



## Support Organizations

Volunteers lend a hand to support school extracurricular clubs, groups and events. Areas of involvement for these volunteers include participation on organizations such as:

PTA/PSTA is a group of parents/guardians who work as a team to assist the school with the academic performance of students. The PTA also represents the voice of the parent's rights and responsibilities.

School Advisory Council Members (SAC) Schools elect members of the SAC to represent a broad cross section of the school's student population and the area in which the school is located. Volunteers from the community can express an interest in becoming a member of a council. The SAC functions as a resource to the principal and members work as a team to accomplish school improvement goals.

The Speakers Bureau is a bank of speakers who are willing to share their areas of expertise or careers with students. The speakers offer students the opportunity to interact with community members, which provides an interesting and informative enhancement to the curriculum.

## Workshops

Mentoring Strategies Workshop provides useful information about being a mentor, a role model who offers encouragement. Participants will learn effective listening



skills, goal setting, communications skills and relationship building. Attendance is required for all new mentors.

Mentoring Strategies Discussion Group provides experienced (six-months or more) mentors an opportunity to expand their relationship building skills. Participants should have prior experience working with students as mentors.

Family Information Workshops are designed to inform parents how to assist their children is succeeding in their education.

## Topics include:

- Importance of Family Involvement
- Understanding parent/teacher conferences
- Discussing ESE placement
- Dealing with school discipline issues.

## OUR MISSION

Office of Strategic Partnerships seeks to formalize relationships between district, schools and the community to bring resources together to support student success in our schools. Our mission: To mobilize and channel resources into the school system, based on targeted strategic goals; To engage stakeholders by serving as the vehicle to foster greater understanding of the school system and its programs, To provide volunteers, mentors and tutors for students; To embrace communication between Pinellas County Schools and the community; and To promote a positive learning environment,



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*Brochure information is subject to change.*



## Family & Community Relations

Exciting opportunities for Pinellas County students, parents and teachers are happening every day, thanks to the efforts of families and community members.

Volunteers and community partners are making a difference, to help students develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes that are the hallmark of a quality education.

The contributions of volunteers and partners clearly demonstrate to students that their success is important enough for the community to take an active role in their education.

The vision of Pinellas County Schools is 100% student success, which is directly aligned to the mission of educating and preparing each student for success in college/career/and life. The work of volunteers and partners is a strong part of the effort to meet that goal. Tutors work on an individual basis with a student or with small groups of students who need assistance in academic subjects to reinforce basic skills. Mentors work with students, one-on-one, motivating them by being role models and encouraging friends

# family & community relations



School partnerships involve the entire school. The school's family & community liaisons make every effort to match community resources to identified needs of the school district or individual schools. Schools, in turn, provide resources to meet identified needs of a particular partner such as a business or community group.

## Community and Business Partnership Programs

Community and business partnerships are essential to the success of our students and schools. They provide resources to our schools in various forms. They contribute money, donate time and send tutors and mentors to volunteer. They provide speakers to talk about their businesses or organizations and share their experiences as it relates to the curriculum. Several of our existing partners are Franklin Templeton, Bright House Networks, Raytheon, Catalina Marketing, City of St. Petersburg, City of Clearwater and many other state and local agencies throughout Pinellas County Schools.

## Classroom Partners

Classroom partnerships are innovative community involvement programs. These partnerships are designed for business or organizations that are interested in becoming involved in and participating with the activities of a particular class of students or an entire department in one school, the program is also known as the "Adopt-A-Class" partnership.



## Pinellas Education Foundation

The Pinellas County Education Foundation developed some of the most ambitious educational partnership initiatives in the country. Addressing key issues and needs within the public education arena, the Education Foundation's initiatives present methods for the private sector to join with the school district to create higher performance.

Doorways Scholarships are awarded to deserving students in grades sixth through eleventh with demonstrated financial need. Students are expected to maintain academic, attendance and behavior standards. The Education Foundation works with local businesses, civic groups and caring individuals to fund their college or vocational education. For more information on contributing to the Education Foundation, please call (727) 588-4816.

## Progress Energy Great American Teach-In

The Great American Teach-In is a chance to go back to school! To celebrate American Education Week in November, Pinellas County Schools invites parents and community members to come into the schools for a day. During their time at school, volunteers do many different things with students; read stories, talk about careers, plan an activity and/or share a hobby.

## Enterprise Village and Finance Park

The Gus A. Starvos Institute is always in need of volunteers for Enterprise Village and Finance Park



experience. Volunteers help students as they learn about the free enterprise system and finances (fifth & eighth graders only).

## Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering as little as one hour of your time each week, can make a difference!

School Volunteers share their time and talents as they give special attention and assistance to students and schools. There are many opportunities for individuals to become involved with Pinellas County Schools as volunteers. Volunteer orientation and training is available at your selected school. You select your placement, the day and the time of your volunteer activity. All volunteers must complete a registration form and provide a copy of a government issue ID before volunteering in a Pinellas County School.

Mentors work with students one-on-one or in small group settings. By serving as role models, mentors provide encouragement and friendship to students.

5000 Role Models of Excellence was created to boost the self-image, social skills and academic performance of selected males, in part, by motivating them to interact with respected and successful men from the community. This program matches young men who are struggling in school with mentors who will meet with them on a regular basis.



Tutors assist students either on an individual basis or in small groups to reinforce basic skills in academic subjects. Placements are made with students from kindergarten through high school and with students in adult and community schools.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) tutors help students of all ages who speak other languages to learn English. Volunteers do not need to speak the students' native languages.

Classroom Helpers work closely with classroom teachers and/or staff, assisting in various projects, preparing instructional materials and interacting with students.

Adult Literacy Tutors work with adults who are learning basic academic skills and preparing for the General Education Diploma (GED) examination. Evening hours are available.

Field Trip Drivers/Chaperone volunteers are always needed to accompany students and teacher on field trips.

## Other Opportunities

Volunteer projects that allow volunteers to make a difference in Pinellas County Schools on a short-term basis. These projects are accessible and meaningful and cover a variety of interests and levels of volunteers' involvement.