Dear Mustang Families,

I can’t believe we are six weeks into the school year. Time is flying! We had a wonderful event a few weeks ago. Tacos, Tie Dye and Tunes was a huge success! We had nearly 100 families to attend the event. Thanks to our outstanding PTA for organizing and hosting the event.

I am certain that together we will create a year of excellence for our children. We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children’s success and we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child’s learning by ensuring that he/she: 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day’s learning experience 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life 5) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject 6) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school through hard work, effective and creative teaching, and a strong school community partnership, we will reach our goal to provide a quality educational program that meets the needs of all of our students at Midtown. Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication to your child’s education.

Continued on page 2
Car line is moving along. Car line is empty in about nine minutes after dismissal. I highly encourage you all to use the car line. It is becoming faster with each passing day. Please make sure you are using a name tag daily. Please place the name tag on the passenger side. The car line is a sure way to stay cool while waiting for your children. It is also the safest way to exit campus. Students may not be on campus prior to 8:15a.m. or after 3:55p.m. Students may report to the café for breakfast at 8:15a.m. Students are dismissed at 8:30a.m. to walk to class. The official school day begins at 8:45a.m. and students will be marked tardy if they arrive to their classroom after this time.

Finally, please encourage students to bring their water bottles to school. It is important for them to hydrate. It is hot out at PE and recess.

Keila Victor,
Principal

Featured Inside:

- Announcements
- Upcoming Activities and Dates
- Great American Teach In
- Lunch Pals
- Take Stock In Children
School Vision: 100% student success

School Mission: The mission of Midtown Academy is to develop the academic and social emotional skills of every scholar, every day, at every opportunity by committing to academic excellence through a rigorous instructional program and developing the leadership qualities needed for college, career and life.

Teacher of the Year and Support Employee of the Year

It is that time of the year to nominate Teacher of the Year and Support Employee of the Year. Please send me the names of a teacher and/or support employee that you believe would be a great candidate for this prestigious award. Please tell me the reason why you are nominating this employee.

Fundraiser

Thank you for your supporting our fundraiser. We raised over 13,000.00. The funds will be dedicated to all our students for Makerspace, Positive Behavior Supports, School wide Enrichment Model, etc.

The Florida Aquarium Show is scheduled for October 29th at 9am. Students who sold six or more items will receive an invitation. Students who sold 20 items or more will receive dress down passes for the week of October 14th. If you sold 16 items or more, you receive a free limo ride on October 23rd
Upcoming Events

**OCT:** (NATIONAL ARTS & HUMANITIES MONTH)

- 10/14: Non-Student Day
- 10/15 TUE: PTA MEETING (6pm)
- 10/23 WED: REFLECTIONS ART EXHIBIT (6pm – 8pm)
- 10/28-11/1 MON-FRI: BOOK FAIR (times vary)
- 10/30 WED: TREAT FESTIVAL (6pm – 7:30pm)

**NOV:** 10/28-11/1 MON-FRI: BOOK FAIR (times vary)

- 11/1 FRI: BOX TOPS DUE
- 11/6 WED: SAC Meeting 6pm
- 11/13 WED: GREAT AMERICAN TEACH IN (ALL DAY) (PTA PROVIDE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST)
- 11/20 WED: TEACHER HOLIDAY LUNCHEON (10am – 1pm)

**DEC:** 12/4: WED. SAC meeting (6pm)

- 12/6 FRI: REFLECTIONS SUBMISSIONS DUE!!
- 12/19 THUR: PTA MEETING (6pm)
Help our School and Make a Difference!

Become a either a Lunch Pal or Taking Stock in Children (TSIC) mentor and meet once a week for 30 minutes with one of our students who will greatly benefit from your support and encouragement.

You will be surprised to see the difference you can make in a child’s life. Please also consider asking family and friends who might be able to lend their time as a Lunch Pal or Mentor to Midtown Academy.

For more information about the Lunch Pal or Taking Stock in Children programs, please read the brochures included in this newsletter.

To become either a Lunch Pal or a Mentor, please contact our Family and Community Liaison, Cassandra Jackson: (727) 893-1358, or email jacksoncas@pcsb.org.

Thank you to all of our current Lunch Pals, Mentors and Volunteers. Our students and staff greatly appreciate your time and support!

Great American Teach In

You are invited to participate in the upcoming Great American Teach In on Wednesday November 13th. We welcome parents and members of our community to share information with students about their career or hobby, to organize an activity, to read a story or to teach a class. You can choose to spend an hour, a few class periods or an entire school day.

Previous Teach In participants have found the experience truly rewarding. For more information, please contact Cassandra Jackson at (727) 893-1358, or email jacksoncas@pcsb.org
You have the power to enrich a child’s life—in as little as an hour.

The Duke Energy Great American Teach-In is part of Pinellas County Schools’ annual American Education Week celebration. Sponsored by our company since 1994, it’s a special opportunity for you to visit the public school of your choice and share what you know with a new generation.

This year’s event is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2019. Opportunities are available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. You may choose to stay for an hour or for the whole day! The amount of time you volunteer is determined strictly by what your schedule permits and what the teacher wants to accomplish.

Whatever the length of your visit, you can make a difference. Thousands of previous Teach-In participants have discovered the experience is truly rewarding.

**Teach-In tips:**
- Plan for 20-35 students per classroom.
- Consider wearing attire appropriate to the occupation, hobby or topic you plan to discuss.
- Keep the students’ average attention span in mind: 10-20 minutes for elementary grades and 20-45 minutes for secondary grades.
- When you arrive at the school, please check in at the office to pick up your nametag. Someone will greet you and accompany or direct you to your classroom.
- If you plan to bring printed or audiovisual materials, please check with the teacher or school Teach-In coordinator in advance.
- Do not ask students for personal information, including their telephone numbers or addresses.

### Registration Form

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<th>Name:</th>
<th>Phone (Day):</th>
<th>Phone (Night):</th>
<th>Address:</th>
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<td>City:</td>
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<td>Zip:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choice of School (Optional):</td>
<td>Grade Preference:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject Matter:</td>
<td>Length of Stay: ☐ 1-2 HRS ☐ 3-4 HRS ☐ ALL DAY</td>
<td>Time of Day to Attend:</td>
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<td>Equipment Needed:</td>
<td>Email Address:</td>
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What is Lunch Pals?
Lunch Pals is a lunch time mentoring program where businesses, community organizations and individuals are paired with a school to provide students with the additional presence of caring adults.

Please let us know your individual volunteer or partnership interests. We will be happy to connect with you about getting involved!
College Scholarship Opportunity for 6-9 grade students!

Pinellas Education Foundation’s Take Stock in Children Scholarship Program

Candidates must be on Free/Reduced Lunch, attend a Pinellas County public middle or high school, and have the aspiration to attend college or technical school but not the financial means.

To learn more about this life-changing program, please visit www.pinellaseducation.org/tsic

Foundation Take Stock in Children scholars receive:

A Scholarship - A tuition-only Florida Prepaid College Scholarship, which can be used at any university, college, or vocational/technical school that accepts financial aid. (Value — up to 120 state college credit hours)

A Mentor - A volunteer mentor who will meet with your child bi-weekly at school, to assist and encourage your child to achieve their highest potential.

A College Success Coach - A Take Stock staff person who will help your child design a college success plan and guide them through middle and high school, and transition into college.

How to Apply

If you would like to complete an application for your student (who must be in grades 6 - 9) to become part of the Take Stock in Children scholarship program, go to the link below and complete the online application between Aug. 12 to Dec. 6, 2019

Make sure to have an electronic copy of your 1040 tax return for 2018* when you start the application.

https://www.pinellaseducation.org/tsic

*If you do not file taxes, email tsic@pinellaseducation.org for possible alternative options
INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Effective from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

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<th>TWICE PER MONTH</th>
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<td>For each additional family member, add</td>
<td>8,177</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>158</td>
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Income guidelines provided by USDA.gov

Qualified financial document REQUIRED with the online scholarship application:

1040 tax return for 2018* (pages 1 and 2, must show student applicant as a dependent)

*If you do not file taxes, email tsic@pinellaseducation.org for possible alternative options

Finalists will be notified in February – March of 2020. All finalists will need to attend a scholarship signing event in the spring to officially join the Take Stock in Children program.

The Pinellas Education Foundation is a proud partner with Pinellas County Schools