
November 13 - December 22 – District Application Programs Discovery Nights						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
November 20 - November 24 - Thanksgiving Holiday-No school for students						
26	27 Schools reopen classes resume	28	29	30		
November 27 - December 8 – Pinellas Technical College Early Registration						

## Choices Abound

PCS offers 70 District Application Programs, which include themed, career and fundamental programs that cater to students' interests, talents and abilities. Parent information sessions and fairs for application programs are scheduled in November. Parents can apply for these programs during the annual application period in January. Find out more at [pcsb.org/choice](http://pcsb.org/choice).

## Mentoring Opportunities

**Girlfriends of Pinellas County** is a program designed to empower girls in Pinellas County through academic support and mentorship. Students are provided with the resources, tools and guidance necessary to encourage self-discipline, positive behavior, and cultivate high self-esteem and self-reliance.

**5000 Role Models of Excellence** promotes youth development through relevant activities and experiences that help develop social, ethical, emotional, physical and cognitive competencies in boys.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay** is a school-based mentoring program for elementary and middle school children designed to improve academic, social and behavioral performance.

**Take Stock in Children** is a scholarship and mentoring program in which students in grades 6-10 may be nominated to receive a scholarship. If awarded, the student will receive a four-year scholarship at graduation by fulfilling a contractual agreement to attend school regularly, maintain a C or above in all classes and remain crime and drug free. Learn more at: [takestockinchildren.org](http://takestockinchildren.org).

Learn more about mentoring visit [pcsb.org/mentors](http://pcsb.org/mentors)





## Strengthening Children, Families & Communities



- 48 Convenient Locations in the Tampa Bay Area, 12 Early Learning Academies for Children from 8 Weeks to 5 years of age
- 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](http://www.rclub.net)**  
**Phone: 727-578-5437**



Find us on 



# December 2017

SUN

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SAT

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

## Beyond the Classroom

Pinellas County Schools offers a roundup of online learning programs that help students build their skills in various subjects, including reading, language arts, math, science and social studies. Offerings are accessible 24/7. Visit [pcsb.org/beyondtheclassroom](http://pcsb.org/beyondtheclassroom).

A link for Beyond the Classroom resources is also on the home page of the district website. My Virtual Backpack is a collection of reading resources for all students in grades K - 12. Students can use these resources to extend their reading Beyond the Classroom. Students will choose from the MackinVia website to participate in reading and will be able to earn incentives and check out ebooks online. Learn more at [pcsb.org/beyondtheclassroom](http://pcsb.org/beyondtheclassroom).

## Khan Academy

Khan Academy offers practice exercises and instructional videos that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. Visit [khanacademy.org](http://khanacademy.org).

## SAT

Get interactive SAT practice with thousands of practice questions, video lessons, hints and more. Visit [SATpractice.org](http://SATpractice.org).

## National Geographic Kids

National Geographic provides interactive videos, quizzes and lessons on a variety of topics. Visit <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/#>

## PBS Learning Media

PBS offers interactive lessons and videos that can be searched by grade level and subject. Visit [www.pbslearningmedia.org](http://www.pbslearningmedia.org).



Every Day Counts!



## PARENT PLEDGE

I pledge to send my child to school every day. I know *every day counts*, and missing just 1 or 2 days a month can impact my child's school success. I also know good attendance is an indicator of future success, such as reading on grade level and graduating high school.

## ATTENDANCE TIPS

- Know the attendance policy for your child's school and keep it handy.
- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay home unless he or she is truly sick.
- Develop back-up plans for getting your child to school. Call on a neighbor, family member or another parent.
- Avoid scheduling appointments for your child or taking family vacations when school is in session.

# January 2018 National Mentoring Month

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Dec. 25 - Jan. 8 Winter holidays - No school for students					
7	No school for students St. Petersburg College Spring Term Opens	Schools reopen classes resume Second semester begins	Kindergarten Roundups Kindergarten and New Student Enrollment begins	Kindergarten Roundups	12	13
			Jan. 10 - Jan. 19 District Application Program Application Period			
14	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday No school for students	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 St. Petersburg College Foundation Summer Scholarship Application Opens	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. Each program offers developmentally appropriate curriculum that builds on children's emerging talents and strengths and allows children to explore and learn about their environment.

Learn more about early childhood education at [pcsb.org/early](http://pcsb.org/early) or call 727-588-6513.

### Kindergarten

Kindergarten serves children who are 5 years of age by Sept. 1 of the school year in which they are enrolling. In January, Pinellas County Schools will host Kindergarten Roundups at schools throughout the district. At these open house events, parents can register children for kindergarten, explore kindergarten classrooms, speak with teachers and discuss

expectations for the upcoming school year. Learn more about kindergarten at [pcsb.org/kg](http://pcsb.org/kg). For information about kindergarten registration call Student Assignment at 727-588-6210.

### Pre-K and VPK programs

The district has a convenient online application process for Prekindergarten for 3-year-olds and Voluntary Prekindergarten. During the application period in late January, parents will be able to apply online for Pre-K 3

and VPK for the 2018-19 school year. Pre-K 3 is for children who will be 3 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2018. For information visit [pcsb.org/prek3](http://pcsb.org/prek3) or call 727-588-6000. Ext. 2184. VPK is for children who will be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2018. For information about VPK, visit [pcsb.org/vpk](http://pcsb.org/vpk) or call 727-588-6513.





## **Celebrate Career Technical Education Month**

**Enroll in Pinellas Technical College and be  
on the way to a career in a year!**

**[www.myptc.edu](http://www.myptc.edu)**

# February 2018

Black History Month  
Volunteer Appreciation Month

SUN

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THURS

FRI

SAT

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 ACT test date
11	12	13	14	15 Pinellas Technical College Technical Signing Day	16	17
February 12 - 23 Pinellas Technical College Early Registration						
Feb. 14 - 21 District Application Programs Acceptance Period						
18	19 No school for students	20	21	22	23 St. Petersburg College Foundation Summer Scholarship Application Deadline	24
25	26	27 ACT test date	28			

## STEM

Hundreds of elementary and middle school students participate in the district's summer STEM Robotic Camps. The camps are an extension of the district's STEM Academies, where students participate in engineering design challenges, explore STEM careers and use technology to enhance their understanding of the world. The district plans to offer the popular robotic camps again this summer. Learn more at [pcsb.org/stem](http://pcsb.org/stem).

## 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. The Parent Advocate advocates for the parent while ensuring that district policies and procedures are followed. If you need Parental Advocacy assistance, please contact the Office of Strategic Partnerships at (727) 588-6484.

## Adult and Community Schools

- Clearwater Adult Education Center  
(727) 469-4190
- Dixie Hollins Adult Education Center  
(727) 547-7872
- Lakewood Community School  
(727) 893-2955

- Northeast Community School  
(727) 570-3193
- Palm Harbor Community School  
(727) 669-1140
- Tomlinson Adult Learning Center  
(727) 893-2723



ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE  
**TITAN**  
— TODAY —

**BULL**  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA  
— TOMORROW —



## WHAT IS FUSE?

FUSE is a new program that guarantees your admission to specific University of South Florida system institution programs with an associate degree from St. Petersburg College. Instead of going straight to USF, FUSE students will start at SPC earning their associate degree.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- **Save money** - Tuition at SPC costs half that of Florida universities
- **Save time** - Clear degree path reduces the risk of extra credits
- **Professional support** - Dedicated advisors from SPC and USF help keep you on track
- **Student life** - Access to USF and SPC clubs and events.

# March 2018

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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 End of third quarter	10
11	12 No school for students	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 St. Petersburg College Summer 2018 Registration Opens SAT for all 11th graders	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Mar. 26 - Mar. 30 Spring holidays - No school for students					

## Personalized Learning

More than 25 Pinellas schools are implementing personalized learning or developing new personalized learning programs. Personalized learning tailors learning experiences to each student's individual needs, skills and interests.

The goal is to engage students in their own learning and better prepare them for success in college, careers and life. The opportunities are part of Pinellas Innovates, the district's long-range plan to personalize learning.

Personalized learning uses a variety of tools to help each student identify their individual skills, strengths, weaknesses, interests and aspirations. Students work

with their teachers to develop specific learning experiences and goals based on those elements.

Each school involved in Pinellas Innovates designs personalized learning plans based on feedback from teachers and school communities. More information about Pinellas Innovates and personalized learning is available at [pcsb.org/pi](http://pcsb.org/pi).







**Find a Dual Enrollment  
program and apply today at:**  
[www.pcsb.org/PTCdualenrollment](http://www.pcsb.org/PTCdualenrollment)

# April 2018 National Autism Month

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1	Schools reopen Classes resume	2	3	4	5	6	7
	St. Petersburg College Foundation Fall Scholarship Application for Fall Opens	April 2-16 Initial Special Assignment Request (SAR) Application Period					
8	9	10	11	12	13	ACT test date 14	
April 8-14 National Library Week							
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
	April 16 - 27 Pinellas Technical College Early Registration						
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. Each Pathway

provides rigorous and relevant course options that help students successfully complete the requirements for earning a high school diploma. To see the graduation requirements, visit [pcsb.org/graduation](http://pcsb.org/graduation).

## Virtual School

Pinellas County Schools has its own virtual school, which offers full and part-time programs and more than 120 rigorous and engaging online courses for students in grades K-12. All courses are developed and delivered by district teachers. Unlike other online schools that are not affiliated with the school district, Pinellas Virtual School full-time students are able to participate in field trips

with fellow virtual school students and some activities at their zoned school, such as athletics. Pinellas Virtual School students also earn a diploma from their zoned school. All students need to complete at least one online course as part of the 24 credits required for graduation.

To learn more, visit [pcsb.org/virtual](http://pcsb.org/virtual).





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**FOR  
ALL**

## Build a better you, and help kids achieve

At the Y, we're committed to helping you and your family achieve your goals in spirit, mind and body. We lead the nation in before- and after-school care, but we're so much more.

- Family fun and fitness events
- Summer camps
- Swim lessons
- Group exercise
- Complimentary child care while you work out
- School day out camps
- Youth & Government
- Teen Leaders clubs
- Parents Night Out
- Youth sports programs

### Join today!

**YMCA OF THE SUNCOAST**  
[ymcasuncoast.org](http://ymcasuncoast.org)

**YMCA OF GREATER ST. PETERSBURG**  
[stpeteymca.org](http://stpeteymca.org)

Financial assistance is available for all of our programs.

**The Y.™ For a better us.**

Our mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

# May 2018

SUN

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SAT

		1	2	3 AVID Pinning Ceremony	4	5 SAT test date
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	May 7-11 Teacher Appreciation Week					
13	14 St. Petersburg College Summer Term Opens	15	16	17	18 St. Petersburg College Foundation Fall Scholarship Application Deadline	19
20	21	22	23	24 Last day for all students	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day Schools and district offices closed	29	30	31		

## AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) seeks to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. AVID is a college readiness system that takes students with the potential and determination to go to college and supports their academic success in the rigorous courses required to get into four-year universities.

In the AVID elective course, students are taught the skill sets necessary to be successful in rigorous courses. Many of these students will be the first in their families to attend college, come from low-income or minority families, or have unique personal circumstances that require a greater academic support system within the school day. AVID creates an atmosphere of positive peer pressure for the students, so they are pushing each other to strive for success.

## AVID Elementary

AVID Elementary is a foundational component of the AVID College Readiness System that supports AVID's mission and vision. AVID Elementary focuses on embedding research-based instructional practices in the areas of instruction, culture, leadership and systems. All AVID Elementary schools work with teachers, staff, families, and students to build a college and career seeking culture that increases student success in all content areas.

## AVID Secondary

AVID Secondary is comprised of the AVID elective class and schoolwide initiatives. The students in the AVID elective are students who have a desire to go to college and are willing to work hard. These students take rigorous courses that are preparing them for college, and the AVID elective is an academic support to allow them to be successful. A college and career going culture is created for all students that encompasses high expectations and success for all.



Pinellas County Schools adult education centers and community schools offer a variety of classes including Adult Basic Education, Adult High School and GED® preparation, English classes, career planning and computer literacy. Find a location near you at [www.pcsb.org/adultedcenters](http://www.pcsb.org/adultedcenters).



# June 2018

SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SAT

					1	2 SAT test date
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 ACT test date
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Pinellas Technical College Graduation	29	30

## Your Support Counts!

Pinellas voters renewed the Pinellas County Schools Referendum for a third time in November 2016. The Referendum strengthens reading, music and art programs; provides up-to-date technology; and helps recruit and retain quality teachers. Pinellas County voters have supported the half-mill property tax four times

since 2004, all times by large margins. An independent committee meets regularly to oversee the distribution of funds and ensure that money is spent as voters intended.

### The Referendum:

- Supports students through new or expanded classroom libraries, additional supplies, increased training opportunities for teachers, and updated computers and technology.

- Funds intensive small-group literacy programs that help students read at grade level, instrument rental fees for students that can't afford them, and paid admission for field trips to museums and art galleries.
- Provides all schools with equitable funding for quality art supplies, equipment and technology that help students produce strong and award-winning works of art.

- Supplies instruments for elementary music classes, and equipment such as furniture, risers and music stands.
- Helps recruit and retain quality teachers: Eighty percent of the Referendum revenue supplements teacher salaries.



**Vision** - 100% student success **Mission** - educate and prepare each student for college, career and life



### ***Summer Learning***

The district has a wealth of summer learning opportunities for students. Experiences include STEM camps, 21st

Century iClass summer program, Summer Bridge or SAT preparation, French Immersion, Spanish Immersion and more. Pinellas County Schools and community partners have also created a summer reading program to help

stop the Summer Reading Slide. The program aims to put books in the hands of students during the summer and track their progress. Incentives are provided to increase engagement in reading during the summer.

Visit [pcsb.org/summerreading](https://pcsb.org/summerreading) to learn more. To learn more about other summer learning opportunities, visit [pcsb.org/summer](https://pcsb.org/summer).

# July 2018

SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SAT

1	2	3	4 Independence Day Schools and district offices closed	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				

## Mandatory Health Screenings

The 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. Body Mass Index may

be performed by either your child's school nurse or by their physical education teacher if enrolled in physical education.

If you do not want your child to participate in any of these screenings and wish that your child not be screened, 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. Find out about the State of Florida school entry immunization requirements at [www.pcsb.org/immunizations](http://www.pcsb.org/immunizations).

## Family Resources

- Guidance .....(727) 588-6053
- Social Services .....(727) 588-6355
- Exceptional Student Education  
..... (727) 588-6032
- School Health Services .....(727) 588-6320
- Psychological Services .....(727) 588-6054

## Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is national legislation that protects individuals from discrimination solely on the basis of their disabilities. It prohibits school districts from discriminating against disabled people. If a student is determined eligible, an accommodation plan may be developed and implemented. Eligibility is established when it is determined that a physical or mental impairment exists that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Call (727) 588-6054 for more information.



# 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

# 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 and Twitter. See below for web and social media information.

## Contact Us

English for Speakers of Other Languages  
(ESOL) 588-6068  
Exceptional Student Education (ESE)  
588-6032  
School Board Office .....588-6300  
Homework Helpline .....547-7223

All numbers are (727) area code  
Home Education .....588-6209  
Strategic Partnerships .....588-6405  
Student Assignment .....588-6210  
Student Services .....588-6307  
Superintendent's Office .....588-6011  
Teaching and Learning .....588-6121  
Transportation Call Center ....587-2020

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.



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[www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org)

