

Dear Parents,

Our teachers, staff, administrators and school board members join with me in welcoming you to a new school year. Whether you are the parent of a child entering school for the first time, the parent of a graduating senior, or somewhere in between, we encourage you to become involved in your child's education.

Our goal is 100% student success. Your reinforcement at home will help your child succeed in school. Encourage him/her to read and stay informed about homework and class assignments. Talk about school experiences and what he/she is learning. Be sure your child attends school and arrives on time each day. Communicate with your child's teacher and request a conference if you have a concern. Our dedicated, talented teachers are among the best in the state and we have a staff that is prepared to give students the support they need.

We invite you to stay involved with your child's school by volunteering, attending events and meetings, and taking time to learn what the school has to offer. Being an involved parent is the best thing you can do for your child's education and we appreciate the time and talent that you can share.

I wish you and your family only the best for this coming year. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve your family.

Julie M. Janssen, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Planning to Move?

If you move, you are required to give the school your new phone number and provide proof of residency. To update your address and phone number sign onto the Student Reservation System (SRS) on the district website, www.pcsb.org, with your ParentCONNECTxp User ID and Password and click on "Change of Address." Or you can visit your assigned school for assistance.

Your child may be moved to a different school. This will depend on seat availability and the distance you would have to travel (i.e. if you moved to Tarpon Springs from St. Petersburg, the district will assign your child to a new school).

Volunteers Needed

Through volunteering, families can have an active role in their child's education as well as the operation of the school. People of all ages are needed to help students and schools succeed. For information on how you can become a tutor, mentor, office/clerical assistant, library helper, ESOL tutor or classroom partner, call (727) 588-6405.

Stay Connected With Pinellas County Schools

School board meetings are held twice monthly during most months and are streamed live on the Internet. Rebroadcasts are available on Bright House Networks Ch. 614, Knology Ch. 2 and Verizon Ch. 46 and are streamed on the Internet at www.wpds.tv.

School Board's Final Budget Public Hearing

The school board will hold its final public hearing on Sept. 15 regarding the 2009-10 budget. The district's finance team presented a tentative budget and millage rates at the first budget hearing in July. The school board tentatively approved a .25 mill increase, allowed by the state legislature. The additional millage would provide an estimated \$14-million in additional operating revenue. However, the district still needs \$4-million to balance the budget.

Action Steps to Protect Your Child and Family from Swine Flu

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends four main ways you and your family may keep from catching the flu:

1. Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water.
2. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
3. Stay home if you or your child is sick for at least 24 hours after there is no longer a fever.
4. Get your family vaccinated for seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 flu when vaccines are available.

For more information, visit www.flu.gov/plan/school/parentfactsheet2.html.

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