Welcome Message from the Principal
Heather Peters

Welcome message from Mrs. Peters:

I am so excited to be starting my third year as principal at Douglas L. Jamerson, Jr. Elementary. The opportunity to continue to work alongside the families, children, and staff at Jamerson is a blessing. I believe we can all work toward a common purpose of educating and preparing each child for success through the rest of their educational careers and later on life.

My true passion in life is to teach children the necessary skills to be independent readers and thinkers who can problem solve in creative ways. My personal mission is to create a warm, caring and engaging school environment where each and every child can thrive and be successful.

As a school leader, I am committed to contributing to that environment by encouraging lifelong learning, strong parent/school relationships, academic excellence, respectful collaboration and open communication.

As principal, I operate with an open-door policy, and I welcome your input. Feel free to call or email me at petersh@pcsb.org to make an appointment to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas to help make this the best school year yet! Typically, I am busy in classrooms with students and teachers the majority of the day. You can expect a call back after the school day.

Your Partner in Education,
Heather Peters
Principal

Calendar of Events
Sept. 4 Labor Day – No School
Sept. 12 Mid-Period Progress Report
Sept. 15 International DOT Day
Sept. 18 Magnet Advisory Board @ 4:15pm
SAC Meeting @ 6:00pm
Sept. 18-22 Start with Hello Week
Sept. 21 PTA General Meeting & Fall Program Event: Mathnasium, 6–8:00pm
Sept. 25 No School for Students
Sept. 28 Title I Annual meeting & Open House, Student-Led Conferences and
5th Grade Parent Meeting
Oct. 5 – Fall Picture Retakes

SCHOOL OPENING & DISMISSAL TIMES
8:15 a.m Gates and classroom doors open
Breakfast served 8:15 - 8:40 AM
8:45 a.m Classes begin
2:55 p.m Dismissal
Menus can be found online at pcsb.org/food
Meal applications can be found at www.applyforlunch.com

Does Your Child Ride a PCS School Bus?
Pinellas County Schools Transportation Department encourages parents to use the Bus Bulletin App. Bus Bulletin sends parents updates about their child’s bus routes straight from Pinellas County Schools.

Register online at www.busbulletin.com. Once you are registered you will add your student using their 10-digit student ID and birthday. You can find their student ID in your Parent Focus account.
Drop-off & Dismissal Process

Please, do not leave students in the car circle prior to 8:15 AM. There is absolutely NO ADULT SUPERVISION before this time.

School Board policy only requires that schools provide supervision to students 30 minutes before the academic day begins and 30 minutes after the academic day.

Leaving students before 8:15 a.m. or after 3:25 p.m. is unsafe.

The car circle must stay moving. Do not delay your student from exiting or entering the vehicle.

* Children who are being unloaded, or loaded, should do so using the vehicle’s passenger side doors.
* At dismissal, if your child needs help getting in or buckling up, you need to park in a parking spot and walk up to the Parent Walk-up area at the front of the school to get them.
* You will need to show your family number. Please hang it in your car for staff to see.

Please inform the Front Office by 2:15 p.m. of changes to your child’s dismissal plan, even if the change is just for one day.

Families of 5th graders need to notify the Front Office by 1:30 p.m.

If there is a change of transportation for you child, please, also, inform the teacher via agenda, email, etc.

All students will be dismissed to their typical transportation if we do not have notification of change from the family.

Let’s work together to get our students to the right place, at the right time.

NEW this year- Do not park on 13th Avenue South on the east side of the bus circle exit. This is for safety of our families.

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Front Office Procedures

Photo I.D. is REQUIRED to remove your student from school between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 2:55 p.m.

Please list all persons permitted to pick your student up in your PCS parent portal and on the front office Student Information Card. Contact information should be kept current at all times. Please notify the school as soon as is there is a change.

Early pick-ups must be made before 2:15 p.m. to avoid the dismissal rush.

Pick-ups after this time must be approved by the principal the day prior to early pick-up.

The Front Office will close daily from 2:45 - 3:15pm to focus on coordinating safe dismissals.

Tardies, Early pick-ups and Absences will only be recorded as excused once proper documentation is provided.

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Jamerson’s Corner Clinic - News You Can Use

When Can My Student Return to School?

A scratchy throat, cough, or mild congestion doesn’t necessarily mean a student cannot continue to participate in a normal school day.

Keep your child home if they have:

- Fever - oral temperature over 100°F / tympanic over 99°F
- Vomiting - Two or more times when at home
- Diarrhea - Two or more loose stools at home

Students can return to school when they have been symptom-free for 24 hours without the use of medication.

School Health Services’ Guidelines for parents and schools 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.

Our school nurse, Elizabeth “Betty” Dudley, RN has copies of PCS’s “Guidelines for Exclusion” brochure available on request.

For additional information, please contact Nurse Betty at (727)552-1703, ext. 2026, or School Health Services at (727) 588-6320.

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Reminder from Nurse Betty: PLEASE send a reusable water bottle to school with your student every day.

Label it with their first and last name.

Our fountains can refill the bottles and students will be granted access as needed.

Staying hydrated is important, especially in the summer months!

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Conscious Discipline Corner

Establishing and building a strong school family results in a learning environment that is safe, caring, and engaging. Conscious Discipline practices are being learned by staff and implemented to create this nurturing and respectful school family. When children feel safe, valued, respected and welcomed they are able to get the most our of their learning opportunities.

Conscious Discipline is an evidence-based, trauma-informed approach to understanding and then teaching self-regulation strategies through seven skills. The seven skills are needed to transform everyday discipline issues into teaching moments. These moments are our opportunity to teach children the self-regulation and communication skills necessary to manage themselves, resolve conflict, prevent bullying, and develop positive social behaviors. The seven skills are Composure, Encouragement, Assertiveness, Choices, Empathy, Positive Intent, and Consequences.

In September we will focus on Composure.

Composure Summary

● Power: Perception: No one can make you angry without your permission.
● Becoming Brain Smart: Composure gives you access to the higher centers of your brain.
● Skill: S.T.A.R.: “I’m safe. Keep breathing. I can handle this.”

Noticing and download: “Your face is going like this (demonstrate).”
● School Family: Brain Smart Start Routine, Safekeeper Ritual, Safe Place Self-Regulation Center, Friends and Family Board
Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),
My name is Mrs. Stager. I am the School Counselor at Douglas L. Jamerson Elementary School. A School Counselor acts as an advocate for all children and implements a Comprehensive School Counseling Program as outlined in the Pinellas County School District’s Professional Counselor plan. As part of the plan, did you know that some of the things that Elementary School Counselors do are...

...teach classroom lessons on social and emotional learning
...counsel individual students as needed on personal/social issues such as
...making good decisions, getting along with others, conflict resolution, etc.
...help students through difficulties such as family changes, divorce, and grief
...consult with teachers and parents and assist them in meeting individual needs
...Career Exploration

If I can be of any assistance to you, please call me at 727-552-1703 ext. 2060
Sincerely,
Mrs. Stager, Elementary School Counselor

PBIS Incentives and Jamerson Expectations
Students can earn school money, called Sprockets, for following Jamerson Expectations.
Please, remind your student of the Jamerson Expectations often:
Be Respectful, Be Kind, Be Responsible, Be My Best and Be Safe

Sprockets Stores
PBIS incentives begin in September!

Students will be able to “cash in” their earned Sprockets at our various monthly Sprockets Stores. Stores will be run by volunteers on our campus.
Jamerson’s PTA PBIS Book Store, Popcorn Store and School Store will each be held one Tuesday per month.

Volunteers are needed to help run these stores!
Contact Laura Stees, Family & Community Liaison, for more information. steesl@pcsbo.org

Start with Hello Week
September 18th - 22nd

Start With Hello is a Sandy Hook Promise program that teaches students to be more socially inclusive and connected to each other. With activities for all ages, students are empowered to end social isolation in three easy steps.

See Someone Alone - Reach Out and Help - Start with Hello

National Hispanic Heritage Month
September 15 - October 15, 2022

Join PCS in observing Hispanic Heritage Month as we celebrate the stories of Hispanic and Latino Americans and the achievements of Hispanic Floridians.

Learn more about Hispanic Heritage Month in Florida at http://floridahispanicheritage.com.
Thursday, September 28th

Open House

Title I Annual Meeting and Student-led Conferences @ 5:30pm in the Cafeteria
and
Parent Meeting for 5th Grade Families @ 6:00pm
(More information to come)

Teachers will be reaching out to make appointments for conferences.
If you would like a conference, please contact your child’s teacher.

WANTED:

Presenters and Guest Speakers
for the
Great American Teach-In
November 14 - 17, 2023

Do you have an awesome job, sport, hobby, or activity that you love? We’d love for you to share it with us!

Contact Laura Stees with questions or to RSVP.
steesl@pcsb.org

Registered Volunteers Are Always Needed... and Appreciated!

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 on campus, including Sprockets Stores, as well as for special events on campus.
Being a registered Level 1 volunteer is required for these opportunities, however, a Level 2 status is preferred, and often required.

Submit your application at this link: https://asd.pcsb.org/schoolwiresforms/volunteers/
The Google Chrome Browser must be used on a laptop or desktop to access the Volunteer application.
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 on a daily basis and at events!
Level 2 volunteers, please be aware that you must still sign in at the office before entering campus and you must wear your Level 2 photo ID badge while on campus. All volunteers need their government issued photo ID to sign in.
Our common goal is to facilitate student learning. Unplanned visits to classrooms can be disruptive and are discouraged.

Volunteer Profiles need to be re-activated at the beginning of every school year before volunteering.
Activation requires volunteers to log in to their profile and simply answer the few questions that pop up.

Please use the Google Chrome Browser on a laptop or desktop to access the Volunteer System.
https://focus.pcsb.org/volunteer/
Log-in Information Example:
Username: v.smithd
Password: Smith1975

Usernames and passwords are case sensitive.
Some usernames include a number and underscore because the volunteer last name is a popular one.
If you have difficulty logging in, please email Laura Stees, Family & Community Liaison, immediately. steesl@pcsb.org

Donations Welcome!

Adopt – A – Class Program:
Monetary donations made to specific teachers or programs. Forms are available in the Front Office.

Academic Achievement Rewards and Positive Behavior Incentives:
Donations of gift cards and cash are always welcome.

Classroom Supplies:
Tissues, Sanitizing Wipes, Healthy Snacks, etc. Inquire with your child’s teacher for specific needs.
PTA Fall Event

Thursday, September 21st
6 - 8:00pm

PTA will be hosting this family night again this year!
Mathnasium will provide a fun-filled night of playing and learning new math games. This is a perfect opportunity to see how you can help your child.

DLJ Home Challenge

We are beginning our schoolwide math challenge the week of August 28th.
It will run until May.
Students will have the opportunity to earn 20 points each week for completing their weekly DreamBox lessons (5 for grades K-2 and 10 for grades 3-5) and up to an additional 10 points for the DLJ Home Challenge sheet.

This home challenge sheet will start as math puzzles but then could also include reading tasks using real world articles.
This provides another opportunity for earning points that is not computer based.
The challenge sheet will come home Tuesdays and should be returned by the following Monday.
Please look for the informational letter and tracking sheet the teachers will provide in the agenda.
This can be used weekly to track your child’s progress.

Please contact Ms. O’Hare with questions or concerns at 727-552-1703 X 2305.

Engineering Edge

Engineering is in full swing this year.
Our 4th graders are learning about their traits as they construct their totem poles.
Our 5th graders are learning to communicate as engineers by “struggling” through several design opportunities.
Coding was also on display as we began with learning to use symbols to code “human robots”.
We will highlight those moving forward on social media.
The next schoolwide design will be in September as we celebrate “Dot Day”, September 15th.

It’s coming!

READ A THON

Stay tuned for more information.

WE NEED YOU!

If you love a teacher, or have ideas to celebrate a staff member, we would love to have you. We meet virtually once a month, but attending isn’t a deal-breaker and some tasks can be completed from the comfort of your home!
**Homework Help**

**2023-2024 School Year Offerings**

**VIRTUAL SESSIONS**
- 8/16/2023 5:30-7:00PM
- 10/18/2023 5:30-7PM
- 2/28/2024 11:30AM-1PM
- 3/28/2024 11:30AM-1PM

**COURSE DETAILS**
These sessions are intended for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers. We will be discussing some tips and tricks to assist learners at home with study strategies and assisting with homework completion.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**
Sandra Bailey
hoenigmann@pcsb.org
727-331-5101

To register, please [Click Here](mailto:hoenigmann@pcsb.org).
Prior to the session, the Zoom meeting link will be sent to those who register.

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**Tech Tools for Families**

**2023-2024 School Year Offerings**

**VIRTUAL SESSIONS**
- 8/22/2023 12:00pm-1:00PM
- 10/24/2023 6:30pm-7:30PM
- 2/7/2024 12:00pm-1:00PM
- 3/9/2024 6:30pm-7:30PM

**COURSE INFORMATION**
These sessions are for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers. This is an introduction to the various Microsoft accessibility tools that can allow the computer to electronically read documents and website content as well as dictate information onto a Word document.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**
Sandra Bailey
hoenigmann@pcsb.org
727-331-5101

To register, please [Click Here](mailto:hoenigmann@pcsb.org).
Prior to the session, the Zoom meeting link will be sent to those who register.

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**Helping Manage Children’s Behaviors**

**2023-2024 School Year Offerings**

**COURSE INFORMATION**
These sessions are intended for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers. It is an introduction on the fundamentals of behavior and reasons why children exhibit challenging behaviors. We will discuss some proactive and positive strategies that you will be able to implement immediately!

**VIRTUAL SESSIONS**
- 12/5/2023 11:00AM-1:00PM
- 4/3/2024 5:00PM-7:00PM

**REGISTRATION:**
To register, please [Click Here](mailto:hoenigmann@pcsb.org).

**CONTACT INFORMATION**
Sandra Bailey
hoenigmann@pcsb.org
727-331-5101

Prior to the session, the Zoom meeting link will be sent to those who register.

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**Sensory Island for Parents**

**2023-2024 School Year Offerings**

**COURSE INFORMATION**
These sessions are intended for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers. This training is designed to be a tool to help parents, professionals and children understand the sensory systems and how to manage hyperactivity or hypersensitivity to a certain point. The training focuses on the child as a whole person as we explore sensory issues, sensory modulation, emotional modulation, and the relationship between the sensory and emotional systems and behavior.

**VIRTUAL SESSIONS:**
- 9/12/2023 5:00-7:00PM
- 4/23/2024 5:00-7:00PM

**REGISTRATION:**
[Click Here to Register](mailto:hoenigmann@pcsb.org)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**
Sandra Bailey
hoenigmann@pcsb.org
727-331-5101

Prior to the session, the Zoom meeting link will be sent to those who register.