



DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

QUARTER 3 REPORT
2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Progress from **July 2024** through **March 2025**

WHO WE ARE

VISION

100% student success

MISSION

Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life

CORE VALUES

Commitment to children, families and community

- Making decisions and committing resources to attain each student's success
- Seeking out and connecting with families and community

Respectful and caring relationships

- Establishing positive relationships among all stakeholders
- Using the district vision to guide intentions, motives and actions

Cultural competence

- Understanding and honoring culturally-defined beliefs, needs, styles and behaviors of the students, families and communities we serve
- Valuing the benefit that individual differences bring to our school district
- Recognizing the importance of individual similarities and differences while working effectively with all stakeholders from various cultures, races, ethnicities and religious backgrounds

Integrity

- Maintaining the highest standards of behavior, ethics, fairness and honesty with ourselves and others
- Committing to doing the right things for the right reasons
- Demonstrating fairness in our judgments and actions

Responsibility

- Fulfilling commitments and promises through fact-based decision-making and problem-solving
- Taking ownership of our own behaviors
- Seeking opportunities for continuous improvement

Connectedness

- Teaming through internal and external partnerships by aligning efforts for the common purpose of each student's success
- Willing to share and transfer knowledge with others



DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

OVERVIEW

The 2023–26 Pinellas County Schools (PCS) District Strategic Plan (DSP) was Board-approved in September 2023 and provides clear direction for strategic improvement areas that will accelerate the district and student success over the next three years. These high-leverage areas of focus, in alignment with the district’s vision, mission, and core values, guide the continuous improvement efforts of schools and district departments. Further, the DSP is developed alongside the budget to ensure resources are prioritized and aligned with the initiatives that support the district goals.

The PCS District Strategic Plan can be accessed online: www.pcsb.org/strategicplan



MONITORING

The district monitors each objective by utilizing the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) process. District departments develop targeted, cross-functional action plans to support the attainment of each objective. Interdepartmental teams monitor the DSP by:

- clearly defining strategies;
- planning and allocating supports and resources needed for implementation;
- regularly monitoring key performance indicators; and
- adjusting strategies, supports and/or resources to meet student, family, school, and department needs.

In support of the DSP, each school engages in a continuous improvement process through a School Improvement Plan (SIP). As schools build their SIPs, site-based teams review current progress, develop strategies, set goals, and create action plans to support growth.

QUARTER 3 UPDATE

This update outlines actions and progress toward each strategic priority and objective within the DSP from July 2024 through March 2025. Each page highlights the work of the district by objective and includes:

- Strategies in Action,
- Fast Facts,
- Presentations of Progress (if applicable), and
- Communication Corner (if applicable).

This update report shares the district’s progress toward its goals with all stakeholders. Additionally, stakeholders can access the district’s progress on each objective through a public [DSP community dashboard](#) on the PCS website.



QUARTER 3 UPDATE



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 1: ACCELERATE INNOVATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES FOR ALL STUDENTS

Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 1 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

All-County Student Performances

More than **1,100 PCS students** from all grade levels participated in a series of **five concerts** during the All-County Music Fest, showcasing their talents in **Dance, Band, Orchestra and Chorus**.

STEAM Bus

PCS is **transforming a former school bus into a mobile STEAM lab**, bringing students hands-on, innovative learning experiences in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. A districtwide, interdepartmental team is **redesigning the bus from the ground up to create engaging instructional spaces** aligned with middle school standards. The STEAM bus will **launch in June** for summer camps and will continue serving students in the fall as an **on-site mobile field trip** and a **highlight at community events**.

History Day Competitions

Nearly **300 students** participated in the Pinellas History Day competition, and **67 PCS middle and high school students advanced to the Florida History Day competition**.

FAST FACTS



Science and Engineering Fair

The Pinellas Regional Science and Engineering Fair featured 65 student projects, with **11 advancing to the state level**. Best of Fair was awarded to a project on bioluminescent plants which will compete at both state and international levels.



Learning Beyond the Classroom

In the third quarter, more than **7,000 students** across all grade levels participated in enriching learning experiences through approximately **170 field trips funded by the district and referendum**.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[District Application Program Updates, September 2024](#)

[K-12 Science Adoption, January 2025](#)

[Summer Enrichment, January 2025](#)

[Progress Monitoring 2 Data, January 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Back-to-School 2024-2025](#)

[Imagine. Innovate. Inspire with PCS Magnet & Fundamental Programs](#)

[Male scholars engage in literacy at district book battles](#)

[Students earn 625 Pinellas County Art Region Scholastic Art & Writing Awards](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 2: EXPAND EARLY LITERACY INITIATIVES FOR ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES PRE-K-3

Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 2 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Ready, Set... Kindergarten

Incoming **kindergarten families** were invited to their schools to **meet teachers, tour the campus, begin registration**, and get a preview of kindergarten prior to the fall. Families were also **invited back to campus** for a future campus event, such as Science Expo Night.

Early Learning Instructional Supports

District instructional support was redistributed for pre-k through grade 2 classrooms based on STAR PM2 performance. Early learning supports include **formal training** during regular meetings with principals, assistant principals, and coaches, as well as **on-site, district-led coaching** focusing on core or small group instruction. Additionally, a VPK **progress monitoring plan** was designed and implemented to provide targeted intervention and support for the most struggling students.

Data Analytics

PCS is integrating the Early Literacy Formative Assessment Check (ELFAC) data into its **Data Analytics** dashboard to support teachers in **tailoring instruction to each student's learning needs**.

FAST FACTS



K-3 Literacy Training

K-3 teachers enhanced their instructional practices and leadership skills through a variety of professional development opportunities. The six Literacy Leadership Trainings reached **354 participants**, focusing on instructional strategies and leadership growth. Additionally, **125 teachers** refined early literacy intervention practices in the Targeted Small Group Instruction Refreshers, while **93 first grade teachers** explored strategies to strengthen student writing in the Tiny Topic Writing Sessions.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[ChangeMakers Presentation, September 2024](#)

[Progress Monitoring 2 Data, January 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[New Worlds Reading Initiative](#)

[Mark your calendar for the prekindergarten application period](#)

[Ready, Set... Kindergarten!](#)

[North Shore Elementary announces their One School, One Book kickoff](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 3: ENSURE GRADUATES ARE PREPARED FOR WORKFORCE AND COLLEGE SUCCESS



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 3 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Extended SAT and Bright Futures Scholarship Opportunities

In-school SAT opportunities were extended to seniors who were within 150 points of qualifying for the **Bright Futures Florida Medallion Scholarship** and met all other criteria except service hours. **New virtual SAT preparation** sessions were designed specifically for these seniors, focusing on reading and math.

Dual Enrollment Growth

In the first semester, nearly **88% of PCS students** enrolled in the introductory dual enrollment course, SLS 1301 – Career and Life Planning, **successfully completed** it. In the second semester, enrollment **increased by 24%**, rising from fewer than 700 to over 850 students.

College and Career Fair

The PCS South Pinellas **College & Career Fair** drew approximately **800 attendees**. The event provided students and families with opportunities to connect with **130 colleges, universities, military recruiters, major employers, and vocational programs** while exploring **career and internship pathways**.

FAST FACTS



Career Dual Enrollment

PCS students are enrolled in more than **1,050 career dual enrollment** courses.



FAFSA Completion Challenge

In third quarter, PCS **ranked second among large districts in the Florida College Access Network FAFSA Challenge**, with 31% completion.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[2023-2024 Graduation Rates, January 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Pinellas Technical College students get a taste of the NFL](#)

[26 PCS students named National Merit Semifinalists](#)

[Never Give Up! Night Foreman Obtains GED](#)

[Get help completing the FAFSA](#)

[Pinellas County Schools graduation rate rises to 91.5%](#)

[Pinellas County Schools to host the South Pinellas County College & Career Fair](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE THROUGH INNOVATION OBJECTIVE 4: EARN A DISTRICT GRADE OF A



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 4 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

**Updated annually in the Quarter 2 and Annual Report.*

PCS Graduation Rate Exceeds State Average

Pinellas County Schools' graduation rate increased to **91.5%**, **outperforming the state** graduation rate of 89.7%. **PCS ranks fourth** among Florida's largest public school districts and **third** in the **Tampa Bay area**. The nearly **four percentage point increase** from last year marks a growth of over 20 percentage points since 2013.

Data Analytics Dashboard for Teachers

The district has successfully developed and launched a **Data Analytics Dashboard** for leaders, with continuous updates to enhance its functionality. The latest feature is a **dedicated teacher view** that enables teachers to analyze data and pinpoint standards and focus areas for **both enrichment and intervention**, ensuring instruction meets each student's unique needs.

FAST FACTS



PCS Excels in ELA PM2

PCS **outperformed** its **previous results** and the **state average** in English Language Arts (ELA) PM2 compared to the 2023-24 school year.



College and Career Readiness

The class of 2024 had **more graduates meet college and career readiness benchmarks than any previous class**. These achievements were earned through AP, IB, or AICE exams, dual enrollment, career training, military credentials, and industry certifications.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[PCS Earns District Accreditation Renewal, July 2024](#)

[District and School Grades, August 2024](#)

[School Improvement Plans, August 2024](#)

[Instructional Calendar, October 2024](#)

[Progress Monitoring 2 Data, January 2025](#)

[National Assessment of Educational Progress, February 2025](#)

[Algebra Project, February 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Pinellas County Schools is an A District](#)

[Pinellas County Schools Continues to Elevate Academic Excellence](#)

[Pinellas County Schools Graduation Rate Rises to 91.5%](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: SAFE AND RESPECTFUL CLIMATE AND CULTURE OBJECTIVE 5: BUILD POSITIVE, CARING CULTURES OF LEARNING IN EVERY CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 5 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Students Welcomed Back to Campus

Elementary students at Madeira Beach Fundamental were **warmly welcomed back** from Spring Break **with signs and well-wishes** from teachers, staff, and middle school students. It was their **first time on campus** since the school sustained significant damage from Hurricane Helene in late September.

Student Leadership Summit

The **Superintendent hosted student leaders from each school** at the 3rd Annual Student Leadership Summit on the USF St. Petersburg campus. Through breakout sessions, students developed **advocacy skills**, explored **leadership strategies**, **shared their ideas with district leadership**, and committed to **leading Digital Responsibility activities** at their schools.

FAST FACTS



Mental Health and Well-Being

PCS featured a **new video on its website for families**, showcasing the Student Services Team, **available student resources**, and outlining the state of Florida's mandated **resiliency lessons**, which educate students on violence, substance abuse, human trafficking, and suicide prevention.



Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

PCS has completed 95% of schoolwide PBIS walkthroughs. The results will be available by the end of the school year.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Mental Health Plan Update, July 2024](#)

[Digital Citizenship Campaign, July 2024](#)

[Chronic Absenteeism, July 2024](#)

[Student Support for Resiliency and Wellness, March 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Start with Hello Week](#)

[Students Power Up Learning](#)

[Seminole Students Give Back to Our Community](#)

[Introducing Your School Student Supports](#)

[Madeira Beach Elementary students return to campus](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: SAFE AND RESPECTFUL CLIMATE AND CULTURE OBJECTIVE 6: MAINTAIN SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENTS



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 6 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

See Something, Say Something

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

Community Safety Presentation

PCS collaborated with community organizations to host a **bilingual community safety and security presentation**. The session covered various school safety topics and included a Q&A segment to support families and help students feel safe, supported, and engaged in school.

FAST FACTS



Safe Schools

The district shares the Florida Office of Safe Schools' **quarterly safety report** with the School Board and community, in compliance with state law.



Hurricane Season Preparation

Process improvements have been made for implementation in the **2025 hurricane season**. Staff will be informed and prepared for their roles in shelter operations prior to the start of the season.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Mental Health Plan Update, July 2024](#)

[Safety and Security Annual Report, October 2024](#)

[Crisis Alert Wearable Solution, December 2024](#)

[Office of Safe Schools Quarterly Inspection Report, January 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Safety Starts with Me](#)

[Become a school Safety Officer](#)

[SRO Appreciation Day](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: EQUITY WITH EXCELLENCE FOR ALL OBJECTIVE 7: ELIMINATE GAPS IN OPPORTUNITY, ACCESS AND ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 7 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

New Worlds Reading Events

PCS collaborated with the University of Florida Lastinger Center and the Pinellas Education Foundation to host **12 New Worlds Reading events**. These events provided **over 1,000 books to VPK through fifth grade students** in need of reading support—helping to build home libraries and nurturing a lifelong love of reading and learning.

Career, College and Life Fair

The ESE Career, College and Life Fair attracted over **300 students and family members**. The event featured **nearly 50 community partners** and resources, offering support for students with disabilities in grades 6-12 and Extended Transition programs. This year's fair highlighted **career training, college opportunities, health insurance, and adult day programs**.

Closing the Gap

The district's **Closing the Gap** initiative, in partnership with the Pinellas Education Foundation, aims to **reduce the gender achievement gap in reading** by training teachers on research-based, gender-differentiated instructional strategies. Each year, a school is **highlighted for its success in narrowing the achievement gap and implementing effective, innovative practices**.

FAST FACTS



Boys Read & Guys Read

The district **Elementary Boys Read** competition welcomed 272 students representing 68 elementary schools. The inaugural **Middle School Guys Read** competition featured 64 competitors from 16 schools, and the **High School Guys Read** competition hosted 56 participants from 14 schools.



Maria Edmonds Awards

PCS honored 450 students at the 8th Annual Maria Edmonds Hispanic Achievement Awards, and five students were awarded \$1,000 scholarships.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[District and School Grades, August 2024](#)

[School Improvement Plans, August 2024](#)

[Instructional Calendar, October 2024](#)

[District English Learners Plan, March 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Pinellas County Schools is an A District](#)

[Pinellas County Schools Continues to Elevate Academic Excellence](#)

[Pinellas County Schools Graduation Rate Rises to 91.5%](#)

[ESOL Community Resource Fair](#)

[ESE Career, College & Life Fair](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: EQUITY WITH EXCELLENCE FOR ALL OBJECTIVE 8: ACCELERATE PROGRESS OF THE DISTRICT BRIDGING THE GAP PLAN



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 8 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Shirley Proctor Puller Foundation

PCS partnered with the Shirley Proctor Puller Foundation (SPPF) to launch its third site—and second on a PCS campus—expanding programs to boost literacy, leadership, and workforce readiness for youth in south St. Petersburg. Supported by a \$1 million grant from the City of St. Petersburg and additional funding from the Juvenile Welfare Board and the Parallel Foundation, the expanded SPPF programs are expected to serve nearly 300 scholars.

Keys to Manhood

Nearly 200 PCS middle and high school students participated in St. Petersburg College's annual **Keys to Manhood Seminar**, which featured sessions on financial literacy, career and educational planning, and healthy relationships.

Honoring Academic Excellence

PCS recognized the **academic excellence of more than 320 Black students** at two signature events: the 8th Annual **Vyrle Davis Student Achievement Awards** and the 41st Annual **Carwise Awards**. These ceremonies honored top **scholars from elementary, middle, and high schools** in South and North County, respectively. All recognized **high school students maintained weighted GPAs above 4.0**, and a total of **15 seniors were awarded college scholarships**. The Vyrle Davis Awards honor the legacy of the late Vyrle Davis, a 40-year educator and the district's first African American area superintendent. The Carwise Awards pay tribute to Dr. Joseph Carwise, a longtime educator and the first Black member of Clearwater's City Commission, for whom Carwise Middle School is named.

FAST FACTS



Graduation Rate

The percentage of Black seniors **on-track for graduation is 75%**, an **increase of more than 12 percentage points** compared to April 2024.



Rigorous Coursework

93% of Black students who participated in dual enrollment **earned college credit** in Fall 2024.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024-25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[BTG End of Year Update, December 2024](#)

[Bridging the Gap \(BTG\) Plan Website](#)

[Bridging the Gap Mid-year Update, March 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[District honors nearly 200 scholars at the annual Carwise Awards ceremony.](#)

[High-achieving students honored at the Vyrle Davis Awards ceremony.](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: POSITIVE STAFF EXPERIENCES OBJECTIVE 9: ATTRACT AND RETAIN OUTSTANDING FACULTY AND STAFF

Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 9 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

PCS Teacher of the Year

Dennis Zuercher, a social studies teacher at Gibbs High School, was named the **2025 Pinellas County Schools Teacher of the Year**. Mr. Zuercher is a third-generation PCS educator and a proud Gibbs High alum. His classroom motto is: "Learn and laugh together!"

Alternative Certification Supports

To provide more **effective, hands-on support** for alternatively certified teachers, PCS is reimagining its **Transition-to-Teaching** program, which currently serves 89 employees.

Employee Housing Benefits

In response to rising housing costs in Pinellas County, PCS has partnered with **over 20 property management companies** to offer **discounts to PCS employees**. These discounts include waived or reduced application fees and lower first month's rent and security deposits. The district's efforts were **highlighted** in the Tampa Bay Partnership's report, "**Beyond the Front Door: An In-Depth Look at Housing Affordability in Tampa Bay.**" The Tampa Bay Partnership, supported by the Duke Energy Foundation, is dedicated to improving the well-being of Tampa Bay residents.

FAST FACTS



Leading with Core Values

Staff continue to recognize their colleagues for **exemplifying the PCS Core Values**, and leaders find unique ways to publicly **celebrate** the nearly **6,000 staff** who received a **PCS Praise recognition** from colleagues.



Teacher Apprenticeships

The 25 PCS teacher apprentices will attend a **three-day summer workshop** on essential topics like impact projects, professionalism, and teaching expectations.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

- [What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)
- [Pinellas Instructional Eval System 2024-2025](#)
- [Pinellas Administrator Eval System 2024-2025](#)
- [Teacher Exchange Program, December 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

- [School Board Attorney David Koperski recognized for excellence in the profession](#)
- [Gibbs High School teacher Dennis Zuercher is Pinellas County Schools Teacher of the Year](#)
- [Pinellas educators receive special recognition from Magnet Schools of America](#)
- [Superintendent Kevin Hendrick is again named one of Tampa Bay's most influential leaders](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: POSITIVE STAFF EXPERIENCES OBJECTIVE 10: INVEST IN ALL STAFF THROUGH CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 10 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Leadership Development Programs

PCS supports **career advancement and leadership development** through programs like Leadership U, EmpowerED U, and Aspiring Leaders. This year, 32 staff members graduated from Leadership U and EmpowerED U, which focus on building **leadership and community engagement skills**. Following their participation in Aspiring Leaders, 19 staff advanced into the Targeted Selection program—beginning their **path toward becoming Assistant Principals**. Additional programs, including Teacher Apprenticeship, Certificate of Distinction, and Pinellas Leadership Academy, reflect the district’s commitment to **developing leaders from within**.

Peer-to-Peer Toolkit

As part of the adult learning initiative, PCS has developed a **professional learning toolkit** aligned with the PCS tenets for **quality adult learning**. Staff from across the district contributed more than **110 ready-to-use presentation slides** featuring effective adult learning strategies, reaching **nearly 500 peers**.

Adult Learning Training

PCS is redesigning the *Aha Moments* podcast to showcase impactful teaching that demonstrates the 5 Essentials of Effective Instruction, with selected teachers sharing their stories in a summer workshop and recorded episodes.

FAST FACTS



On-Campus Professional Learning

PCS delivered **26 on-campus training sessions** during the school day, **reaching over 750 teachers**. The trainings focused on **classroom management and the 5 Essentials of Effective Instruction**, receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants.



School-Based Professional Learning

The role of site-based Professional Learning Coordinators was revised to enhance support and planning for school-based professional learning needs.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

- [What’s New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)
- [Professional Development Update, August 2024](#)
- [Professional Learning Catalog, August 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

- [Embrace Pinellas](#)
- [District celebrates 95 COD recipients](#)
- [Pinellas teacher apprentices share what they've learned halfway through two-year program](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: STRONG CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVE 11: DEEPEN AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENT WITH FAMILIES DISTRICTWIDE



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 11 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Community Listen and Learn

PCS **Community Listen and Learn Sessions** are community meetings where the School Board, Superintendent, and district staff **hear directly from all stakeholders** throughout the year. The most recent session in March **engaged over 100 attendees and focused on the arts**, while also providing district updates on academics, enrollment trends, digital responsibility, and student experiences.

Expanding Community Connections

The ESOL Community Resource Fair hosted **65 vendors** and welcomed **nearly 250 English Learner participants**. Attendees accessed a wide range of resources, including **health care, financial services, college and job opportunities, transportation, and support for individuals who are deaf or blind**. Families also received **language assistance** in Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, and Russian, with ten student volunteers contributing to the event's success.

FAST FACTS



Connecting Communities & Schools

PCS School Board members, staff, and students honored Martin Luther King Jr. by participating in the 38th Annual MLK Dream Big Parade in downtown St. Petersburg, the annual Battle of the Bands. Vice Chair Edmond served as Grand Marshal in the City of Tarpon Springs MLK Parade.



Volunteering for Student Success

The number of PCS volunteers **increased by more than 2,000** in the third quarter, bringing the total number of PCS volunteers to 23,827.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[PCS hosts the Great American Teach-In](#)

[Robert Walker Volunteers at Carwise Middle](#)

[Families Lunch with Students at Seminole Middle](#)

[ESOL Community Resource Fair connects families with resources](#)

[Middle School Lunch Pal of the Year](#)

[Top Outstanding School Volunteers honored at breakfast](#)

[PCS volunteer is a state finalist for the Outstanding Volunteer Award](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: STRONG CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVE 12: LEVERAGE PARTNERSHIPS THAT SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 12 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Legislative Delegation

Superintendent Hendrick and School Board Members attended the **Pinellas Delegation Meeting** in January. They publicly presented the **School Board's legislative platform**, expressed gratitude for the delegation's ongoing support, and offered to serve as resources to legislators throughout the 2025 legislative session.

Celebrating PCS Mentors

In celebration of **National Mentor Month**, PCS hosted a series of **pop-up appreciation events** countywide, honoring over 50 mentors with tokens of appreciation for their dedication to PCS students. These events provided mentors and district staff an opportunity to connect while enjoying refreshments courtesy of the Pinellas Education Foundation.

FAST FACTS



Partners in Action: Dali Museum

The Dali Museum hosted the 40th annual Pinellas Student Surrealist Exhibition, showcasing a collection of **120 two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks created by middle and high school students.**



New PCS Partnerships

PCS established 24 new district partnerships in the third quarter.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[School Board Legislative Platforms, December 2024](#)

[ICROC Policy Updates, January 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[ChangeMakers: Champions of Education](#)

[City of St. Pete Employees commit to mentoring PCS students](#)

[Voters approve the Pinellas County Schools Referendum](#)

[Men in the Making kicks off 10th year](#)

[PCS Partners with the Tampa Bay Rowdies at Experience PCS](#)

[Oversight committee reviews Referendum spending](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: STRONG CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVE 13: DELIVER ENGAGING AND CONSISTENT COMMUNICATIONS TO ALL STAKEHOLDERS



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 13 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

District Website Upgrades

The community website survey and focus group feedback is being used to guide the new district website menus and site map. The district and school websites will begin migrating to the new design in fall 2025.

2025 Stakeholder Survey

The district conducted its **Annual Stakeholder Survey** of students, staff, and families in February 2025. The results will **inform future strategies and priorities**.

Social Media Mastery

In an effort to expand effective social media presence, the district hosts a monthly 'Social Social,' an engaging training series designed to support schools in **mastering social media and connecting with peers** across the district. The interactive sessions teach valuable tips and spark creative ideas **to enhance school social media presence**. The topics progress from basic to advanced and include branding, content creation, and crafting captions.

FAST FACTS



Strategic Plan Dashboard

Since its launch in the fall, the public-facing **District Strategic Plan Dashboard** has received **over 1,200 views**.



Expanding Social Media

The number of schools with active **Instagram accounts** increased to 70, a **67% increase** since the first quarter.

Connect with us!



en Español

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Listen and Learn, July 2024](#)

[Listen and Learn, September 2024](#)

[PCS Community Listen and Learn Proposal, December 2024](#)

[District Strategic Plan Mid-year Update, March 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[Finding Joy Podcast](#)

[AHA Moments Podcast: Conditions for Learning](#)

[District launches Community Dashboard](#)

[PCS Alumni returns home to teach](#)

[Building Tomorrow Podcast: Finding Your Why](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OBJECTIVE 14: SUCCESSFULLY TRANSITION STRATEGIES FUNDED BY ESSER/ARP



Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 14 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

**Updated annually in the MidYear and Annual Report.*

State Monitoring of Federal Funds

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) recently completed a monitoring audit of federal ESSER II and GEER II funding, with zero findings reported. The auditors highlighted several areas where PCS demonstrated best practices.

PCS is committed to applying the insights gained from this monitoring session to ensure best practices are consistently implemented across all grants.

ESSER/ARP Drawdown

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

FAST FACTS



Read Across Pinellas

The Read Across Pinellas (RAP) tutoring program, designed for children in kindergarten and first grade, was **successfully transitioned** from ESSER/ARP grants to referendum funding in 2023-24.



Sustained Operational Activities

PCS has **transitioned** projects funded by ESSER/ARP grants out of use or to the **operating budget** (e.g., cost of substitutes, PCS Connects, sanitation).

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Successful use of ESSER/ARP Update, March 2025](#)

[National Assessment of Educational Progress, February 2025](#)

COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

[PCS students exploring the STEM of flying!](#)

[PCS students explore the 3D printing at Summer Camp](#)

[Doggie Daycare at Summer Camp](#)

[PCS students learn about coding at Summer Camp](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OBJECTIVE 15: INCREASE OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 15 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

On-Time Transportation

In the first semester of the 2024-25 school year, the number of **late bus notifications dropped by 69%** compared to the first semester of 2022-23, falling from nearly 16,500 to approximately 5,000. Over the past three years, buses **delayed by 16–30 minutes decreased by 71%**, while those **delayed over 30 minutes were nearly eliminated, with a 96% reduction.**

Routing and Communication Systems

PCS is launching a new **bus routing system**. The first 110 drivers were trained and are actively using the new system for their daily routes. Each bus compound is piloting the system, and all drivers will be trained in the fourth quarter.

FAST FACTS



PCS **eliminated** the school bus driver **deficit** and currently employs enough drivers for each route.



A transportation **parent notification app** is anticipated to launch in fall, following full implementation of the new routing system.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

[What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)

[Proclamation Recognizing School Bus Safety Week, October 2024](#)

[School Bus Drivers with Safe Driving Records, October 2024](#)

[Transportation Update, February 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

[School Bus Safety Tips](#)

[Transportation FAQs](#)

[Transportation Adds 20 Electric Buses to Their Fleet](#)



QUARTER 3 UPDATE



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6: FISCAL AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OBJECTIVE 16: PROVIDE STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES, TECHNOLOGY, AND RESOURCES

Progress: July 2024 - March 2025



OBJECTIVE 16 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Modernizing Data Systems

The district is advancing its **digital document management** system by expanding the use of Focus to include the upload of essential student records. This update will ensure compliance with legal requirements while reducing physical storage expenses. By summer 2025, nearly **one million student records** will be migrated to Focus, marking a major step towards technological modernization.

Hurricane Shelter Reimbursements

In February, the district submitted a **hurricane shelter reimbursement** request to Pinellas County Emergency Management for further submission to FEMA. The request, **totaling \$3.7 million**, covers expenses from two hurricanes: **\$1.1 million for Hurricane Helene** and **\$2.6 million for Hurricane Milton**. Reimbursement is requested for shelter operations across six categories: payroll, food usage, utility costs, custodial supplies, transportation of residents, and environmental clean-up.

FAST FACTS



Wireless Networks Accessibility
Nearly 4,000 wireless access points have been upgraded, covering over **40% of district classrooms**. All wireless access points will be upgraded by the end of the calendar year.



Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
Ten years of historical data are being migrated to the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. At the end of third quarter, 39% of the ERP data migration, and 32% of the data validation have been completed.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

- [What's New for the 2024–25 School Year, July 2024](#)
- [Midtown Property Update, August 2024](#)
- [Annual Budget, September 2024](#)
- [School and Facility Naming Process, October 2024](#)
- [Annual Financial Report, November 2024](#)
- [Facilities Master Plan, December 2024](#)
- [Fixed Capitalization Threshold Increase and Property Management and Accountability, January 2025](#)
- [Five Year Capital Outlay Plan, January 2025](#)

COMMUNICATION CORNER

- [Community to Name Three Facilities](#)
- [Mangrove Bay Ribbon Cutting](#)
- [School Board Approves New Names for Three Facilities](#)

