



# THE THUNDER REPORT

Volume 1, Issue 1 --- October 20, 2020

## Administrators' Message

I am honored to have the opportunity to share a few words in our very first issue of the Thunder Report. First and foremost, I'd like to express my gratitude to both Mr. Richards and Mr. Hollowell for working together to make the Thunder Report happen; I speak for the whole administrative team when I say what a wonderful job you two have done with this newsletter. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all

of our staff members who have gone above and beyond this school year to support our students, often doing things outside of their typical job description to do what is best for our Thunderbird community. Thank you to the students and family members who continue to make Pinellas Park Middle School a wonderful place to learn.

As we close out the first quarter and embark on quarter two, I encourage everyone to continue to work hard and be kind; be kind to yourself and be kind to others. Look at all challenges as opportunities- opportunities to learn something new, try something you've never done before, and continue to grow. Work together and never give up- together, we can do anything!

Stay safe and, as always, stay Thunderbird Strong,

Mrs. Amber Schmittiel, 8th grade Assistant Principal

### Staff training

**What:** Restorative Practices Training

**Where:** Pinellas Park Middle

**Contact:** Ms. Fahey to sign up.

**When:** November 10,12,17,& 19

### Parental Tech Tips

Need help with PCS Portal login instructions?

Use the link below

for instructions in English and Spanish

<https://www.pcsb.org/Page/33798>

Use the link below for help with Canvas.

<https://www.pcsb.org/Page/33748>

## Self-care tips for teachers

### Trim Your List

The job of an educator is more complex than ever before. When you are busy—which is pretty much all the time—it's easy to think that everything matters equally. The problem with this approach is that there is simply not enough time in the day to do everything. Therefore, it is critical that you decide what matters most and spend the majority of your time doing that. See the rest of the article at <http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol15/num13/5-strategies-for-teacher-self-care.aspx>

ASCD Express, Vol. 15, No. 13. Copyright 2020 by ASCD.

## CALENDAR EVENTS

**October 23**  
End of first quarter

**October 26**  
No school for students

**October 27**  
PSAT for Face-to-Face  
8th grade students

**November 2**  
6th grade hearing and  
vision screening

## Positive News!



**Authors N.K. Jemisin and Jacqueline Woodson Among 2020 MacArthur "Genius" Fellows Awarded \$625K Grant**

Visit article:

<https://tinyurl.com/yxzpt7cd>

## Counselors' Corner

### PCS TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (TIPS)

#### Purpose:

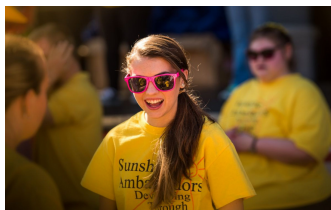
- ID of and enrichment for academically talented 7th graders
- Assist students and parents/guardians to develop college-preparatory academic plans for 8th grade into high school and beyond
- Provide practice to students before they take the PSAT and SAT in high school to qualify for National Merit or other scholarship opportunities and college entrance

#### Who is invited?:

- The TOP 15% of students within each school's 7th grade class as measured by their combined performance on the 2019 Florida Standards Assessments for ELA & Math
- Other 7th grade students from under-represented groups (minority or low income) who are academically talented.

These select students who agree, will participate in SAT tutoring in November and take the SAT on December 5th. If you have any question's feel free to speak to the Ms. Coughlin, the 7th grade counselor.

**'Why teens are kinder than you think and how to inspire them to be kinder still..'**



View Article:  
<https://bit.ly/2SQ6mDR>

### Equitable grading practices

Scan the code with your phone or click the link



<https://bit.ly/3nD54dB>

### Staff Member Highlight

Mr. Jo Richards

**Subject:** 6th grade Peer Counseling

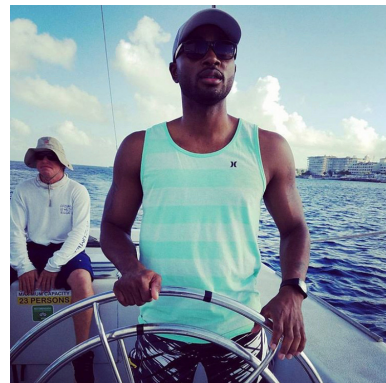
**Last book you read:** The Expectant Father

**Years taught:** Ten. First at PPMS

**Born:** Georgia

**Interesting Fact:** Travelled to 25 countries

**GO LAKERS!!**



## Staff Shoutouts!

**Mrs. Cruz-** Thanks for her attention to detail and never ending energy. She has made so many improvements in the ESE dept. (forms, ppt). It has never been this organized. Also, her ability to handle problems as they come and never seeming flustered. Her smile and attitude are commendable."

"Dr. Shedrick. Thank you for pushing me beyond what I want to do."  
-Ms. Stubbs

"Ms. Croce has the best calming effect on me. It's like she can read minds—she always knows just what to say. Thank you Ms. Croce!

"Shout out to Croce! Always pleasant and helpful!- Robinette

"Ms. Wier, thank you for being so kind hearted and welcoming DAILY!  
-Ms. Stubbs

"Mr. Garcia- Just, thank you!! Enough said - Ms. Stubbs

"Shout out to Amstutz for being pleasant and helpful! -Robinette

"Shout out to Fred! Thanks for being supportive, positive, and helpful."  
-Scott J. Anderson

Support staff of Moya, Reyes, and Cuscino, thank you for being so flexible!!"  
-Ms. Stubbs

**If you would like to submit a shoutout, use the pink box in the copy room!**

**Joke of the day: What's a Pirate's favorite restaurant? Answer: s,yybrrr's**