

## SCHOOL BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY

Carol J. Cook, Chairperson  
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Caprice Edmond  
Laura Hine

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Michael A. Grego, Ed.D.  
Email: [Super@pcsb.org](mailto:Super@pcsb.org)

MISSION: 100% Student Success

VISION: Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life

PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS 2022

# LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

*Restore • Renew • Reimagine*

*Restore. Renew. Reimagine.*

# OUR LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Pinellas County Schools is proud of the success achieved during the 2020-2021 school year and appreciates the support of our Legislative Delegation. When many districts across the nation opened partially, or not at all, Pinellas County continued to push forward with high expectations and high achievement for students and staff. District employees innovated and reimaged nearly every way of work, to ensure students had a high-quality education, mental health services, food and nutrition assistance and all the other support services the district provides. That momentum continues in the new school year. The Pinellas County School Board's 2022 Legislative Platform outlines where support is needed to maximize student outcomes and best serve our community. The district values its strong partnership with the Legislative Delegation to benefit all Pinellas County children and families.

## High-Quality Teachers & Innovative Programs

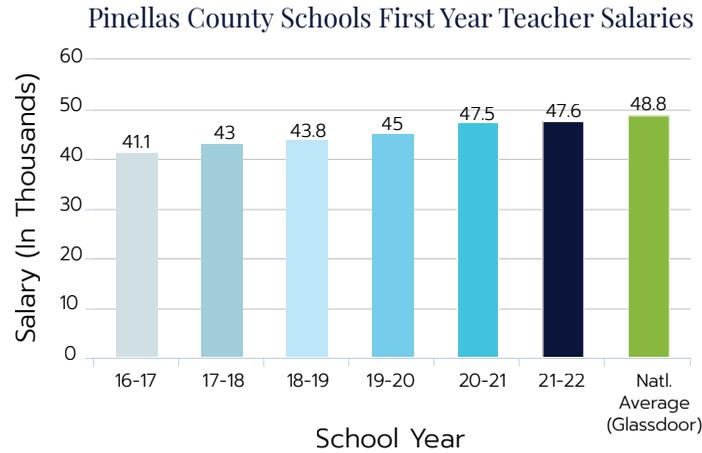
### OUR GOALS:

Maintain funding for teacher salary categorical in order to attract and retain highly-effective teachers and address a growing teacher shortage.

Amend legislation on the allocation of FEFP funding to allow school district virtual instruction programs to mirror the year-round funding model for Florida Virtual School.

Increase general operating dollars (Base Student Allocation) by a minimum of 3% to sufficiently fund the costs including innovative programming, salaries, benefits, mandatory employer contributions to the Florida Retirement System and increased fixed costs such as utilities and insurance.

Update the calculation for the Required Local Effort (RLE) millage rate to capture the increases in residential and commercial property values, revenue gained from new construction and the change of value in real estate caused by the sale of property value so that growth pays for itself.




Teachers are called to serve children. ***Period.***

**-SARAH ANN PAINTER**  
Eisenhower Elementary,  
2022 Florida Teacher of the Year

## Early Learning and Voluntary PreKindergarten (VPK)

WE ARE THE LARGEST VPK PROVIDER IN PINELLAS WITH

# 153 & 13%

VPK Classrooms across the district

of classrooms currently offering free, full-day VPK

### OUR GOALS:

Enhance the investment in developmentally appropriate, high-quality early learning and Voluntary PreKindergarten (VPK) to include free, full-day programs for students.



## Student Internships & Apprenticeships

### OUR GOALS:

Appropriate \$499,995 to Pinellas County Schools for Summer Career Acceleration Program and Student Internship Programs to support rising juniors and seniors and serve as a statewide model for enhancing access to a wide variety of student internships/apprenticeships, industry certifications and district pipelines for entry-level certified employment in early learning classrooms.

**112** students participated in Summer Career Acceleration Internships in 2021

in areas like:



## Workforce Development



PCS offers

**95** unique industry certifications offered in  
**288** courses & programs districtwide

### OUR GOALS:

Establish a statewide funding mechanism for school districts to apply for funds which cover start-up costs including capital expenditures for the innovative workforce development programs for in-demand jobs (e.g. healthcare simulators and heavy equipment operation and repair) within the state of Florida.

Appropriate \$6.5 million statewide, in alignment with the Workforce Performance Fund formula, to school district workforce education programs for performance-based industry certifications earned by postsecondary students.

## School Safety

### OUR GOALS:

Appropriate categorical funding to cover the actual expenditures for school districts to maintain all safety measures within the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Act and subsequent school safety legislation.

Maintain the level of funding in the mental health categorical to support public schools.



Pinellas County Schools are

**100%** compliant with Alyssa's Alert Legislation (SB 70)

Alyssa's Alert is a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting emergency services to ensure real-time coordination between first responder agencies.

## School Buildings



### OUR GOALS:

Require that public facilities, other than K-12 schools, are utilized as hurricane shelters and post-storm support to ensure schools can resume as soon as possible following a storm.

Amend the cost per student provision regarding school building construction to include solar energy to the list of exceptions to ensure taxpayers and school districts can actualize long-term savings from newly constructed and/or renovated buildings.