Criminal Justice Academy

Points of Pride
- Designated as a Model Academy by the National Career Academy Coalition
- Designated as an Academy of Distinction
- Graduation Rate of 99%
- Highest passing rate on the Algebra I EOC in the District
- Placed 3rd in the Nation for Crime Scene Investigation and 14th in the Nation for Criminal Justice at the SkillsUSA competition in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Numerous Valedictorians and Salutatorians have graduated from the Criminal Justice Academy
- 3 National Merit Scholars and a Barnes Scholar
- Mock Trial Professionalism and Best Attorney Award Winners. The Mock Trial team also finished in the top 5 at the State Competition and won first overall at the Moot Court Competition sponsored by the Florida Law Related Education Association competition.
- Students and staff were key in the passing of Operation 10-24 which created a state license plate dedicated to those law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.
- Opportunities for Dual Enrollment credit at SPC
- One 1st place win and four 2nd place wins for the Debate Team at the Clearwater Bar Association's Great Debate.

How to Apply
Students living anywhere in the county can apply to this school during the designated application period. Please check the district website at www.pcsb.org for more information. There are entrance criteria to apply for this magnet school.

Transportation
Arterial bus transportation (buses that operate on main roads with a limited number of stops) is provided to students who live more than two miles from the school. Magnet bus stop locations may require that parents drive their children to and from the stop.
ABOUT US

The Criminal Justice Academy is a four-year high school magnet program with an emphasis on law education. The academy staff is committed to providing students with an outstanding high school education in all academic areas. Students gain an understanding of the American legal system and explore the wide range of career-related opportunities. Graduates of the academy will be prepared to further their formal education in the college or university setting or to pursue immediate entry into a chosen career or technical school, or for employment upon graduation from high school.

areas of study

POLICE OPERATIONS, COURT TRIALS, CIVIL LAW, FORENSIC SCIENCE INVESTIGATIONS

Academy students take at least five credits in Criminal Justice courses. Required coursework offers students an overview in police operations, courts and corrections, civil law and forensic science investigations. Additional electives allow students to explore other avenues of law and law enforcement. Students have opportunities to meet professionals working in legal fields through participation in field trips, Annual Law Day, internships and shadowing. The academy also offers students the opportunity to interact with professionals by hosting guest speakers and providing hands-on skills training in preparation for state competitions.

HIGHLIGHTS

• Specialized Law Courses including:
  - Criminal Justice Operations 1, 2, 3 and 4
  - Court Procedures
  - Introduction to Criminal Justice (dual-enrollment course through SPC)
  - Public Service Directed Study
  - Speech 1 & 2
  - Sociology
• Honors, Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment Courses
• Two Mock Court Rooms
• Firearms Training Simulator (FATS)
• Biology/Forensics Lab
• Crime Scene Laboratory and outdoor crime scene area
• Volunteer Community Service hours
• Dedicated and experienced teachers and staff
  - Among the instructors for the law-related courses, there are four individuals who have more than 50 years combined experience working in the areas of law enforcement, the court system, and corrections
• Public Service Directed Study/Internship

what is a magnet?

Magnet programs focus on a certain theme with specialized curriculum in areas such as arts, communication, science and technology, and gifted studies. Some programs have eligibility requirements. Students living anywhere in the county may apply.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

Students who wish to enter the Criminal Justice Academy Program must:

• Be applying for the 9th or 10th grade
• Have a 2.5 academic grade point average for 6th, 7th and 8th grades
• Have Reading & Math stanines ≥ 4 OR Reading and Math FSA T-Score of 43 OR PSAT/ReadStep Percentile Rank of 25 or higher; Middle School GPA ≥ 2.5
• Have acceptable disciplinary and attendance records
• Meet all entrance requirements at the conclusion of 8th grade

students explore discover

pinellas park high school

Pinnelas Park High School is a four-year high school magnet program with an emphasis on law education.