

# TOGETHER PCS

## WE'RE BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER

### SHARE YOUR FIRST DAY FUN!

Submit your photos from the first day of school to be featured on the district website and social media!

Find the form and other important back to school information at

[pcsb.org/backtoschool](https://pcsb.org/backtoschool)



Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year and welcome to TogetherPCS, the district's monthly newsletter featuring students, staff, alumni, coaches, curriculum, community partners and so much more!

In this issue, we focus on all things Back-to-School. We caught up with a first-year kindergarten teacher who is returning to her elementary school alma mater to begin her teaching career. We also interviewed a sixth-grade actor who juggles trips to LA with straight A's. At the Embrace Pinellas and the ECET-2 conferences, we met several teachers who gave us a peek into their back-to-school routines and even invited us into their classrooms while they prepared for their students.

If you know someone who should be featured in TogetherPCS, please click the "Nominate Here" button below. Let's do this TOGETHER!

[NOMINATE HERE](#)

## WHAT'S INSIDE



Maxwell Fox-Andrews is a sixth grader at Tarpon Springs Middle and has been acting professionally since the age of five.



*Now that school busses are back on the roads, here are some safety tips from one of our own PCS drivers:*

- When the amber lights begin to flash and the stop arm extends from

# Tarpon Middle Sixth Grader Juggles Acting and Straight A's

While most sixth graders are laying out their outfits and getting to bed early the night before school starts, Maxwell Fox-Andrews was walking a red carpet.

Spider-Man Lotus, the fan film in which Maxwell plays Tim Harrison, premiered in Los Angeles on Aug. 5 and at Studio Movie Grill – Seminole Aug. 9.

"I've been waiting so long to see this on the big screen, so I'm really excited," Maxwell said of the movie that has been in production for more than two years. "It's going to be awesome."

Maxwell got his start in acting at the age of five, appearing in a now "embarrassing" Chuck E Cheese commercial. He has also done work for Haverly's, Disney Springs, SeaWorld Orlando, Beall's, Aloft Hotels and Achieva Credit Union. His favorite parts about acting are traveling and meeting new people, two things he has mastered at the age of 11.

"Everybody has a balance," Maxwell said of keeping up with school, martial arts, music and acting. "Yes, my balance might look a little different but I'm happy I have it because it makes me stronger as a person."

[Read the full article](#)

the side of the bus, STOP. This should be treated like a red traffic light.

- Cars should not proceed until the stop arm is completely retracted and the lights are no longer flashing.
- Please do not attempt to flag down your child's bus or driver. If you need assistance, call 727-587-2020.
- Please be a courteous driver and yield to bus drivers attempting to merge into traffic, change lanes or enter or exit a highway.
- If a bus stops on a road with a raised median, traffic traveling in the opposite direction is NOT required to stop but should remain vigilant of children.

[Watch the bus safety video](#)

## ACHIEVE TOGETHER

### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



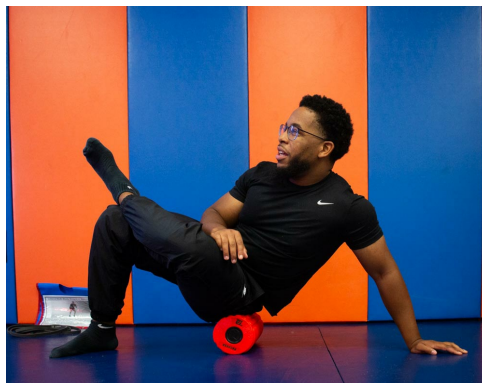
*Jade Copeland with Superintendent Hendrick, her former principal, at Embrace Pinellas in July.*

Growing up, Jade Copeland never dreamed of returning to her elementary school to teach.

But then she did. And she made it happen.

Copeland started at Douglas L. Jamerson Elementary as a first grader when the school opened in 2003. She starts the 2023-2024 school year as the first alumni to return to Jamerson to teach. On the first day of school, she welcomes her first bunch of "babies" to her kindergarten classroom.

"To be back is kind of like a fairy tale. It was amazing to come back onto campus and just feel so welcome," Copeland said while unloading supplies and decorating her bulletin boards. "You can honestly feel the love. The atmosphere



## TB12 Program Expands District-wide

One year after Pinellas County Schools and the Pinellas Education Foundation launched its partnership with the TB12 Method, the district is expanding the program into all middle and high schools.

To kick off the 2023-2024 school year, all eighth-grade wellness education and high school HOPE students will participate in curriculum incorporating the TB12 Method founded by Tom Brady's TB12 Foundation. The method has four pillars: pliability,



## Meet Some of Our **AMAZING** PCS Teachers

Maximo Elementary's new art teacher **Asa Pilson** is thrilled to welcome her students this year. She is a first-time teacher who is equally excited and nervous to begin her teaching career. [Watch the video story here.](#)

**Josiah Patrick**, the sixth grade counselor at Safety Harbor Middle School, talks about the impact he hopes to have after transitioning from teaching in Atlanta. [Watch the video story here.](#)



nutrition/hydration and cognitive fitness.

Ten pilot schools, including Madeira Beach Fundamental, began the rollout last August. Alicia Prevost, the sixth-grade physical education teacher and eighth grade TB12 coach at Madeira Beach said she is excited to see the program go District-wide. She, along with about 60 other PE teachers and athletics coaches, participated in a hands-on training with TB12 Head Body Coach Bryan Hart, Friday, Aug. 4 at Osceola High School.

[Read the full article](#)

Second grade ESOL teacher **Anne Coletti** begins her 25th year of teaching with a brand-new classroom at Pinellas Central Elementary. [Watch the video story here.](#)

After eight years of teaching, **Bobby Coston** kicks off the 2023-2024 school year as Campbell Park Elementary's behavior coach. [Watch the video story here.](#)

**Megan Mahone** taught for five years in California before joining Tyrone Middle School as the seventh and eighth grade science teacher this year. [Watch the video story here.](#)

## The Superintendent Says...

"Welcome back students and families! Your principals, teachers and staff have been waiting for you and have been diligently preparing to dive right into the 2023-2024 school year! We are an exceptional school district and accomplished so much together last year. Let's continue to build on that success by staying focused on the student experience and high expectations for all."



*To help spread the word, please forward this newsletter to community members who are interested in public education. Sign up by clicking the button below.*

[SIGN UP HERE](#)



**VISION: 100% STUDENT SUCCESS**

**MISSION: EDUCATE AND PREPARE EACH STUDENT FOR COLLEGE, CAREER AND LIFE**

[PCS Compliance Statement](#)

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