



# 2024-2025 DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT



**SOARING TO ANOTHER YEAR OF BEING AN A DISTRICT**



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# PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

**The mission** of the Pinellas County School Board is to provide the best opportunities for all students to succeed by adopting policies that ensure continual improvement for high student achievement, safe learning environments and effective, efficient operation. The District Strategic Plan demonstrates one of the many ways the School Board supports the strategic work for **100% student success**.



*Back row: Kevin K. Hendrick, Superintendent; Dawn Peters; Eileen M. Long; Lisa N. Cane; Katie Blaxberg  
Front row: Caprice Edmond, Vice Chairperson; Laura Hine, Chairperson; Stephanie Meyer*



## A NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The 2024-25 Annual Report reflects the remarkable accomplishments and milestones of Pinellas County Schools over the past year. We are incredibly proud of our students, teachers, and staff, whose dedication and excellence have earned state and national honors across academics, the arts, and athletics, including being named an A district by the Florida Department of Education for the second year in a row. Our schools continue to enrich the student experience through rigorous academics, innovative hands-on learning, and meaningful opportunities like field trips and enrichment programs. Once again, our students have outperformed state averages on assessments—a testament to the strength of our teachers.

We are equally proud of the safety and efficiency of our school operations, the unwavering support from our volunteers, and the strong partnerships we've built with families and community organizations. As we celebrate these successes, we remain committed to advancing educational excellence and look forward to an even more impactful year ahead.

*Kevin K. Hendrick*  
**KEVIN K. HENDRICK**



# WHO WE ARE

## VISION

**100%**  
STUDENT SUCCESS

## MISSION

**EDUCATE AND PREPARE  
EACH STUDENT FOR  
COLLEGE, CAREER AND LIFE**

## CORE VALUES



## FAST FACTS



**9<sup>TH</sup> LARGEST**  
FLORIDA SCHOOL DISTRICT



**THE LARGEST EMPLOYER**  
IN PINELLAS COUNTY



HOME TO A TOTAL OF  
**85,851 PK-12 STUDENTS**



**144 SCHOOLS**  
DISTRICTWIDE



**A DISTRICT**  
FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW



**90% A & B RATED SCHOOLS**  
IN PINELLAS COUNTY

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE  
THROUGH INNOVATION**



**SAFE AND RESPECTFUL  
CLIMATE & CULTURE**



**EQUITY WITH  
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL**



**POSITIVE STAFF  
EXPERIENCES**



**STRONG CONNECTIONS  
& COMMUNICATION**



**FISCAL & OPERATIONAL  
RESPONSIBILITY**



# WHO WE ARE

## FUNDING

### WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



### WHERE THE MONEY GOES



## HELPING HANDS



**25K**  
ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS



**285K**  
HOURS OF SERVICE

## APPLICATION PROGRAMS

87 DIVERSE PROGRAMS



CAREER EXPLORATION



CULINARY



DUAL LANGUAGE



FINE ARTS



FUNDAMENTAL



GIFTED STUDIES



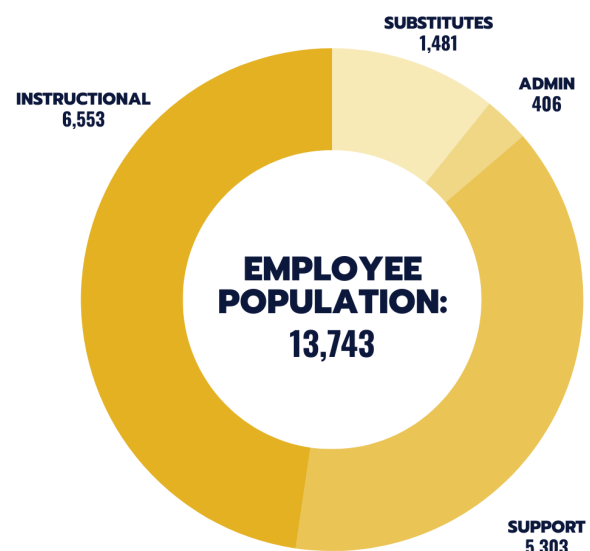
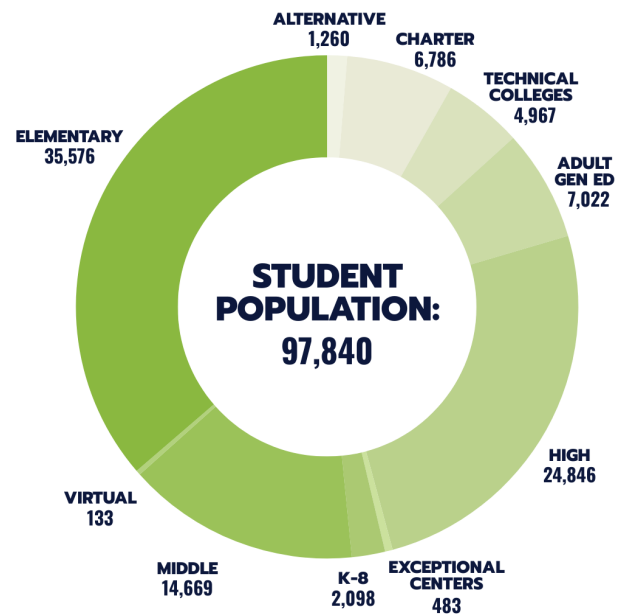
HEALTH/MEDICAL



PERFORMING ARTS



STEM

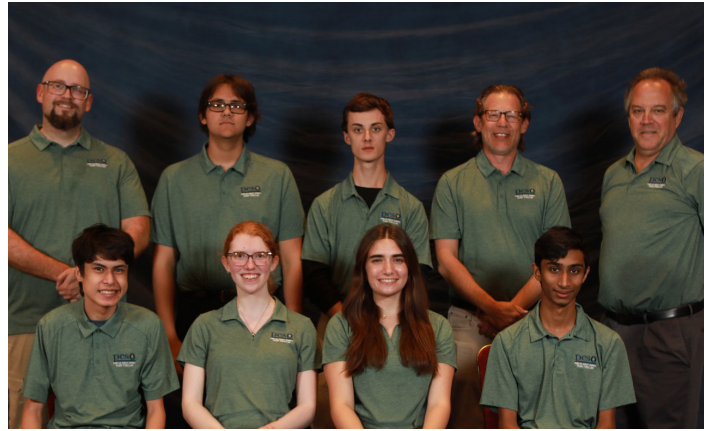




# POINTS OF PRIDE: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



The Tarpon Springs Performance Ensemble was named the **Bands of America Class 2A Champion**, and placed **fourth overall** at **Grand Nationals** in Indianapolis.



East Lake, Hollins, Largo, Palm Harbor University, and St. Petersburg high schools won the **Division I state title** at the **Commissioner's Academic Challenge**.



Pinellas Park High's First Responders team won the **Top Chapter award for firefighting** at the **Florida Public Service Association Conference**.



Elisa Nelson Elementary's **Odyssey of the Mind** team **placed first** at the **state championship** and **fifth** at the **world championship**.



Northeast High's JROTC team won **second place** at the **All-Army Raider National Championship Challenge**.



Palm Harbor University High **placed first** in the Regional A class at the **Scholastic World Class** at the **Florida Federation of Colorguards Circuit State Championships**.



Seminole High's marching band performed in the **2025 Tournament of Roses Parade** in Pasadena, California. Gerard Madrinan won the **Top Band Director** and **Band Award**.



# POINTS OF PRIDE: STAFF ACCOLADES



Zachary Thompson and Jonathan Ogle earned **Florida Art Education Association** honors for excellence.



School Board Attorney David Koperski received the **C. Graham Carothers Award of Excellence**.



PCS earned **Cognia's 2024 Values-Driven Award of Excellence** for its strong commitment to values.



PCS won **four Sunshine State School Public Relations Association Awards**, including the top Sunshine Medallion for Crisis Communications, Bond/Finance Campaign, and Marketing Campaign, plus a bronze for its Annual Report.



The University of South Florida awarded Superintendent Kevin K. Hendrick the 2025 **Dean's Lifetime Achievement Award** recognizing his exceptional dedication to education and leadership.

## MAGNET SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

25 Pinellas schools won **National Merit Awards** from Magnet Schools of America (MSA):



### TOP MAGNET SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE:

- James B. Sanderlin K-8 IB World
- Mildred Helms Elementary IB World
- Tarpon Springs High

### MERIT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:

- Bay Point Elementary
- Douglas L. Jamerson, Jr. Elementary
- Dunedin Highland Middle
- Lakewood High
- Largo Middle IB World
- John Hopkins Middle
- Midtown Academy
- Morgan Fitzgerald Middle
- Palm Harbor University
- Sandy Lane Elementary
- Tarpon Springs Middle

### MERIT AWARD OF DISTINCTION:

- Countryside High
- East Lake Middle
- Garrison-Jones Elementary
- Hollins High
- Kings Highway Elementary
- Largo High
- Pinellas Park High
- Seminole High
- Thurgood Marshall Middle



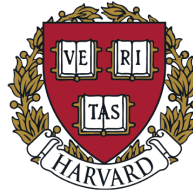
McMullen-Booth Elementary was recognized as a **Primary Year Programme IB World School**.



Shannon Brennan of Mildred Helms IB World School was named **Region III Principal of the Year** and Pamela A. Richardson of Sandy Lane Elementary Conservatory for the Arts was named **Region III Teacher of the Year** by Magnet Schools of America.



# COLLEGE & CAREER: HIGH EXPECTATIONS

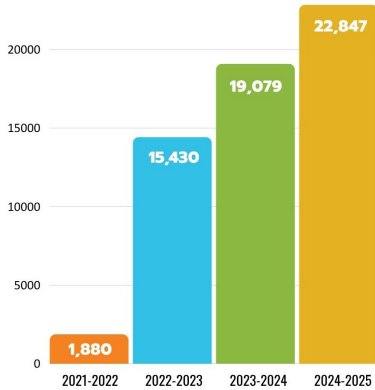




# COLLEGE & CAREER: HIGH EXPECTATIONS

## COLLEGE READINESS

### COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER VISITS



**17** College & Career Centers **9.2K** Students Served

### DUAL ENROLLMENT SAVINGS

PCS high school students saved **\$14.5 million in college tuition** by completing **23,307 college courses** and earning **69,921 college credits** while in high school.



Seniors who took the in-school SAT in fall 2024 **outperformed** their peers **statewide in all categories**. 60% met the English benchmark, surpassing the **Florida average (51%)** and the **global average (55%)**.

PCS offers **SLS 1301 - Career and Life Planning**, in partnership with St. Petersburg College, as an introductory Dual Enrollment course offered in high schools. **84% of the 1,721 students** enrolled in the course completed it **successfully**.



## CAREER EDUCATION

**94%**

of seniors in the career dual enrollment program finished before graduation or continued at PTC.

**42%**

of graduates from the 17 traditional high schools earned at least one industry certification.

**1,068**

high school students participated in career dual enrollment through PTC.





# STUDENT EXPERIENCE

## EXCELLENCE **ELEVATED** SOARING TO ANOTHER YEAR AS AN A DISTRICT

### FIELD TRIPS

**More than 450 curriculum-aligned field trips served 37,500 students**, including visits to college campuses, museums, aquariums, theaters, career days and events.



### STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Hosted by the Superintendent, students tackled leadership challenges, **toured the USF college campus, shared feedback with district leaders, and developed digital responsibility plans for their schools.**



### LUNCH LAB

**200+ elementary and middle school students sampled and rated food from 16 vendors.** Several of the students' favorites will appear in the 2025-26 lunch menus.



### MODEL UN

**More than 350 middle and high school students engaged in the Model United Nations Competition,** tackling global issues and practicing democracy.



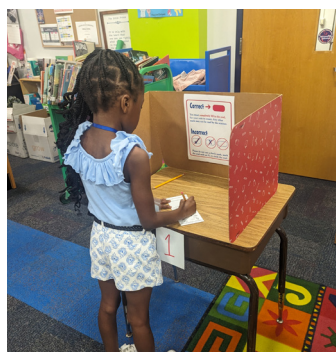
### 3DE SHOWCASE

High school students **pitched innovative business ideas to a panel of Raymond James executives.** Gibbs High earned top honors for an all-natural sunblock.



### MOCK ELECTIONS

Schools held mock elections on various topics, such as school president and best lunch, to **reinforce democratic principles ahead of the presidential election.**

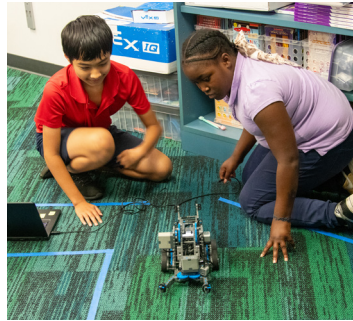




# STUDENT EXPERIENCE

## STEM EXPLORER CLUBS

**3,000 elementary and middle school students participated in STEM Explorer Clubs**, where they engaged in engineering challenges and **developed teamwork and leadership skills.**



## TRAVELING ART MOBILE

The Dali Museum Traveling Art Mobile visited six elementary schools, allowing **3,000 K-5 students to tour the mini-museum** with their art teachers.



## 150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Anona Elementary **celebrated its sesquicentennial anniversary.** Students sang Happy Birthday to the school and created a time capsule for students and staff to open in 50 years. **Items included letters to future students, a cell phone, and learning materials.** Anona is the only school in the district to reach this milestone.



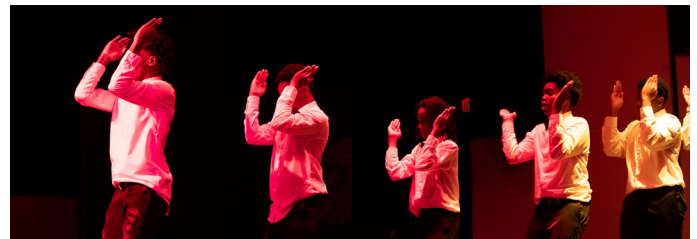
## CULTURAL EXCHANGES

Shore Acres Elementary and East Lake Middle **welcomed students from a Grand Cayman primary school** and a **Japanese English conversation school**, giving students a chance to **explore global cultures.**



## STEP COMPETITION

PCS hosted its **second annual step competition** for elementary and middle school students. Lakewood Elementary and Largo Middle won their divisions.





# MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

## MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

PCS is transforming the middle school experience to **accelerate student achievement while supporting students' transitions from elementary to middle and middle to high school**. All middle schools are implementing this in 2025-26 increasing the number from 12 in 2024-25 to 23 in 2025-26. The major changes include:



**EMBEDDING ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES  
THAT PROMOTE TEAM BUILDING**



**INTEGRATING CROSS-CURRICULAR  
HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCES**



**RAPPORT-BUILDING THROUGH  
TEACHER TEAMING**



**ENHANCING FIELD TRIP  
OPPORTUNITIES**

## PLANETARIUM

**5,000+ eighth graders** participated in the Great Explorations Planetarium, an immersive video that reinforced science standards. PCS **students outperformed the state average** on the standards addressed.



## "CRATE EXPLORATIONS"

PCS partnered with Great Explorations Children's Museum to engage **4,700+ sixth graders** (88% districtwide) in **science, ELA, math, and social studies through interactive challenges that built curiosity and critical thinking**.



## FUTURE CITIES

The **Future Cities competition doubled in participation** and challenged middle school students to design a sustainable floating city 100 years in the future. Largo Middle took first place.



## INNOVATION LAB

A team of district staff **transformed a former school bus into a mobile STEAM lab**, delivering hands-on learning in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. The bus serves as a **mobile field trip** and a feature at **community events**.





# STUDENT EXPERIENCE: ATHLETICS

## TENNIS STATE CHAMPIONS

Osceola High boys' **Varsity Tennis team** won the **3A state championship**. Head coach, Alberto Lense won Boys Coach of the Year from the Florida Dairy Farmers.



## STATE RUNNER UP

The Gibbs High boys' Varsity **Basketball team** made their **fourth straight Final Four appearance**, finishing just one point shy of back-to-back state titles.



## BALL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

The **Tampa Bay Lightning sponsored 10 elementary and four middle school teams in the 2nd PCS Ball Hockey Tournament**. Elisa Nelson Elementary and Carwise Middle took home first place.



## HENRY DECK AWARDS

Ava Tutas of Palm Harbor University High and Jeff Jones of St. Pete High received the **Henry Deck Awards** for their **dedication to the community and leadership in academics and athletics**.



## ALUMNI OLYMPIANS

Several PCS alum competed in the 2024 Paris Olympics:

- Danielle Collins, Tennis: Northeast High
- Bobby Finke, Swimming: Countryside High
- Nathan Harriel, Soccer: East Lake High
- Noah Lyons, Windsurfing: Clearwater High
- Sydney Pickrem, Swimming: East Lake High
- Parker Valby, Track and Field: East Lake High



## JUNIOR OLYMPICS

PCS was proudly represented by three student-athletes at the Junior Olympics:

- Brinkleigh Hansen, Swimming, St. Pete High
- Hayden Higgins, Track and Field, East Lake High
- Malayna Mallory, Track and Field, Boca Ciega High





# STUDENT EXPERIENCE: ARTS

## IGNITE ARTS CAMP

Ignite Arts Camp welcomed **220 students** to the 7th annual summer experience where they worked with master teachers to **enhance their talents in band, chorus, orchestra, musical theater, and dance.**



## MUSIC EDUCATION AWARD

For the **sixth consecutive year**, PCS was recognized as a NAMM **Best Community for Music Education**, an honor that underscores the community's ongoing commitment to exceptional music education.



## ALUM REUNION CONCERT

Grammy-winning musician and Gibbs High School grad, **Kendric McCallister** put on a free concert with the Gibbs PCCA jazz band as a tribute to the teachers and environment that cultivated his love of music.



## THRILLING PERFORMANCE

**Sixty talented 4th and 5th graders** at Sandy Lane Elementary **performed Michael Jackson's Thriller dance** as an ensemble group for the second year in a row.



## WALKER'S RISING STARS

Walker's Rising Stars offers students the opportunity to compete for **\$48,000 in college scholarships** across six artistic disciplines: **culinary arts, dance, music, theater, vocal performance, and visual arts.**



## MUSIC ENROLLMENT AWARD

The **Florida Music Education Association Conference** honored Carwise, Dunedin Highland, Seminole, and Tarpon Springs middle schools with the **Music Enrollment Award.**





# STUDENT EXPERIENCE: ARTS

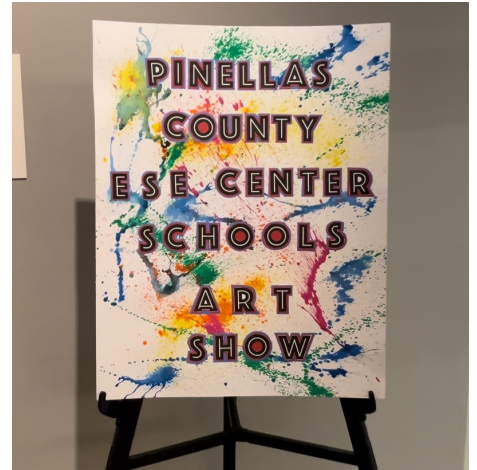
## ARTWORK ON DISPLAY

More than **12,000 student artworks** were submitted by art teachers and featured in **25 countywide exhibitions** at local museums, art centers, and galleries. Nearly **800 student art awards** were earned this year.



## ESE STUDENT ARTWORK EXHIBIT

The James Museum in St. Petersburg showcased **ESE student artwork** for the first time. The exhibit featured **artwork from 60 students** from two adaptive and two behavioral centers.



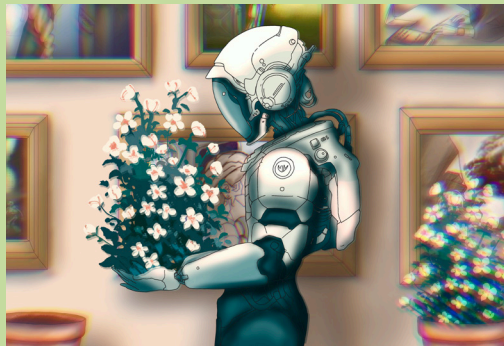
## NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC AWARDS

Sixteen PCS students grades 7–12 won **gold and silver National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards**. This Awards Program is the nation's most prestigious recognition program for creative teens. National medalists were celebrated at Carnegie Hall.



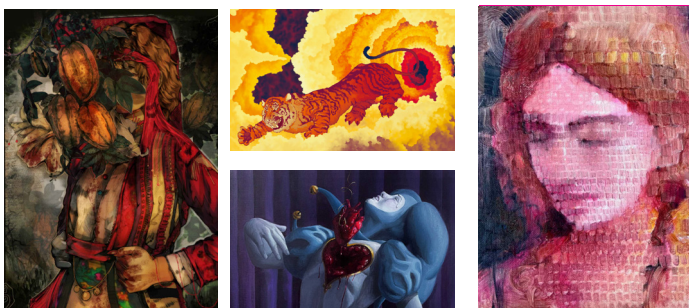
## CONGRESSIONAL CHOICE AWARDS

Isabella Snyder from Osceola Fundamental **won Best of Show at the 13th Congressional District High School Art Exhibition**. Henry Peter from Gibbs High won the **Congressional Choice Award at the 14th Congressional District High School Art Exhibition**.



## DALI MUSEUM STUDENT EXHIBIT

The 2025 Pinellas County Student Surrealist Exhibit showcased **120 student works of art**. A reception and award ceremony honored **20 students with top awards**. **Student artwork was displayed at the Dali Museum**.



## DUNEDIN FINE ART CENTER EXHIBIT

The **Dunedin Fine Art Center** hosted an exhibition featuring works of art by 90 PCS students. At the ceremony, **six of the students received awards for Artist Merit and Honorable Mentions**.

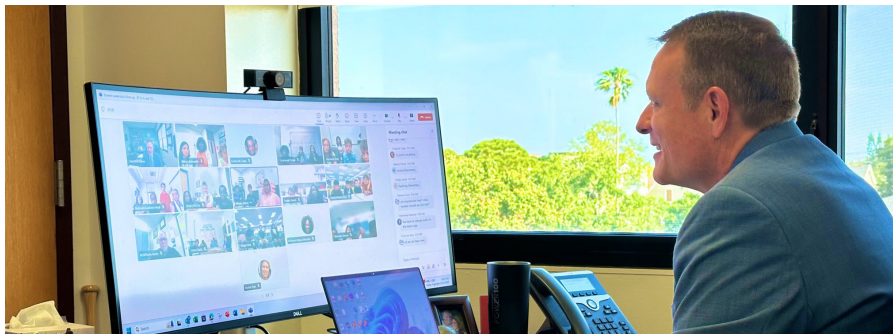




# SAFE & RESPECTFUL CLIMATE & CULTURE

## POWER UP LEARNING

The Power Up Learning, Power Down Distractions campaign launched this year, teaching students digital responsibility. Across all grades, **students practiced age-appropriate internet safety and technology skills, empowering them to learn and thrive in the digital world.**



## DIGITAL RESPONSIBILITY

At the Student Leadership Summit, Superintendent Hendrick challenged student leaders in grades 3-12 to **design projects promoting digital responsibility on their campuses.** Months later, students reconvened in a Zoom meeting to showcase their creative initiatives.

## SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Say Something Week highlights **the importance of students speaking up, supporting one another, and building connections with trusted adults.** Schools shared **lessons on recognizing warning signs of crisis** and hosted themed dress-up days and community-building activities to foster awareness and connection.



# 91%

## OF PARENTS REGARDED THEIR CHILD'S SCHOOL AS SAFE

INCREASING FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR.

## SCHOOL SAFETY

The district and school safety officers continue to work closely with the Florida Office of Safe Schools to **evaluate and improve the safety measures at all PCS schools.**

The School Board approved wearable crisis alert badges for all staff. The district shares the Florida Office of Safe Schools' quarterly safety report with the School Board and community, in compliance with state law.



## CYBER AMBASSADOR ACADEMY

Over the summer, nearly **100 students representing 20 elementary and middle schools** spent a week attending the Cyber Ambassador Academy. They focused on **creating a message to convey the importance of being digitally responsible.** Students then shared **that message with their schools through student-created podcasts and videos.**





# EQUITY WITH EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

## ALL SUBGROUPS DEMONSTRATED INCREASE PROFICIENCY ACROSS ALL STATE ASSESSMENTS



Among all student groups, Black students and students with disabilities showed the most improvement in math proficiency, increasing by **6.8 percentage points**.



English Learners showed the greatest improvement in overall science proficiency, with an increase of **8.9 percentage points**.



Students with disabilities showed the greatest improvement in reading proficiency, with a **6.9 percentage point increase**.



Black students showed the most improvement in overall Social Studies proficiency, increasing by **10.1 percentage points**.

## HIGH ACHIEVING STUDENTS

PCS recognized more than **770 students** at the Vyrle Davis Awards, the Maria Edmond Awards, and the Joseph L. Carwise Awards. These awards honor the **top achieving black and hispanic scholars** across the district.



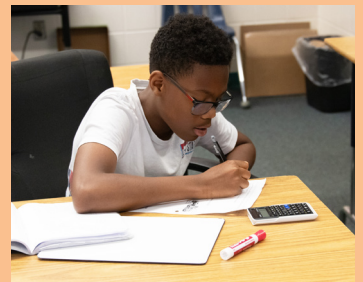
## TURNAROUND AWARDS

The Turnaround Achievement Award program recognizes one student from each school who has **made positive choices about his or her educational future**. The turnaround can occur in behavior, attitude, or academics.



## BRIDGING THE GAP

The Bridging the Gap Plan is focused on closing the achievement gap for Black students in Pinellas County. In 2024–25, **the district made improvements, with Black student proficiency reaching its highest levels in ELA and Math**. PCS remains committed to accelerating this progress. **Learn more at [pcsb.org/BTG](https://pcsb.org/BTG).**



## YES, I CAN! AWARDS

The Yes, I Can! Awards honored nearly 50 ESE students for **outstanding achievements in academics, independent living, self-advocacy, technology, and the arts**.



## BOYS AND GUYS READ BOOK BATTLE

**400 male students** represented 100 schools in the boys read and guys read book battles. This initiative aims to **narrow the gender gap in reading** by engaging boys in books aligned with their interests.





# POINTS OF PRIDE: OUTSTANDING STAFF

## STAFF RECOGNITION



**GABRIELLA HERNANDEZ**  
Emerging Teacher of the Year,  
Walsingham Elementary



**EMMA JOHNSON**  
Emerging Teacher of the Year,  
Safety Harbor Middle



**KELLY AUSTIN**  
Principal of the Year, Sandy  
Lane Elementary



**ETJE RAMDOHR**  
Assistant Principal of  
the Year, Disston Academy



**ANDREW TREMBLAY**  
Support Employee of the Year,  
Tarpon Springs Middle



**SHINEICE BEAMON**  
Campus Activities Monitor of  
the Year, Carwise Middle



**KAITLYN DIOU, MATT GEER, PAM SETTLE**  
School Safety Officer of the Year and School  
Resource Officers of the Year



**PCS TEACHER  
OF THE YEAR**  
**DENNIS ZUERCHER,**  
**GIBBS HIGH  
SCHOOL**



## EVENING OF EXCELLENCE

A night to honor the top 10 Teacher of the Year finalists:

- Brandy Ashby, Campbell Park Elementary
- Judith Deeley, Dunedin High
- Brittany Fuller, Clearwater Fundamental
- Kelly Hefty, Azalea Elementary
- Tarik Mowatt, Meadowlawn Middle
- Kaley Olles, Safety Harbor Middle
- Jill Shircliff, Osceola Middle
- Carrie Snyder, Belleair Elementary
- Natalie Steratore, Curlew Creek Elementary
- Dennis Zuercher, Gibbs High





# POSITIVE STAFF EXPERIENCES



The Pinellas Education Foundation honored Executive Director of Elementary Education, Michael Feeney with the **Impact & Innovation Award** at the ChangeMakers Breakfast.



The district was recognized again as a **Platinum Level Family Friendly Workplace**. PCS is **one of 70 businesses** recognized by Thrive by Five's Family Friendly Tampa Bay program this year.



The Woodson African American Museum of Florida honored School Board Vice Chairperson Caprice Edmond at its **First Ladies in African American History** event.

## LEADING WITH CORE VALUES

Staff continue to recognize their colleagues for exemplifying the PCS Core Values, and leaders find unique ways to publicly **celebrate 16,812 staff** members who received a PCS Praise recognition from colleagues.



## EMPLOYEE HOUSING

In response to rising housing costs, PCS partnered with **more than 20 property management companies** to offer preferred employer **discounts to PCS employees**.



## SALARY INCREASE

A portion of the approved Referendum will be utilized to increase salaries—**70% allocated to teachers** (approximately \$11,000 each) and **15% to support staff** (approximately \$2,900 each).



## EMPLOYEE CHILD CARE LAUNCH

In the first year, Employee Childcare served **75 children**, ages one through four, and benefited **77 PCS employees across 57 district sites**. The program's weekly tuition rates are approximately **50% of the market rate**.



## TEACHER APPRENTICE GRANT

In its second year, the Teacher Apprenticeship Program **helps support staff become teachers while earning higher wages**. The program received a \$185,000 state grant to help cover program expenses.





# STRONG CONNECTIONS & COMMUNICATION

## VOLUNTEERS AND MENTORS OF THE YEAR



**KIMBERLY JOHNSON**  
Take Stock in Children  
Mentor of the Year,  
Richard O. Jacobson High



**LISA GOODEN**  
Lunch Pal of the  
Year, John M. Sexton  
Elementary



**DEAN GIANCOLA**  
Lunch Pal of the Year,  
Safety Harbor  
Middle



**JIM OLSEN**  
Lunch Pal of the Year,  
Palm Harbor University  
High



**JACK FLETCHER**  
Most Logged  
Lunch Pal  
Hours (53)



**ISABELLA GLASFORD**  
Youth Volunteer of  
the Year, Eisenhower  
Elementary



**COURTNEY WILLIAMS**  
Adult Mentor of the  
Year, Fairmount Park  
Elementary



**BERNITA FRANKLIN**  
Group Mentor of  
the Year, Marjorie K.  
Rawlings Elementary



**VERNON BRYANT**  
Senior Mentor of the Year, Richard O. Jacobson  
High and state finalist for the Outstanding  
Volunteer Award

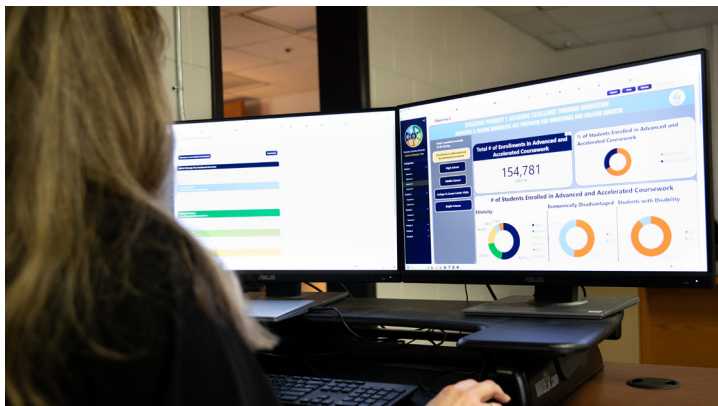
## ALUMNI FEATURES

PCS featured 10 district alumni in our PCS newsletter and on YouTube. Alumni included **pro football players, prominent local business owners, a New York Times best-selling author, a Grammy-winning musician, and more.**



## COMMUNITY DASHBOARD

PCS unveiled a new **District Strategic Plan Community Dashboard**. With more than 2,000 views, the online tool publicly shares **quarterly updates on key strategies and initiatives throughout the year.**



## SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH

The district's social media presence grew dramatically over the year, with **increases in both followers and engagement across all platforms.**



**+4,329**  
FOLLOWERS  
FROM 2023-24

**+504,573**  
ENGAGEMENT  
FROM 2023-24



**+4,037**  
FOLLOWERS  
FROM 2023-24

**+102,977**  
ENGAGEMENT  
FROM 2023-24



**+1,413**  
SUBSCRIBERS  
FROM 2023-24

**+9,247**  
HOURS WATCHED  
FROM 2023-24



**+1,597**  
FOLLOWERS  
FROM 2023-24

**+4,078**  
ENGAGEMENT  
FROM 2023-24

## SCHOOLS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**111** Schools on  
Facebook

**70** Schools on  
Instagram



# STRONG CONNECTIONS & COMMUNICATION

## EXPERIENCE PCS

**More than 3,000 people attended** Experience PCS, a family-friendly event showcasing districtwide programs and opportunities. Attendees explored everything from **STEM and flight simulations to glow-in-the-dark art, animal encounters, and a chili cook-off.**



## REFERENDUM

Pinellas County voters once again **approved the renewal of the PCS Referendum**. Since its initial approval in 2004, the Referendum has been renewed every four years, reflecting the community's ongoing **commitment to support public education**. The newly approved Referendum took effect on July 1, 2025.

Key highlights of the renewed Referendum include:

- Ongoing **independent oversight** to ensure funds are used as voters intended
- Adjustment of the **millage rate to 1.0 mill**
- **Recruiting and retaining** of high-quality teachers and support staff
- Preservation of **music, art, and reading programs**
- Investment in modern **classroom technology**
- Increased **teacher salaries**
- New **salary supplements for support staff**, including school nurses, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and others



## REAL-WORLD PARTNERSHIPS

**All fifth and eighth graders participate in Enterprise Village and Finance Park**, immersive field trips with **42 local business partners**. Fifth graders run a simulated town, while eighth graders manage a household budget and make real-world financial decisions, building essential economic skills that connect classroom learning to life.





# PCS STRONG: HURRICANE RECOVERY

## PCS STRONG

As a result of the damage sustained by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, Pinellas County Schools:

- Sheltered **15,000+ residents** in 20 shelters
- Provided **thousands of meals** for sheltered residents
- Deployed **100+ bus drivers daily**, to **evacuate 3,100 people**
- Collaborated with community partners to **quickly restore campuses**
- Relocated students from damaged campuses including Maderia Beach K-8 and Gulf Beaches Elementary



The **Pinellas Education Foundation's Hurricane Relief Campaign** raised **\$1.6 million** to aid displaced students and staff. Local organizations, including the Juvenile Welfare Board and YMCA, provided free childcare for affected families. Several **school communities** collected essentials, prepared care packages, and distributed food to families in need.



# FISCAL & OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

## TRANSPORTATION



Since 2022-23, **late bus arrivals declined 72%** from nearly 33,000 to about 9,000. **Delays of 16–30 minutes fell 73% over three years**, and **delays over 30 minutes dropped 97%**.

## FINANCE



All ESSER/ARP funds allocated to non-charter schools were successfully utilized within the designated timeframe, meeting the September 2024 deadline.

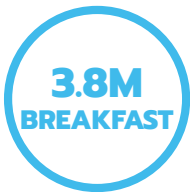
## TECHNOLOGY



More than **19,000 computers** were **repaired** by district staff and Dell Tech Crew students. **57 students** earned **certifications through the Dell Tech Program** this year.

## FOOD & NUTRITION

### MEALS SERVED



### SCRATCH COOKING

PCS will **increase scratch cooking districtwide** in 2025-26, starting with Marjorie K. Rawlings Elementary hosting the first scratch cook-off lunch for students in spring 2025.



## MAJOR RENOVATION PROJECTS

### BETTE RA IVEY DISCOVERY CENTER • OPENED MAY 2025



PCS celebrated the official dedication of the Bette Ra Ivey Discovery Center at a ribbon-cutting event on April 29. The center houses **the first employee childcare center, ESE departments, as well as the Pre-K assessment team.**

### SEMINOLE HIGH • GROUNDBREAKING: MARCH 2025

\$57M in new construction, major renovations and remodeling campuswide, including **new buildings** and **renovations to improve classrooms, safety systems**, and key facilities like the **cafeteria and media center.**

### DR. MICHAEL A. GREGO LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE • OPENING OCTOBER 2025

The **Dr. Michael A. Grego Leadership Institute** honors the leadership and vision of retired PCS superintendent who led its development.

### WALSINGHAM OAKS K-8 RIBBON-CUTTING • COMPLETED AUGUST 2025

The School Board reviewed **community suggestions** and **approved the new facility name: Walsingham Oaks K-8**, opening fall 2025, combines Southern Oak and Walsingham elementary schools.





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