**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 program.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Arterial bus transportation (buses that operate with a limited number of stops) will be 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.

---

**POTENTIAL CAREERS**

- Homeland Security
- Health Educators
- Airport Crash Fire Rescue
- Nursing or CNA
- Military/National Guard
- Coast Guard
- Public Health
- FEMA
- Environmental Protection
- Fire Protection Engineering

**ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS**

While enrolled in this magnet program, students have the opportunity to participate in the following specialized activities and clubs:

- Coast Guard Club
- Florida Public Service Association (FPSA)
- Community Organizations: Fire Explorers
- Academy Student Advisory Committee
- Regular Assembly program to recognize student’s accomplishments
- Mock Disaster Drills

**WHAT THE INDUSTRY SAYS**

“In reviewing your curriculum, it truly is global and encompasses a wide range of goals and objectives. We are encouraged that both your goals and ours can be met, and look forward to working with you in the future on this program.”

—St Petersburg College- Fire Training Center

“This program looks to be an exceptional opportunity for students. We’re excited about the prospect of having kids learn skills that will last them a lifetime and that they can use to positively influence their families, friends and communities.”

—Pinellas County Emergency Management

**OUR MISSION**

The mission of the FIRST RESPONDERS program is to ready students for entry into postsecondary education and/or employment opportunities as FIRST RESPONDERS through a comprehensive program that trains individuals for planning and initial response to emergency and disaster situations.

---

**Pinellas Park High School**

First Responders Program

Paul Peppers, Program Coordinator
Jamie Wasserman, Program Counselor
Bonnie Simpson, Secretary

6305 118th Avenue N
Largo, FL 33773
727.538.7410

**VISION:**

100% Student Success

**MISSION:**

“Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life.”

www.pcsb.org

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.

**REVISED OCT. 2014**

**Brochure information is subject to change.**
Pinellas Park High School, home of the Patriots, is located in the center of Pinellas County. Our culturally diverse school consists of approximately 2,200 students enrolled in a wide range of program opportunities. Pinellas Park High School offers honors, Advanced Placement, standard and Career & Technical classes. PPHS continues to play a vital role in the shaping of our students and our community.

The students in the FIRST RESPONDERS program also play a vital role in the life of PPHS. They have the opportunity to participate in all activities at the school including athletics, band, drama, clubs, student government, and more.

**Emergency Planning and Response**
- History, goals and career opportunities in all areas related to First Responder careers
- Basic emergency planning and the concepts and principles of communication
- Demonstrate knowledge of emergency response and participate in disaster day exercises
- Plan, organize, and carry out a project plan
- An understanding of community-based organizations and their role in emergency preparedness and response.
- Emergency Management leadership and administrative concepts
- Science (weather, oceanography, geo-sciences, etc.) and its role in natural disasters
- Armed Services Agencies as First Responders
- Terrorism as it relates to First Responders

**Firefighter 1 (3 year program)**
- Basic concepts of fire fighting
- Fire department organization and operations
- The concepts and principles related to fire behavior
- Firefighting skills: fire extinguishers, ropes and knots, water supply, hose and appliances, hazardous materials training
- Emergency Medical Responder (Dual Enrollment)
- Pre-EMT course that improves your success in EMT class.
- Combines lecture and lab, with lots of hands-on experience
- Includes American Heart Association BLS certification
- Students may be able to take a test to earn industry certification.
- Successful completion gives preference when applying to the St. Petersburg College EMT program

**Areas of Study**

**Just Some of What You’ll Learn As A First Responder:**

- **Emergency Planning and Response**
- **Firefighter 1 (3 year program)**
- **Emergency Medical Responder (Dual Enrollment)**

**Admissions Criteria**

Students who wish to enter the First Responders program must:
- Be applying for the 9th grade
- Have a 2.3 or higher, academic grade point average for 6th, 7th and 8th grades.
- Have Reading & Math stanines > 3 OR Reading and Math FSA T-score of 38 OR PSAT / ReadStep Percentile Rank of 12 or higher; Middle School GPA > 2.3
- Have acceptable disciplinary and attendance records
- Meet all entrance requirements at the conclusion of 8th grade

The First Responders Program has the opportunity to accept a limited number of 10th graders.

Students who wish to enter the First Responders program after successful completion of 9th grade must:
- Be applying for the 10th grade
- Have a least a 2.3 or higher academic grade point average from middle school and 9th grade
- Have acceptable disciplinary and attendance records
- Meet all entrance requirements at the conclusion of 9th grade

**Highlights**

- Firefighter 1 course program option
- Disaster Day
- Field Trips to First Responder organizations
- Internships in First Responder fields
- Specialized Emergency Management/Response elective course each year
- Dual Enrollment, Honors, Advanced Placement Courses
- AVID
- Certificates in CPR/AED/First Aid
- Certificates in National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Community service hours
- Dedicated and experienced teachers and staff
- Emergency Management/Response course instructors have previous successful careers in this exciting field.