



A weekly report to Pinellas County Schools employees

June 1, 2015

District news from the PCS Newsroom

- **PCS students win Radiant Peace awards** — A number of district students have received spring 2015 Radiant Peace Education Awards. [Read more](#)
- **Aspiring chefs get a taste of success at annual fundraiser** — Over 400 guests attended the 10th Anniversary of "Evening with the Chefs" at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater in support of The Ryan Wells Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to improving the culinary arts and hospitality education of Pinellas County students. [Read more](#)
- **Adult education students recognized for outstanding achievement** — Pinellas Adult Career Technical Education Association (PACTE) held its annual awards ceremony to honor outstanding student achievement recently at Pinellas Park High School. [Read more](#)
- **Morgan Fitzgerald Middle Spanish Teacher named Pinellas County World Languages Teacher of the Year** — The World Languages Teachers' Association of Pinellas County named Kristen Parks, a Spanish teacher at Morgan Fitzgerald Middle School, the 2015 World Language Teacher of the Year. [Read more](#)
- **Largo High's first graduating IB class called the epitome of learners and leaders** — The first graduating class of the Largo High School's International Baccalaureate program were honored and celebrated Wednesday evening at the Largo Cultural Center. The 44 students who are graduating as members of the Class of 2015 are attending 13 different colleges and have amassed \$1.2 million in college scholarships. [Read more](#)

Four-day work schedule begins next Monday

The four-day work schedule will begin on Monday, June 8, 2015. During the four-day work schedule, district offices will be open from 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. The regular five-day schedule will resume on Monday, Aug. 10, 2015.

PCS provides summer educational resources

The district is providing a variety of resources to help prevent the "summer slide." Please refer families to the district's Beyond the Classroom Web page to help them make learning a priority over the summer. The page includes educational resources and copies of summer calendars filled with educational activities to keep students engaged in learning. The Beyond the Classroom page is www.pcsb.org/beyondtheclassroom. There is also a link on the home page of the district website.

Professional Development opportunity helps educators support students with disabilities

A professional development institute will be offered this summer to help educators increase their awareness and knowledge of working with students with disabilities. The institute is for PreK-12 general education teachers, administrators, ESE teachers and instructional staff. Applicants seeking to renew their professional educators certificates must earn at least one college credit or equivalent inservice training points (20 hours) related to the teaching of students with disabilities. This course meets recertification requirements for ESE points. Enroll using MoodleLMS. Please register soon to ensure a seat. Questions? Contact Heather Jones at 727-588-6000 ext. 2048 or jonespowellh@pcsb.org.

- **ESE Institute in July: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on July 22 and July 23 at Gibbs High School.** Six component points per day. **Courses — July 22: 1100056 16/001; July 23: 1100057 16/001**

More PCS students win National Merit Scholarships

Eight students from the district have won college-sponsored National Merit Scholarships. The scholarships range from \$500 to \$2,000 annually for up to four years of study. The students are among approximately 2,200 college-sponsored award winners announced on Wednesday. This announcement is the third of the year by National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The organization announced recipients of corporate-sponsored awards on April 22 and winners of National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships on May 6. Additional recipients of college-sponsored awards will be announced on July 13. See this [Newsroom story](#) for a list of college-sponsored scholarship winners.

WEDU program about college admissions features PCS student and administrator

Andrew Weatherill, who oversees PCS K-12 Guidance, and Pinellas Park High School senior Vladimir Borodin were featured on a recent episode of WEDU's "Up Close." The show provided helpful tips for navigating the college admission process. The episode included information about educational options, when to start exploring them, how to choose the right path and opportunities for financial support. The episode is available at <http://video.wedu.org/video/2365489041/>

HumanaVitality: Simple Steps to Silver

HumanaVitality is a new program that rewards medical plan members for making healthy decisions. Employees reaching Silver Status or above by Aug. 31, 2015, will be eligible for a premium credit during 2016. Learn more at www.pcsb.org/vitality.

This week's Simple Steps to Silver:

- Monthly MyHumana.com visit or Mobile Application activity - **10 points each** (up to 120 points per program year)
- Download the Mobile App – **50 points**

Monday Update is on hiatus over the summer

This is the last issue of the Monday Update for the school year. Important information will be conveyed to schools throughout the summer by district administrators and posted on the district's Newsroom. Additional summer updates may also be provided.