



## A weekly report to Pinellas County Schools employees

May 4, 2015

### District news from the PCS Newsroom

- **Osceola Fundamental High students say Ciao to Italian** — Osceola Fundamental High offers students an opportunity to take Italian language classes. The school is the only one in the district to offer the foreign language as a course. [Read more](#)
- **National association gives two PCS choice programs high honors** — Magnet Schools of America (MSA), the national association for magnet and theme-based schools, announced Douglas L. Jamerson Jr. Elementary School's Center for Mathematics and Engineering and James Sanderlin PK-8 IB World School are the recipients of the association's 2015 national merit awards. [Read more](#)
- **PCS Maintenance Department workers paint for a better community** — Members of the Pinellas County Schools Maintenance Department recently spent a Saturday morning helping homeowners who are in need by participating in Paint Your Heart Out, Clearwater. [Read more](#)

### Roster verification for Survey 3 closes on Friday

The Survey 3 roster verification window for instructional staff ends on **Friday, May 8**. This is the second and final roster verification for the 2014-2015 school year. The survey week for Survey 3 was Feb. 9–13. Instructions are attached. Verification of student rosters serves many purposes. The students assigned to an instructional staff member, as a result of verification, may be used for the following: a Value-Added score (if the teachers receives one), for possible future calculations, and many other tools being developed by the state of Florida. It is imperative that instructional staff members check their rosters for accuracy. Even if a teacher does not receive a Value-Added score this year, the roster may be used in district student data calculations.

### ESE Professional Development opportunities

Two professional development institutes will be offered this summer to help educators increase their awareness and knowledge of working with students with disabilities. The institutes are 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. These courses meet recertification requirements for ESE points. Enroll for courses using MoodleLMS. *Please register soon to ensure a seat.* Questions? Please contact Heather Jones at 727-588-6000 ext. 2048 or [jonespowellh@pcsb.org](mailto:jonespowellh@pcsb.org).

- **ESE Summer Professional Learning Institute:** 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on June 23, 24 and 25 at Countryside High School. Six component points per day. A two-point follow-up opportunity is available in September for those who attend all three days. **Courses—** June 23: 1100056 15/001; June 24: 1100057 15/001; June 25: 1100058 15/001
- **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

### **National School Nurse Day is Wednesday, May 6, 2015**

*As we prepare to recognize school nurses this week, Sara O'Toole, Managing Officer of School Health Services, wants to remind us of the important work our school nurses do:* School nursing goes way beyond Band-Aids and ice packs. School health employees juggle a complex array of medical and social issues, seeing thousands of students, and, often, moving from school to school throughout the district. A typical day for a school nurse may involve verifying immunization compliance; testing a student's vision; dealing with chronic diseases such as diabetes and asthma; talking to a student about nutrition; performing a specialized nursing procedure; and assisting students through mental, emotional, and social issues that are affecting health and learning. And their work isn't confined to the clinic. They interact with teachers, administrators, social workers, school counselors, parents, doctors, police officers and others in the community to ensure that students receive what they need. School nurses are healers, comforters, educators, mentors, trainers, role models, and critical members of every school community. Pinellas County School Health Services salutes all of its health staff members for their invaluable contributions to our students and families!

### **PCS is recognized as a Florida Healthy School District**

Pinellas County Schools has been recognized as a Gold-level Florida Healthy School District for May 2015 - April 2017. The award recognizes school districts for their efforts to support the physical, mental and social health of students and staff.

### **Pinellas County Schools participates in National Bike to School Day**

The school district, along with All Children's Hospital and Florida Safe Routes to School, encourages students to ride their bikes to school on Wednesday, May 6. National Bike to School Day began in 2012 as an effort to encourage kids to celebrate safer, more accessible streets on their way to school. The event also encourages healthy habits, a cleaner environment and a strong sense of community.

### **Pinellas Virtual School to be featured on FOX 13's Good Day Tampa Bay**

Pinellas Virtual School Administrator Mandy Perry is scheduled to appear "live" on FOX 13's Good Day Tampa Bay at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 6. Perry's segment is part of a series on alternative learning to be featured all week on the morning show. Perry will highlight the benefits of virtual school and how families can determine if schools such as Pinellas Virtual School are a good fit for their children.

### **Find out about the Class of 2015**

The Graduation 2015 webpage provides information about each school's graduation ceremony and details about their valedictorians and salutatorians. The page can be accessed at [www.pcsb.org/graduation2015](http://www.pcsb.org/graduation2015)

### **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](http://www.pcsb.org/vitality).

***This week's Simple Step to Silver: Download the Mobile App and receive 50 vitality points.***

**Please share your positive stories**

The PCS Newsroom features stories from throughout the district. Please share your school news with us so we can include your good news on the PCS Newsroom. Please submit your story ideas to [news@pcsb.org](mailto:news@pcsb.org). You can also submit ideas on our PCS Newsroom at <http://newsroom.pcsb.org>