



# THE GEAR

December 1, 2021

Volume 18

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## Message from the Principal

Heather Peters



**Nationally Certified Magnet School 2017**  
**Florida School Grade C, 2019**  
**Magnet School of Distinction, 2020**  
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 St. Petersburg, FL 33711  
 727.552.1703  
 Fax: 727.552.1704

**School Website:**  
<http://www.pcsb.org/jamerson-es>  
**School Facebook:**  
<http://www.facebook.com/JamersonElementary>

**District Office:** 727.588.6000  
**District Web Site:** [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org)  
**Transportation:** 727.587.2020

**Heather Peters**, Principal  
**Lukas Hefty**, Asst. Principal  
**Dr. Dywayne Hinds**, Area 3 Superintendent  
**Dr. Michael Grego**, Superintendent

Seasons Greetings Jamerson Families –

As we head into the holiday season, I want to share a few important announcements with you.

- ◆ The PBIS event Gearing Up for the Holidays occurs Nov 30-Dec 17. Students with no absences, tardies, or minor infractions in their classroom, or office referrals during each of the three weeks earn a ticket. Tickets are placed in boxes in the cafeteria and drawn for prizes weekly. Encourage your child to be following the Jamerson Expectations to earn entries.
- ◆ Thursday, December 2nd don't miss our biggest engineering showcase of the year – our Fall Engineering Expo. This is a wonderful evening event that encourages you to visit the school and see the K-5 engineering exhibits. It is an open house type event that starts at 5:45 pm and ends at 7:30 pm. Our Jamerson Jammers will perform at 6:00 pm.
- ◆ Thursday, December 9th will be Discovery Night. This is for new families who are considering applying at Jamerson for the 2022 – 2023 school year. If you know any interested families, encourage them to come and check out our wonderful school.
- ◆ The PTA Holiday Shoppe will run the second week of December. More information will be coming.
- ◆ On Dec. 10th the Beginning Band and BandBots will perform. This will also be recorded and posted. We are so hopeful that the second half of the year will get to include face to face concerts again, but until then Mrs. Hill is being creative to be sure all parents can see their child perform.
- ◆ On Dec. 13th our 1st graders, 2nd graders & chorus will perform. The concert will be recorded and posted on the website and on Facebook.
- ◆ On Dec. 16th our Chorus will perform. This will also be recorded and posted for families to view.
- ◆ Friday, December 17th is the end of the second quarter and the last day before the Holiday break. It is also Pajama Day.
- ◆ There will be No School from Monday, December 20th – Monday, January 3rd. School resumes for students on Tuesday, January 4th. Gates open at 8:15 am.

### Vision:

*Engineering innovative thinkers for global success.*

### Mission:

*Provide a diverse and caring learning environment with highly qualified teachers, unique family and community partnerships, and distinct engineering curriculum.*

## Calendar of Events

Nov. 29–Dec. 17 PBIS Gearing Up for the Holidays  
 Dec. 2 Fall Engineering Day & EXPO Night  
 Dec. 9 Discovery Night  
 Dec. 10 Dreambox Cookie Decorating Event  
 Dec. 10 Winter Concert: Band & Strings  
 Dec. 13 Winter Concert: Chorus, Grades 1 & 2  
 Dec. 13-17 PTA Winter Holiday Shoppe  
 Dec. 16 Chorus Concert  
 Dec. 17 Pajama Day  
 Dec. 17 End of Second Quarter and First Semester  
 Dec. 18–January 2 Winter Holidays  
 Jan. 3 School closed for students.  
 Jan. 4 School resumes and second semester begins  
 Jan. 4–7 No Name Calling Week  
 Jan. 5–14 District Application period

### SCHOOL OPENING & DISMISSAL TIMES

**8:15 AM** Gates and classroom doors open  
 Breakfast served until 8:40 AM  
**8:45 AM** Classes begin  
**2:55 PM** Dismissal

Menus can be found online [www.pcsb.org/food](http://www.pcsb.org/food)  
 Meal applications can be found at [www.applyforlunch.com](http://www.applyforlunch.com)

### Clothing Closet

Jamerson's Clothing Closet, located in our front office, needs new or gently used clothing.

**Urgently needed are girls' and boys' shorts/pants in ALL sizes 4-16, as well as men's size small.**

*Thank you for your continued support!*

It's hard to believe that we are already half way through the year. It has definitely flown by as Mr. Hefty and I have both settled in at our new school. I know it isn't easy to have two new administrators, so we wanted to thank you for your understanding as we both relearn some Jamerson processes and work to make this school an even better place to be.

*Heather Peters*

Principal





### Winter Wonderland Holiday Shoppe

December 13<sup>th</sup>—17<sup>th</sup>



Jamerson's PTA will be resuming the Holiday Shoppe tradition this year!

The Shoppe offers children an opportunity to learn how to budget and spend wisely in a child-centered environment.

They will also be experiencing the gift of giving as they decide what gifts to buy for family and friends.

Gifts range in price from as low as 25¢ to a maximum of \$20.00.

Classes will do a preview walk-through on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to see the gifts that will be available to purchase on their shopping day.

Details will come later regarding specific shopping days.



### Volunteers needed for the Winter Wonderland Holiday Shoppe

Volunteers will be needed to ensure this fantastic opportunity for our students is a success. If you are a Level 1 or 2 registered PCS volunteer, please consider donating some of your time. More details are included in the Sign-up Genius that can be accessed with this QR code.



### In the Art Studio...

Students are trying to win a grade level **POPCORN PURPLE PARTY** over the next 6 weeks.

The first class to achieve a move up to the purple level wins an art movie with popcorn.

Good luck artists, and remember those Jamerson Expectations!



### PBIS Gearing Up for the Holidays

November 29<sup>th</sup>—December 17<sup>th</sup>



**Scholars have the opportunity to earn prizes and privileges each week. Scholars who meet all conditions below for the week will have their names entered into weekly drawings on the Jamerson Morning News Show every Friday.**

- No unexcused tardies (Tardies will only be excused with a doctor's note)
- No unexcused absences (Absences will only be excused with a doctor's note)
- No minor infractions or referrals



### PBIS Incentives and Jamerson Expectations

Students can earn school money, called Sprockets, for following the Jamerson Expectations. They can "cash in" their earned Sprockets at our monthly (Book, Popcorn, and School) Sprockets Stores.



Please, remind your student of the Jamerson Expectations often: *Be Respectful, Be Kind, Be Responsible, Be My Best* and *Be Safe*

- 1st Tuesday of each month: Book Store
- 2nd Tuesday of each month: Popcorn Store
- 3rd Tuesday of each month: School Store



### Fifth Grade Parent Volunteer/Chaperone Information



These events can not take place without your participation. **USF Engineering Expo and Kennedy Space Center Chaperones must be PCS registered Level 2 Volunteers.**

If you are not already a PCS registered volunteer, please, submit an online volunteer registration application now.

If you are currently a Level 1 volunteer, be sure to activate your Volunteer Profile.

Upgrading your status to Level 2 is strongly recommended if you want to be eligible to chaperone.

Volunteer questions? Contact Laura Stees, Family & Community Liaison, at steesl@pcsb.org or 727-552-1703

### Volunteer Clubhouse

**It is wonderful to be able to have volunteers back on campus and helping at events! Please remember that even Level 2 volunteers must still sign in at the office before entering campus.**



### Registered Volunteers Needed

As you know, Jamerson has many fantastic events throughout the school year that our families love to participate in. Without volunteers, though, most of them wouldn't be possible.

**Please, consider registering as a volunteer, as well as recruiting your family and friends to do the same.**

We have opportunities for weekly volunteering in classrooms and for Sprockets Stores, as well as for special events on campus.

Being a registered Level 1 volunteer is required for most of these opportunities, however a Level 2 status is preferred, and sometimes required.

Submit your application at this link: <https://asd.pcsb.org/schoolwires/forms/volunteers/>  
Volunteer questions? Contact Laura Stees, Family & Community Liaison, at steesl@pcsb.org or 727-552-1703





# DISTRICT APPLICATION PERIOD

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

If your child will be entering Kindergarten, 6<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade next year, you will need to know these important dates!

Must have Focus ID and password

### Step 1: Get a Parent I.D. and Password - **MUST HAVE your photo ID with you.**

- If you do not already have a Focus User ID and password for your family, go to a nearby school to request one.
- To reset the password for an existing Focus account, please visit any school.

You only need one User ID and password per family. Ensure all children are linked to your account.

### Step 2: Apply Online January 5-14, 2022 before 5:00 pm.

- Log onto the Student Reservation System (SRS), <https://reservation.pcsb.org> using your User ID and password.
- Select District Application Programs.
- Enter your **five** program selections from the list of programs.

**REMEMBER:** Non-PCS students must deliver all documentation of program eligibility to the appropriate program office(s) by the close of the school day on January 21, 2022.

To secure one of these priority seats, you must apply during the application period *and* rank that school as your first choice. Then, you must go back into the system during the acceptance period and accept the invitation of your choice.

For more information, go to [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org)

\*Please note: For your incoming kindergarten scholar to get sibling priority, you must also apply at this time.

\*\*Please note: Our current Jamerson 5<sup>th</sup> graders will have priority admission upon application to:

The Gateway to Technology Program at Azalea Middle or

The Center for Advancement of Science and Technology at Bay Point Middle School.

### Step 3: Accept Invitations Feb. 7-18, 2022 before 5:00 pm.

- Log onto the Student Reservation System (SRS) with your User ID and password during this period to accept a program invitation. *If you do not accept an invitation during this period, your child's invitation(s) will no longer be valid.*
- Review your child's status in all programs to which you applied.
- It is not necessary to accept waiting list positions.
- If you accept any ONE program's invitation during this period, the student's name will be removed from all other lists.
- You have the option to change your mind and select a different program before the 5:00 PM February 18, 2022 deadline.

**February 21—25, 2022: Newly Invited Sibling Priority.**

**March 7, 2022: Schools call from waitlists.**

**Please contact Ms. O'Hare [ohared@pcsb.org](mailto:ohared@pcsb.org) with questions regarding Jamerson's Magnet Program.**

**Please contact Jamerson's Front Office for Parent Focus ID information. 727-552-1703**

**Pre-K 3 and VPK application period will be February 2022.** More information to come January 2022.

### Clinic Corner

#### **When Children Should Stay Home from School**

Schools and families are often confused as to when scholars should be sent home from school ill, or should be kept home from school when ill.

In general, a good rule of thumb is to determine whether or not the scholar can still participate in school activities.

Having a sore throat, cough, or mild congestion doesn't necessarily mean a scholar cannot continue to participate in classroom and school activities.

This is especially relevant as we enter the heart of cold and flu season!

School Health Services has guidelines for parents and schools to help determine when children should go home or be excluded from school.

Additionally, these guidelines also indicate when medical notes are necessary for children to return to school after certain illnesses.

Questions? Please ask our school nurse, Elizabeth "Betty" Dudley, 552-1703 ext. 2013, for our "Guidelines for Exclusion" brochure.

For additional information, please contact the school nurse or School Health Services at (727) 588-6320.

#### **Reminder from Nurse Betty:**

*PLEASE* send a reusable water bottle to school with your student every day. Label it with their first initial and last name.

Refills will be granted as needed. Staying hydrated is important in every season!

(Schools do not provide cups or bottles for students to use.)



## IMPORTANT:

### Scholar Safety and Front Office Procedures



#### Drop-off and Dismissal Processes

Please, **do not** leave scholars in the car circle prior to 8:15 a.m. as there is absolutely **NO ADULT SUPERVISION** before this time.

**Dismissal Car Line supervision ends at 3:15p.m.— all students should be picked up by this time.**

School Board policy requires that schools provide supervision to scholars 30 minutes before the academic day begins and 30 minutes following the academic day.

**Leaving scholars before or after these times is unsafe.**

**The Front Office closes promptly at 3:30 p.m.**

#### Student Transportation Changes

Please, make sure your child knows each day where they'll go for dismissal.

(Ex: car/bus/aftercare van, YMCA, or staying after school for tutoring, band, club, or other activity)

**Please communicate with the Front Office by 2:00p.m. if their usual dismissal plan changes, even if the change is just for one day.**

Let's work together in making dismissal stress-free for everyone by getting students to the right place, at the right time.

#### Early Student Sign-out

**Photo I.D. is REQUIRED to remove your scholar from school during school hours.**

Please list all persons permitted to pick your scholar up in your PCS parent portal and on the front office Student Information Card.

**Early pick-ups must be made before 2:30 p.m.** to avoid the dismissal rush.

Pick-ups after this time must be approved by the principal prior to 2:00 p.m.

**Students can not be taken out of class until the parent arrives in the office to sign them out.**

Please incorporate a 15-minute sign-out wait into your plans.

#### Tardies, Early pick-ups, and Absences

Tardies, early pick-ups and absences will only be recorded as excused once proper documentation is provided. (Ex: doctor's note)

**Thank you for partnering with the school in keeping your child safe and in following District policies.**



### Dreambox Math Mondays



We are continuing with our new initiative called *Math Mondays*.

The goal of this district initiative is to extend the school day with at home learning, including Dreambox lessons.

Monday night is a great night to have students complete at least three of their ten (10) Dreambox lessons for the week.

The expectation for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders is to complete ten Dreambox lessons each week.

Five of those lessons should be completed at school, and the expectation is that the other five are completed at home.

Children in 3rd–5th grades have a one-to-one device, so, please, make sure your child is completing five lessons at home each week.

We do have Dreambox incentives in place for students who are completing their weekly lessons.

*Thank you for your support!*

### Math Strategies for Parents to Use

Monitor your child's progress.

Making sure that homework and Dreambox Math is done **every week** is the best way to help.

- \*Read the problems to your child or have your child read the problems to you.
- \*Question them to make sure they understand what they have read.
- \*Highlight or underline key words to help solve the problem.
- \*Model the problem using a diagram.
- \*Use arithmetic to do the math.
- \*Check your answer using another strategy.

#### **If your child is stuck:**

- \*Suggest a strategy.
- \*Provide a similar problem for explanation purposes; you can find them on the internet or in your child's math book online.
- \*Explain how to do the problem without actually doing it for your child.
- \*Use the math book as a resource.
- \*Use the internet as a resource.
- \*Provide counters (like buttons, cereal, beans, paper clips or even tiny slips of paper) or math tools to help solve the problems.
- \*Listen as your child thinks out loud.