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 highlights actions and progress toward each strategic priority and objective within the DSP from July 2023 through March 2024. Each page highlights the work of the district by objective and includes:
- Objective Strategies in Action,
- Fast Facts,
- Presentations of Progress (if applicable), and
- Communication Corner (if applicable).

This update shares the district’s progress toward its goals with all stakeholders. In addition to this report, by fall 2024, the district’s key results and key performance indicators will be accessible to stakeholders through a public DSP 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 2023 - March 2024

OBJECTIVE 1 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Middle School Science Experience
Nearly 50% of seventh-grade students learned coding and robotics through partnership with ARK Educate.
Over 4,600 eighth-grade students have visited the Great Explorations on-campus immersive planetarium. Following the experience, students demonstrated an increase in knowledge from the midterm to the third quarter test.
The City of St. Petersburg and Mayor Welch invited middle school students to engage in Team Accelerate’s STEM Day at the Grand Prix, where students rotated through STEM activities with USF St. Pete staff, and learned how STEM is integral to racing.

Visual Arts
The 2024 Pinellas County Art Region of the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards honored 324 individual middle and high school students who earned over 450 awards.
117 middle and high school student artworks were displayed in the 2024 Pinellas Student Surrealist Exhibition at The Dali Museum.

Summer Enrichment Camps
PCS is offering over 40 summer enrichment camps in the month of July. Nearly 3,200 applications were received and over 80% of applicants have confirmed their camp enrollment.

FAST FACTS
Practice Reading State BEST Texts
Over 26,000 students participated in the February Literacy Challenge. Participants in every grade read and analyzed samples of the Florida BEST texts, which were also related to Black History month topics.

Increased Competition for Math
The Palm Harbor University High School Mu Alpha Theta club’s annual Mighty Mu Competition doubled in participation this year. 450 elementary and middle school students from 25 schools competed in the competition.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS
What’s New for the 2023-24 School Year
District Application Programs
Visual and Performing Arts
Summer Enrichment

COMMUNICATION CORNER
Ignite Youth Choir
TB12 Method
Future Cities Design Challenge
Student Leadership Summits
Experience PCS
Five Pinellas Teams Selected for the State FIRST Tech Challenge
Students experience life in the fast lane at the St. Petersburg Grand Prix!
National Merit Awards for Magnet Schools of America
OBJECTIVE 2 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

PCS Early Learners Outperform the State
PCS kindergarten through third grade students outperformed the state on the state’s Progress Monitoring 2 (PM2) assessment.

Kindergarten student performance was 10 percentage points higher than that of the state on PM2. PCS kindergarteners performed higher in achievement and demonstrated more growth from PM1 to PM2 than the state.

Pinellas Early Literacy Initiative (PELI)
PCS expanded PELI training sites throughout the county. PCS teachers have accrued more than 11,000 hours of PELI training.

There are 34 PCS teachers pursuing the UF Lastinger Center Master Instructor credential, which makes a greater impact on PCS literacy proficiency districtwide and positions the district as a state leader in early literacy.

University of Florida Literacy Initiative (UFLI)
The UFLI Phonics program expanded and is implemented in all kindergarten classes.

FAST FACTS
PCS Progress Monitoring 2 Results Compared to State Results: Percent Level 3+

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>PCS Early Literacy</th>
<th>FAST Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>STATE</td>
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PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

District application to become a Head Start provider
Early Literacy Update

COMMUNICATION CORNER

Countdown to Kindergarten series for families
The ABCs of PreK and VPK
Join PCS PreK Options
Ready, Set, Kindergarten is coming
Free SAT Participation
Eleventh graders had access to participate in the first fully digital SAT during the school day at no cost. Nearly 5,500 juniors participated, which is a 15% increase from the spring 2023 administration.

College Credit Earning Participation
More than 41,500 students are participating in college credit-earning courses, including dual enrollment, in second semester.

National Leader in Postsecondary Preparation
PCS was nominated for the Power of Hope award, which recognizes districts for engaging school counselors to lead and increase college and career outcomes for students. Additionally, as a recognized leader in postsecondary preparation, PCS was invited to present nationally on best practices and strategies for overcoming challenges of FAFSA completion.

FAST FACTS

COMUNICATION CORNER

Low Voltage Electricity Student Experience
3DE Entrepreneurial Summit
International Business Experience
PTC Barber Program Partnership
Postsecondary Financial Aid Support Series
PCS Hosts South County College and Career Fair
Get Help with Your FAFSA
Progress: July 2023 - March 2024

**District Grade**

The total percentage of points for the PCS district grade increased to the highest rank in district history, ranking 21 out of 67 districts.

PCS ranked 3rd among the largest and neighboring districts in math and science achievement and graduation rate. Further, the district ranked in the top 7 in all academic areas.

**Progress Monitoring Growth**

The district’s proficiency on the statewide Progress Monitoring assessments is outpacing the state in English language arts (ELA) and math.

**Data Analytics**

District staff developed and launched the Data Analytics Dashboard, which allows district and school staff to easily access aggregated and individual student data to inform supports and interventions.

**FAST FACTS**

**School Grades**

66% of PCS schools earned a school grade of A or B. This ranks second highest among the 10 largest and neighboring districts, and surpasses the state percentage of 56%.

**PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS**

Student Performance Update: July 2023

Student Performance Update: January 2024
The School Climate and Behavior department has assessed the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) systems at each school and identified the schools that will participate in the district training to reboot their schoolwide program.

School staff continue to receive real-time, differentiated support as requested and as identified by discipline, behavior and attendance data.

The district applied for and received the federal Stronger Connections Grant, which is a competitive federal grant. The grant is awarded to districts to support safer and healthier learning environments.

The districtwide School Climate, Behavior and Mental Health Summer Institute has been planned and advertised to schools for summer 2024.

**Student Support Division**

The Student Support division is providing professional learning to support the newly established Standard of Support protocol, which addresses problem-solving needs across tiers.

The district applied for and received the federal Stronger Connections Grant, which is a competitive federal grant. The grant is awarded to districts to support safer and healthier learning environments.

**Behavior Supports**

The School Climate and Behavior department has assessed the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) systems at each school and identified the schools that will participate in the district training to reboot their schoolwide program.

School staff continue to receive real-time, differentiated support as requested and as identified by discipline, behavior and attendance data.

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**FAST FACTS**

**Family Support**

Student Services staff attended nearly 40 family events to raise awareness of student mental health and wellbeing, and to inform families and students of services available.

**School Climate and Behavior**

PCS schools reduced the amount of referrals through the third quarter by 4% compared to the same time in the 2022-23 school year.
See Something, Say Something
Following the Superintendent’s Student Leadership Summit, student participants collaborated with their campus Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) clubs to organize and lead various campus-wide activities during Say Something Week in March.

The SAVE Club from Hollins High School was invited to present a break-out session at the Sandy Hook Promise National Summit which takes place every year in North Carolina in April.

School Safety
Thirty-nine district schools and charters were inspected by the Office of Safe Schools with exceptional results. The District Safety and Security Council was revised to reflect current safety and security initiatives across the district.

Cybersecurity
PCS implemented a multilayered approach to protect the network, data, devices and user identity. The security includes testing the systems’ vulnerability and training staff.

Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)
98% of schools have active school-based SAVE clubs.

Youth Mental Health Trained
87% of PCS employees have completed training.

Florida Safe Schools Assessment Submission
Threat Management Update
Quartet 3 Update

Strategic Priority 3: Equity with Excellence for All
Objective 7: Eliminate Gaps in Opportunity, Access and Achievement for All Students

Progress: July 2023 - March 2024

Objective 7 Strategies in Action

Instructional Supports
The Teaching and Learning division is planning strategies to provide real-time, job-embedded collaboration between district instructional staff and teachers. The instructional supports will focus on empowering students to lead their learning and monitor their own progress toward proficiency. These instructional supports will be delivered to students through additional in-class support, tutoring, and small group learning activities, which will be co-facilitated by teachers and district staff.

Transformation Zone (TZ)
All Transformation Zone schools earned the highest proficiency in ELA, math and science in the last decade. Six of seven schools successfully exited state turnaround by earning a grade of C or higher.

Fast Facts

On-Track for Graduation
The percentage of seniors on track to graduate is higher this year than in March 2023.

Increased School Grades
86% of schools in the Transformation Zone increased their letter grade. Tyrone Middle School and Mount Vernon Elementary School increased by two letter grades.

Presentations of Progress

ESE Update
Student Performance Update: January 2024

Communication Corner

ESOL Resource Fair
District Celebrates Perseverance at Yes, I Can! Awards
Annual ESE Parent Survey is underway
The Maria Edmonds Hispanic Achievement Awards honors 400 students
Pinellas Early Literacy Initiative (PELI)
The Pinellas Early Literacy Initiative (PELI) expansion continues to focus on schools with high minority enrollments and larger achievement gaps. The results have positively impacted early grade proficiency and are leading to improved Black student achievement by 3rd grade.

Empowering Excellence
Empowering Excellence is a new middle school acceleration model being piloted in two schools. The program provides students and families of incoming 6th graders specific support focused on accelerating achievement for identified talented Black learners in those schools.

Elevating Excellence
A College and Career Coordinator is dedicated specifically to providing outreach to Black males and Educational Alternative Services (EAS) schools to support postsecondary preparation, including SAT and Classic Learning Test prep, and Bright Futures Scholarship attainment and application.

BTG Community Connections Gathering
Hosted by the Carter G. Woodson Museum, PCS convened community organizations from across the district to find new ways to collaborate and partner to support student achievement and the BTG Plan goals.

FAST FACTS

On-Track for Graduation
The percentage of Black students on-track to graduate is nearly 10 points higher than the same timeframe in 2023.

Minority Hiring
PCS recruiters participated in eight recruitment events; and reached nearly 500 high school students through the Call Me Mister program.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

BTG End of Year Update
BTG Plan Website
BTG Mid Year Update

COMMUNICATION CORNER

Carwise Awards Recognizes 120 African American Scholars
Annual Vyrle Davis awards recognizes African American Scholars
2024 PCS Teacher of the Year
Gerard Madrinan, music teacher and band director at Seminole High School, was named the 2024 Pinellas County Schools Teacher of the Year.

Employee Childcare
PCS began developing an employee childcare program to provide employees with affordable, high-quality childcare for the 2024-25 school year. The program will be available to benefits-eligible employees, and will serve up to 160 children ages 12 months to 4 years.

Teacher Apprenticeship Program
PCS invited 80 qualifying support employees to participate in the Teacher Apprenticeship Program, which is offered through partnership with St. Petersburg College (SPC). The program is designed to provide on-the-job training to current classroom support employees as they earn a bachelor’s degree in education at no cost.

Participants will earn increased wages while enrolled in the program, and work side-by-side with a mentor teacher. Upon completion, staff will be offered a teaching position and given 2 years’ experience on the salary schedule.

PCS Emerging Teachers of the Year
Katrina Carpenter of Mount Vernon Elementary and Dr. Amanda Daniels of Palm Harbor University High were awarded as the 2024 PCS Emerging Teachers of the Year.

Leading with Core Values
Staff PCS Praise submissions:
Total: 15,147
Schools: 12,711
Departments: 2,436

COMMUNICATION CORNER
PCS Employee Onboarding Experience
PCS: The Best Decision You’ll Ever Make
Meet our new PCS teachers series
ESE Center Recruitment
Certificate of Distinction Profiles: Support Staff
Starting a new chapter through Habitat for Humanity
PCS Alumni are back to teach the Next Generation
Support Staff Profile- Gramma McCray
Inspiring Teachers: IT Factor Series
Strategic Priority 4: Positive Staff Experiences

Objective 10: Invest in All Staff Through Continuous Professional Learning

Progress: July 2023 - March 2024

Professional Learning Initiative
PCS is developing a continuum of professional learning to address staff interests and needs. The initiative launched in January with a training course for all PCS facilitators on the PCS expectations for adult learning. Over 200 employees have participated in the training.

The professional development department collaborated with the teaching and learning staff to identify the five essentials of effective instruction. The departments are collaborating to create a Strategy Walk Playbook and resource hub to support educators.

District Leadership Summit
Superintendent Hendrick started the 2023-24 school year with an immersive leadership summit to set the districtwide focus for the year. The summit included goal setting, hands-on leadership experiences and ended with a pep assembly.

Additionally, monthly leadership meetings continued to model adult learning strategies with hands-on activities and learning experiences related to district core values, leadership skills, and district priorities.

Fast Facts

Adult Learning Training
97% of participants would recommend the course for becoming a skilled facilitator for adult learning.

Teacher Mentoring
In 2023-24, the percentage of teacher mentors increased 81%.

Presentations of Progress

Professional Learning Catalog

Communication Corner
Finding Joy in Education Podcast: For teachers, by teachers
Aha Moments Podcast: Celebrating Great Teaching
Aha Moments Video Series
Aspiring Leaders

QUARTER 3 UPDATE

Pinellas County Schools • District Strategic Plan
Experience PCS
PCS hosted more than 3,000 community members during the Experience PCS event. The event featured fun family-friendly learning activities, student competitions and challenges, and student performances. Family experiences showcased PCS partnerships that support student success, including a chess competition, flag football tournament sponsored by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, 180-degree video in the Great Exploration’s mobile planetarium, student chalk mural competition, underwater drones, and so much more.

Family and Community Events
Through the third quarter, the Office of Strategic Partnerships participated in 110 community events, including community forums, workshops and trainings.

Strategic Partnerships, Title I and Teaching & Learning are collaborating to create a monthly calendar of family activities that extend learning opportunities for students.

FAST FACTS
Engaged Volunteers
During the third quarter, PCS welcomed more than 2,000 new volunteers, for a total of more than 24,500 active volunteers serving PCS students and schools.

Welcoming School Community
District staff delivered training to school front office staff on “Nurturing a Welcoming School Community.” Nearly 600 visitors have provided feedback about their experience visiting a PCS school.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS
Listen and Learn Community Connections Series

COMMUNICATION CORNER
Parent Volunteer Profile: Brenda George
Summer Success Quest: Family Fun
ESOL Resource Fair
Top Three Outstanding School Volunteers Named at Breakfast
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: STRONG CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNICATION

OBJECTIVE 12: LEVERAGE PARTNERSHIPS THAT SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS

Progress: July 2023 - March 2024

OBJECTIVE 12 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

Great Exploration Children’s Museum

Through partnership with Great Explorations, all middle schools are engaging eighth graders of all abilities in an on-campus field trip to the museum’s mobile planetarium.

Legislative Delegation

The school board and district staff collaborated to develop the School Board 2024 Legislative Platform. The Pinellas legislative delegation was welcomed at Seminole High School to highlight the district’s work and the 2024 platform. School board members, district leadership and delegates continue to collaborate to best support PCS students, families and staff.

Pinellas Education Foundation

Pinellas Education Foundation partners with PCS to provide a variety of programs that support the acceleration of student achievement and postsecondary success. The foundation’s partnership supports thousands of students through district programs such as the Pinellas Early Literacy Initiative (PELI), Boys Read Book Battle, Elevating Excellence, College and Career Centers, Enterprise Village, Finance Park, and Take Stock in Children.

In addition to programs, the foundation awards about $700,000 in scholarships to PCS seniors each year. This year, 238 PCS graduating seniors earned two-year Florida pre-paid scholarships through the Take Stock in Children program.

FAST FACTS

Partners in Action

The Tampa Bay Rays were the first MLB team to host the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee, in which more than half of the participants were PCS students.

Supporting Our Schools

The Florida legislature approved a $1 million budget appropriation to ARK Educate for the development of the ARK Innovation Center at Pinellas County Schools.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

Great Explorations Partnership
Legislative Platform
ICROC Annual Report
OBJECTIVE 13 STRATEGIES IN ACTION

District Strategic Plan Deployment
The District Strategic Plan (DSP) Dashboard is in development. All DSP goal owners have provided input on its development. Branding and user experience feedback is scheduled for the fourth quarter. The dashboard is on schedule to launch for the public in fall 2024.

The DSP Quarterly Report template has been created and published. The quarterly report will also be published on the website and integrated into the DSP Dashboard.

Together PCS Newsletter
The first district community newsletter launched in fall 2023. It features stories about schools, students, alumni, coaches and curriculum. The monthly newsletter is one way for stakeholders to connect with PCS, in addition to the social media channels.

Connect with us!

FAST FACTS

Social Media
PCS social media networks have a total of more than 73,000 followers.

TogetherPCS Newsletter
Nearly 9,000 stakeholders are subscribed to receive the monthly newsletter. Subscribe by going to the district website: www.pcsb.org/togetherpcs.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

District Marketing Plan
District Strategic Plan Mid-Year Update

COMMUNICATION CORNER

We can’t wait to see you!
Welcome back to 2023-24
District Strategic Plan Overview
Alumni Profile: Beau Zimmer
A Life of Service Profile: Dr. Robert Moore
Veterans Day Celebrations
Thanksgiving Message
Happy New Year from PCS
Summer Camp Experiences
ESSER/ARP funding provided PCS students with summer enrichment experiences throughout the month of July 2023. Opportunities included STEM, arts, culinary and robotics. PCS is planning these camps for July 2024, and is exploring other funding sources in summer 2025.

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. RAP tutors are trained and compensated to engage with learners to strengthen their reading skills.

Sustained Operational Activities
District continued to transition projects funded by ESSER/ARP grants to the operating budget (e.g., cost of substitutes, PCS Connects, sanitation).

Digital Resources Review
PCS began reviewing the current digital content tools and platforms supported by the district and ESSER/ARP funds to prioritize programs that will sunset or continue in fall 2024.

Employee Salaries
2023-24 salary increases were paid from operating funds, and there is no anticipated reliance on reserves.

ESSER/ARP Drawdown
As of April 2024, 87% of all ESSER/ARP funds received by PCS were expended, positioning the district for full expenditure by the September 2024 deadline.

Grants Update
ESSER/ARP Financial Update
ESSER/ARP Digital Resources Review
Transportation Hiring and Retention

PCS employs 320 bus drivers who drive 305 bus routes. The surplus of drivers substitute for the routes that have driver absences and delays.

Transportation System

PCS selected the technology vendor for a new transportation routing system. The company has been on-site to begin side-by-side development of the system and training of staff.

Route Optimization

The district ridership campaign was conducted for the 2024-25 school year. Route optimization for the 2024-25 school year is in process.

District Application Programs provide transportation to secondary students using arterial bus stop hubs. The hubs reduced the number of bus stops for secondary DAP students by approximately 75% in 2023-24.

Transportation improvements reduced the number of routes needed to serve the same number of students while increasing on-time arrival.
Enterprise Resource Planning

The district issued a Request for Proposal, evaluated proposals and selected the vendor for the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform in October 2023. A cross-functional team, including Human Resources, Technology Information Systems (TIS) and Finance, meets weekly with the vendor to drive development and implementation. Training has begun for core users, and an executive dashboard has been implemented to manage project milestones. Data migration and validation has begun. The development and implementation of the system remains on schedule for deployment in 2025.

Modernized Procurement System

PCS is modernizing and improving efficiency of the procurement process through contract with OpenGov, which is a cloud-based, end-to-end procurement platform. Implementation will begin in the next quarter, and full deployment is anticipated by fall 2024.

District Sustainability Plan

PCS launched an interdepartmental team to develop a district sustainability plan in alignment with the District Strategic Plan. The plan is expected to be finalized in summer 2024.

PRESENTATIONS OF PROGRESS

Annual Budget
Enterprise Resource Planning
OpenGov Procurement Solutions
Technology Information Systems Update

COMMUNICATION CORNER

ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year