



Home of the Hawks

3901 37th Street North
St. Petersburg, FL 33714
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R' Club 727.526.8154

School Web Site:

www.newheights-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us

Lisa Austin

Principal

Christopher Boulanger

Assistant Principal

Gregory Logan

Administrative Intern

Vision:

100% student success.

Mission:

To provide an environment that meets the needs of our students through staff. Development, family involvement, and community resources.

SCHOOL OPENING & DISMISSAL TIMES

Gates open at 8:15 AM,

School starts at 8:45 AM,

Teaching begins at 8:45 AM

Breakfast served until 8:30 AM.

Dismissal at 2:45

Lunch Menu

www.pcsb.org/Page/693



Pat Wright,

Area 1 Superintendent

Nikita Reed

Director of

Transformation Zone

Transportation Call Center

727.587.2020

For more information, consult
Pinellas County School Website

www.pcsb.org

Message from the Office

In an effort to ensure the safety of all students, please do not drop students off prior to 8:15 am. Teachers are preparing for your child's instructional day.

Lisa Austin

austinli@pcsb.org

Christopher Boulanger

boulangerc@pcsb.org

Gregory Logan

logang@pcsb.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 14 Parent Survey Ends

Dec. 18 PTA Meeting 5:30 pm

Dec. 18 Music and Art Festival
6:00 pm

De. 21 End of first semester

Dec. 24 – Jan. 7 Winter Holiday



2018-2019 Parent Survey

Let your voice be heard! Take the survey now:

<https://eprovesurveys.advanc-ed.org/surveys/#/action/82716/36779>

We value your opinion!



New Heights 2018

Music & Art Festival



Tuesday, Dec. 18
Music Program 6:00 pm

Quick PTA meeting at 5:30 in Media Center

Light treat & ceramic show
after music concert.



The Music Program will feature performances from Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade, Guitar Club, Chorus, and World Drummers

FIRST GRADE FUN

Dear First Grade Parents,

Reading is an essential part of helping your child succeed in First Grade but it is also fun! It can take your students on new adventures and learn about characters who are like them. It is important for your child to practice reading 20 minutes per day. This helps them to be exposed to more words, as well as, practice sounding out words and comprehending a story. These skills will help them to become prepared for the next grade and beyond. Below are some ways to make reading a part of your family time and how to help check for understanding before, during, and after reading a book.

Here are some tips for integrating reading into your daily family activities:

- Read bedtime stories
- Play a board game
- Visit your local library
- Read a recipe and cook something yummy together!
- Create a comfy reading space in your home.
- Put your child in charge of reading the grocery list at the store.

Here are some ways to check for understanding:

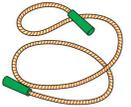
- Start the book by making predictions. What do you think will happen in this story?
- Ask questions and make comments during the reading process.
- After reading a book, have your child tell you the events from the story in the correct order.
- What was the problem in this story?
- How did the character feel when...?
- Encourage your child to make connections. Does this story remind you of another book you read, an event in your life, a movie?

HAWKS Expectations	Classroom Rules
Have respect	Use school appropriate voice, words, and actions
Act responsible	Arrive on time with all materials
Work cooperatively	Follow directions immediately
Keep trying	Work during all work times
Stay safe	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself

News from PE

Dear Parents,

With the weather finally cooling off, the P.E. Department would like to make sure that your kids are properly dressed during the cold. As a reminder, all footwear must cover toes and heels at all times for students to participate in P.E. class. Hats, beanies, scarves, and gloves are allowed to be worn outside during P.E. class and are encouraged during the colder days. We recommend putting both FIRST and LAST NAME in all of your child's belongings, so that if anything is left behind it can be returned to its rightful owner. For the month of December, we will be working on skills related to Basketball, Football, Hockey and Jumping Rope. We would like to encourage everyone to stay active and safe during the Winter Break!



Testing News

Students began MAP testing on Monday, December 3rd and will conclude on Friday, December 21st. Please help your child be as successful as they can during testing by ensuring they get a plenty of sleep and that they arrive at school on time.

News from the Cafeteria

It is our goal at New Heights to provide every student with a quality healthy meal. Did you know that every child can eat a school lunch AND breakfast at no charge? Well they can!

If you still want to pack their lunch but find that they need juice, milk, and a nice fresh fruit, they can get this at no charge if they take 3 items.

They may choose up to five healthy items as our menu shows we offer a variety of healthy menu choices. We look forward to providing your child with a smile and a healthy meal. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Grimes at 727-521-5356 between the hours of 6:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Attendance Corner

As we approach the holiday season it is very important to continue regular attendance. Missing just one or two days a month can result in significant missed instruction and impact learning. Please make sure your children are getting to school every day and arriving on time.

1. An estimated 5 million to 7.5 million U.S. students miss nearly a month of school each year.
2. Absenteeism and its ill effects start early. One in 10 Kindergarten and first grade students are chronically absent. Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade or be held back.
3. By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school.
4. Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just **two days a month** and that's known as chronic absenteeism.
5. The academic impact of missing that much school is the same whether the absences are excused or unexcused. (Retrieved from <http://www.attendanceworks.org/facts-stats-school-attendance/>)

If your child misses school 2 days per month, by the time they leave elementary school, they have lost over ½ year of education (60% of one total school year).

If your child misses 3 days per month, by the time they leave elementary school they have lost almost a year's worth of education (90% of one total school year).

Help your child succeed, ensure they attend school daily.

If your child is absent, please provide a written excuse (or note from the doctor/dentist) when your child returns to school. Otherwise the absence is considered "unexcused." Additionally, families may log on to our school's website at www.pcsb.org/newheights-es to report their child's absence that day. Click on the icon "Report Student Absence" and then click on the blue circle and it will create an email to the school directly. While we recognize that families at times have emergencies and absences are unavoidable, please do not schedule vacations or family trips during school days.

The attendance policy for Pinellas County Schools is in the Code of Student Conduct. If you have any attendance questions feel free to contact Socorro Thomas, School Social Worker at 521-5350 ext. 2070.

Art Corner:

Ms. Reilly and I are so excited to share all of the ceramic projects with you at the upcoming Music and Art Program. Stop by the Media Center and see what everyone (all grades) has been doing!

Also, a quick thank you to all the classes who helped with parts of a community project for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Committee. Every grade had some kind of hand on decorating bags for their big Veteran's Day Dinner.



Last but not least – big project for 5th grade this spring needs every 5th grader to start saving clean empty water bottles. Each student needs at least 30 bottles. Anyone in the entire school can donate! Bring them to the art studio any time before or after school and put them in the big bucket!



P.S. – if anyone has any extra yarn laying around – we need it as soon as possible for weaving projects

Take Home Computers

If you have a child in grades K-5, they may be eligible to check out a laptop computer to use at home for the entire school year! Look for paperwork coming home the week of November 5th.

Parents, please contact Mrs. Carpenter, Library Media Technology Specialist at 727-521-5350 x 2030 or carpenterka@pcsb.org

Driver's License or Photo ID required.