



## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

What a fabulous workshop we had this year! As I stood at the doors at 7AM greeting everyone as they arrived, I was really excited to see so many familiar faces and to meet so many new PTA members. I hope that we were able to Educate, Empower, and Enlighten you. Each time we assist a local unit and get the wonderful feedback that we do, I know we are doing our job.

Our new partner, Clothes To Kids was so excited to participate in our workshop. We collected 246 pairs of undies, half way to our goal! We will continue to collect new undies at all our general meetings so please feel free to drop them off each month, and remember, no tidy whiteys please! I would like to thank Pinellas Central Elementary, Largo Middle School, Carwise Middle School and Palm Harbor High School for being the first schools to kick off their own clothing drives. I would like to ask that each month at least three PTAs have a clothing drive for Clothes to Kids. Please contact me if your school is interested in participating and helping low-income, school-age children in our community. (For more information visit: [www.clothestokids.org](http://www.clothestokids.org).)



So far this year we have had the privilege to charter six local unit PTAs or PTSAs. Welcome to Plato Academy Largo, Clearwater and Palm Harbor, New Heights Elementary, Gibbs High School and Lakewood High School!

By now your membership drives are well underway. I would love to hear how your units are doing, so please email me and let me know. I would love to share your successes with other units. And don't forget to send in your dues in monthly to the state PTA office!

Don't forget the State PTA Convention at the Gaylord Palms in Orlando is November 5-7. Your PTA should have budgeted for trainings and conventions when you wrote your budgets this year. When you attend the Florida PTA Convention remember to bring back the information that you learn and share it with your membership. I would love to see two members from each local unit attend. Let's have a strong showing from Pinellas. State Board elections and bylaws changes are on the agenda! If you have not received your convention packet in the mail contact the state office immediately. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Maria Kinzer  
Pinellas County Council  
President PTA  
[pccptapresident@yahoo.com](mailto:pccptapresident@yahoo.com)



**MISSED WORKSHOP?  
DON'T WORRY!  
e-Learning is available  
through National PTA!**

Wow! What a fabulous workshop we had a few weekends ago. There were almost 50 classes with great information for PTAs, SACs, and OSOs. Hope you all were able to attend and get some great ideas for your year. If you couldn't be there, don't worry! There is always online education available via the e-learning modules on the National PTA website. There are 16 different e-learning topics available, ranging from programs to advocacy to ethical leadership. Visit [www.pta.org/leadership\\_training.asp](http://www.pta.org/leadership_training.asp) today!



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## ARE YOU USING YOUR YEARLY AGENDA?

PTA Board Officers and Chairpersons - Your year is smoother and easier when you plan ahead. While the school year is only a month old, you should already be looking ahead to 2011 and even the next school year! Here are a few things you hopefully have one already or have started on this year:

- Pay council dues to PCCPTA and pay for Insurance
- Have a membership drive
- Approve your budget
- Invite us to your programs and/or meetings
- Make sure your Bylaws are up-to-date. If they need to be renewed this school year, get working on this now.

And some thing you should be working on now is a Nominating Committee! While your elections may not occur until April or May, you should go ahead and elect your Nominating Committee at your next meeting, if you haven't done so already. Remember that your Nominating Committee needs time to seek out the best possible candidates, and that takes time. Be sure to give them several months to do their work so that they can present a strong slate of proposed officers to your membership.

As always, if you need some assistance during the year, there are many resources available to you at:

[www.pccpta.org](http://www.pccpta.org)  
[www.floridapta.org](http://www.floridapta.org)  
[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

Presidents - Be sure to also consult the "Local Unit PTA Yearly Agenda" on page 12 of the PCCPTA Handbook. And your PCCPTA Executive Board is available to answer questions, attend or speak at your meetings or programs, conduct board trainings, and point you in the right direction. We look forward to working with you throughout the year!



Mary Bartholf  
PCCPTA  
VP of Leadership



## PTA AND FEDERAL TAXES

**EVERY** PTA Local Unit **MUST** file Income tax with the Federal Government. The forms are due to the IRS by November 15<sup>th</sup> for the prior fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>). The forms required can be found on line at the IRS web site – [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

Depending on your PTAs Gross Income, will determine how you file and which forms to use. Gross Income is all the funds deposited into your bank account – before expenses.

Gross income less than \$25,000 requires your PTA to file the 990N, E Postcard. This is a relatively easy process. Go to the IRS website and type in 990N. It will then take you to a different site where you will be required to fill in your PTA name, Address, EIN number, and gross Income. You will also need a password. Please remember to print a copy for your **permanent records**.

Gross Income over \$25,000 but less than \$200,000 requires your PTA to file the 990EZ with Schedule A and G. Schedule A requires 4 years of back data.

Gross Income over \$200,000 requires your PTA to file the 990 with the required schedules. We recommend that a CPA familiar with non-profit organizations complete your taxes.

**If you do not file your taxes, you will be dropped by the IRS for an entire year – losing your 501c3 status and required to pay tax on all your gross income.**

If you do receive a letter from the IRS – please respond. NEVER IGNORE THE IRS as penalties accrue daily. Please do not call the IRS. Respond with a letter to the address you received the IRS correspondence from.

If you have any further questions or need assistance, please call the PCCPTA Treasurer at the number below.



Kathy DeSantis  
PCCPTA Treasurer  
727-397-0701  
Kdesan999@aol.com

**Find Help Online**  
[www.pccpta.org](http://www.pccpta.org)

**Pinellas PTA Courier**  
*every child, one voice.®*

**October 2010**

**Volume 21 Issue 2**

Published monthly August to May.

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**Members Are Invited to  
Attend the October PCCPTA  
General Meeting,  
Advocacy Empowerment &  
Mock Convention**

**Date:** 10/21/2010  
**Time:** 6:15 p.m. (meeting at 7:00)  
**Location:** PCS Admin. Building,  
301 Fourth Street SW, Largo

Join us Thursday, October 21 for Advocacy Empowerment and the Mock Convention. This is a great way to empower our leaders as well as encourage our members to advocate. Learn how to/not to talk with your Legislator and how to get your point across in the right way. Also, learn some convention basics and how to do bylaws.



**WE NEED YOUR INPUT!  
Proposed Bylaws  
Changes to Be  
Considered at the  
Florida PTA Convention**

Although the upcoming convention has no platform items for consideration, there are several bylaw changes to be voted on by the Florida PTA membership. Please see pages 7 to 14 of the Pre-Convention Mailer, available online at <http://www.floridapta.org/Convention%20Info/convention%202010/Pre-Convention%20Mail%20out.pdf> to review these proposed changes.

**MEET YOUR  
LEGISLATOR**

This annual event series will be taking place after the election in November. Updates will be posted on the PCCPTA website. If you're interested in hosting a *Meet Your Legislator* event at your school please contact Judy Owen, Legislative Relations Chair, at [judyowen\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:judyowen_2000@yahoo.com).



**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!**

It is critical that all PTA members demonstrate their role as child advocates by becoming educated about candidates for public office and their positions on legislative issues that are important to children and public schools. By exercising our democratic right to vote, we are able to give children a voice. The General Election is November 2<sup>nd</sup>. You may still request a mail in ballot at [www.voteinellas.com](http://www.voteinellas.com). There simply isn't an excuse not to exercise your civic duty!

**ad-vo-cate** *n* [Middle English *advocat*, from Anglo-French, from Latin *advocatus*, from past participle of *advocare* to summon, from *ad-* + *vocare* to call, from *voc-*, *vox* voice — more at VOICE.] 1: one that pleads the cause of another; *specifically* : one that pleads the cause of another before a tribunal or judicial court; 2: one that defends or maintains a cause or proposal; 3: one that supports or promotes the interests of another. *ad-vo-cate vt-cat-ed; -cat-ing*: to plead in favor of, *syn* see SUPPORT

It is important that local unit PTA Boards review these proposed bylaw changes with their membership so that those attending the PCCPTA general membership meeting on October 21st, or Florida PTA Convention in November, will be able to vote in accordance with their local unit's directive.

Likewise, at Mock Convention in October, those PCCPTA delegates attending the November Convention will vote in accordance with the vote of the general members present and participating in the PCCPTA Mock Convention. Your input is essential!

If you have any other Legislative Advocacy related questions contact Nancy Uelmen – PCCPTA, VP of Advocacy at 727.934.7693 or via email at [nancy.pccpta@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.pccpta@gmail.com).



## PCCPTA COMMUNITY PARTNER: CHILDREN'S MOVEMENT OF FLORIDA

The Pinellas County Council PTA/PTSA is proud to highlight its advocacy partnership with the Children's Movement of Florida.

The Children's Movement of Florida believes that the well-being and education of our children in Florida must be the **highest priority** of government, business, non-profit institutions and families. The economic future of our state and the stability of the communities we live in depend on achieving this goal. The major objective of the citizen-led, non-partisan Children's Movement of Florida is to **inform** the political, business and civic leaders, and the parents and people of this state, about this issue – and **encourage** them to make the well-being and education of our children our highest priority, including in the way we invest our public resources.

Like PTA, the Children's Movement of Florida is creating awareness and building partnerships (with juvenile welfare boards, children's hospitals, the YMCA, the faith communities, school systems, teacher unions, etc.), working to unite us as one voice that calls on Floridians to put children first - first when we make decisions at the polls, first when we vote on health and education issues, first when we make budget decisions - first when we decide Florida's priorities and Florida's future.

Last month, the Children's Movement of Florida hosted a series of "Milk Party" rallies throughout the state to bring attention to children's issues including:

- Access to quality health care
- Screening and treatment for special needs
- Quality pre-kindergarten opportunities
- High-quality mentoring programs
- Support and information for parents



The rallies began in the Panhandle on September 6 and after 3,876 miles ended the 17-city tour on September 30th in Key West at the southern tip of the state. More than 15,000 concerned citizens turned out to hear the message in all. And Pinellas County was host to the largest gathering with an estimated 1,300 parents and kids in attendance!

Now, the Children's Movement of Florida, in association with the University of Miami, has announced that it will host the first ever gubernatorial debate devoted exclusively to the needs of Florida's children. The historic Oct. 16 debate between major candidates vying to become Florida's next governor will be held at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Fla. It will be broadcast statewide by television stations and via the Internet. Visit the Children's Movement of Florida website at [www.childrensmovementflorida.org](http://www.childrensmovementflorida.org) for the most up to date information. Additional details will be posted soon.

David Lawrence, retired publisher of the Miami Herald and co-chairman of the Children's Movement of Florida, will be a key note speaker at the Florida PTA Convention in Orlando. You can read his bio at <http://childrensmovementflorida.org/about/david-lawrence-jr/>.

## MAKE PTA VISIBLE USING PTA'S LOGO

How can we make PTA better known in our community?  
Consistency is key.

PTA has a standardized logo to enhance name recognition and bring to mind PTA's many accomplishments. PTA has established guidelines for the proper use of the PTA name, logo, and tagline (**everychild.onevoice**). When used properly, PTA's logo and tagline create a consistent message, help unify all PTAs, and sets PTA apart.

### How can we use PTA's logo to increase participation in PTA?

When parents and caring adults participate in children's education, children do better in school and school climate is improved. In planning a PTA event include the community, let people know that PTA is a partner with the school to help children succeed. Use PTA's logo to reinforce PTA's role in bringing many parties together.

- Include the official PTA logo on your website and in your newsletter.
- Remember to put up a banner or a sign with the PTA logo on it at all PTA sponsored events.
- Try having a PTA awareness day at the school and in the community to show pride in being a member of PTA.
- Encourage your school community to wear a PTA T-shirt, hat, pin or button.
- And whenever anyone asks, tell him or her that you are a proud member of PTA.

### Help us make PTA familiar to everyone!

PTA marketing tools including PTA logos, usage guidelines, house ads and other resources may be found at [http://www.pta.org/logos\\_and\\_usage.asp](http://www.pta.org/logos_and_usage.asp)





## SHARE YOUR HEALTH & SAFETY SUCCESSES

The PTA mission directs members to advocate for the well-being of every child. What is your PTA/PTSA doing to promote health and safety among its students, faculty, staff and families? Share with PCCPTA on the events your school is doing to help promote those healthier lifestyles. Send your emails to Cassie Riddick, PCCPTA Health & Safety Chairperson at [Mommy2littleboys@yahoo.com](mailto:Mommy2littleboys@yahoo.com) and let us know!!



## SAVE THE DATE!

### PCCPTA Health and Safety Fair

Date\Time: Saturday February 19<sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm

Place: Largo Central Park, 101 Central Park Drive

**For more information or to RSVP please contact:**

Cassie Riddick, PCCPTA Health & Safety Chairperson  
at [mommy2littleboys@yahoo.com](mailto:mommy2littleboys@yahoo.com) or 727-278-7078



## THE BIG HELP GRANT PROGRAM: "MILLION DOLLARS FOR A MILLION MOVES"

Throughout 2010, Nickelodeon will award \$1M in grants to schools and community organizations enabling kids around the country to achieve the goal of a million acts of help. The Big Help Grant Program will support projects that inspire kids to (1) take care of the environment; (2) lead active, healthy lives; (3) engage in community service; or (4) improve their educational experience.

Visit <http://pro-social.nick.com/grant-application/> for more information.

## PROTECTING YOUR TEEN FROM MENINGITIS

Meningococcal meningitis, a form of meningococcal disease, is a serious bacterial infection. Unlike viral meningitis, it can potentially kill an otherwise healthy young person within one day after the first symptoms appear.

### GET THE FACTS - PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

To hear some powerful stories and learn more about this awful and preventable disease visit the Voices of Meningitis website at [www.voicesofmeningitis.org](http://www.voicesofmeningitis.org).

### LOCAL UNIT PTA PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY!

Rita Becchetti, MHS, RN, BC - Supervisor, School Health services for Pinellas County Schools is a National Association of School Nurses (NASN) Voices of Meningitis™ spokesperson for the Tampa Bay area and is available to conduct a meningitis prevention program at your school. You may contact her at 727-588-6320 or via email at [becchettir@pcsb.org](mailto:becchettir@pcsb.org) to learn more.

**VOICES  
OF MENINGITIS™**

A Meningococcal Disease Prevention Campaign  
from the National Association of School Nurses  
In collaboration with sanofi pasteur





**PTA REFLECTIONS**  
40 Years of Achievement in the Arts

**PTA REFLECTIONS  
UNLEASHES  
ARTISTIC TALENTS  
2010 – 2011 THEME:  
"TOGETHER WE CAN"**

For those of you that are not familiar with it, Reflections is the National PTA Arts Program where students can demonstrate their artistic abilities and expression in the areas of Photography, Visual Arts, Literature, Musical Composition, Dance Choreography, and Film/Video Production. This year's theme is "Together We Can." If you do not have a Reflections Chair yet make sure that you appoint one quickly so that you can get started. Set your due date for entries and communicate that to parents, students, and teachers...remember allow time for review and judging.

All local units in good standing are eligible to participate. This means that Bylaws must be valid through March 31, 2011 and some dues need to be paid to the state office by December 15th.

Information on what you need to do to prepare and details on making this an effective program can be accessed through the PCCPTA website at <http://pccpta.org/Reflections/Reflections2010.htm>. Other great resources may be found at [www.ptareflections.org](http://www.ptareflections.org) or [www.pta.org/2032.asp](http://www.pta.org/2032.asp). You can contact Debi Klein, PCCPTA Reflections Chairperson with any questions you may have at [debi\\_klein@hotmail.com](mailto:debi_klein@hotmail.com).

**KEY REFLECTIONS DATES:**

- September - December: Conduct Reflections Program at your school
- December 10th: Turn in your school's winning entries to county at Gus Stavros between 3-6 pm
- January 7th: County Reflections Reception at Pinellas Park High School from 6:30-8 pm
- January 10th: Pick up entries from county at Gus Stavros between 3-6pm

**LOCAL UNIT FEATURE:  
SHORE ACRES  
ELEMENTARY PTA**

Soaring with Eagle PRIDE at Shore Acres Elementary is an understatement! Our PTA is breaking records all over the place with more than a 100% increase in PTA Memberships! Children and parents are eager to show how proud they are of our school each Friday by wearing their school spirit t-shirts. On Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> we changed things up when our students participated in the NFL Rush to support our very own Tampa Bay Buccaneers by wearing Bucs gear or red to school. Our PTA applied for a \$10,000 health and fitness grant from the NFL and we're hoping our Bucs enthusiasts might

just win it for us! We devoted the day to educating the children about the benefits of making healthy food choices and being active 60 minutes each day.

We had great success with our first big program, our Full Moon Friday on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The full moon is an excuse to celebrate in the form of a potluck block party right at school! Our PTA's mission is to tighten as a community. We want to know our neighbors and their children. We will be playing life-size Rockets and Moon Beams (Chutes and Ladders), Moon Beam Tag and will have a Howling at the Moon contest. There will be a Reading Crater with books like Goodnight Moon and the Moon Cycle, a performance by our Glee Club, music with songs all relating to the moon and telescopes brought in by parents and teachers so children can examine the full moon. It's sure to be a fun night for all.

We're hopeful that this first month is an indication of how fun future months will be. We're working hard and having the time of our lives!

Linda Nelson  
Shore Acres Elementary  
PTA President

We would love to share the great things going on in your PTA. Each month we plan to feature one local unit PTA, so keep the articles coming. Send to Linda Kearschner - VP, Communications at [LK-PTA@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:LK-PTA@tampabay.rr.com). Submissions may be edited for length and content.



## PCS SUPERINTENDENT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AT COMMUNITY FORUMS

Have questions about the new student assignment proposal that PCS Superintendent Dr. Julie Janssen has proposed? Do you want to know more about the proposed plans for mandatory uniforms, expansion of fundamental seats, moving and adding IB programs and more?

Then mark your calendars to attend and participate in one of the Community Forums the school district is hosting to address these topics.

**Oct. 12 at Countryside High School**  
3000 State Road 580 in Clearwater  
7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Oct. 13 at Gibbs High School**  
850 34th Street S in St. Petersburg  
7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

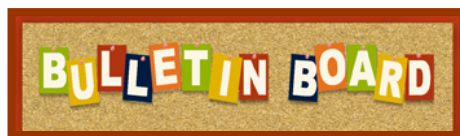
To learn more about the Superintendent's proposal, visit [http://www.pcsb.org/files/proposed\\_achiev\\_plan.pdf](http://www.pcsb.org/files/proposed_achiev_plan.pdf).

Many of the ideas could be in effect as early as the 2011-12 school year. The School Board is expected to hear more details during a workshop Tuesday, October 5 at 10 a.m. Then, they will hear the first reading of the plan during their Nov. 9 board meeting, also at 10 a.m. They are expected to vote on a final proposal Dec. 7, 5 p.m.



## FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

Check out the "Parents" section of the Pinellas County Schools website at <http://www.pcsb.org/forparents/>.



The Bulletin Board posts all kinds of useful information for parents in one easy to access location. You are also invited to explore the links on the left menu bar to find the latest information about programs and services, ways you can be involved in your child's education, volunteer opportunities and connections to outside agencies.

## PTA SOCIAL NETWORKING

- Connect to PTA through a wide variety of online social networks.
- Reach internet savvy PTA and community members.



Network with parents and leaders sharing ideas and strategies for parent involvement and student success. PTA has a myriad of networking and multimedia tools to offer. Share ideas on the National PTA Bulletin Board or the Great Idea Bank or view and download videos from PTA's YouTube page. Coming Soon – PTA blogs and updated message boards.

PCCPTA has its own Facebook page, too! To become a fan just click the button on the PCCPTA home page at <http://www.pccpta.org/>.

## CELEBRATE RED RIBBON WEEK

Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program reaching millions of Americans during the last week of October every year. By wearing red ribbons and participating in community anti-drug events, young people pledge to live a drug-free life. **Plan your school events today and help young people pledge to be drug free!**

In celebration of Red Ribbon week, a week dedicated to drug awareness starting October 25, 2010, Students Taking Action Not Drugs (STAND) will give away a free ipod touch! See contest rules and regulations at <http://www.studentstakingaction.org/node/25>



STAND is a division of Drug Free America Foundation and was founded in 1999 by university students worldwide concerned about the spread of drug abuse on college campuses. Their goals are:

- To support students' decisions to live drug free
- To provide scientific-based principles in educating high school and college students about the dangers of substance abuse
- To reduce drug use among 16-25 year olds
- To encourage advocacy for drug free choices

**2010-2011****Pinellas County Council****Executive Board Members(\*)  
and Committee Chairs****PTA**<sup>®</sup>*everychild.one voice.™***www.pccpta.org****Maria Kinzer\***

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**PCCPTA MEETINGS AND EVENTS**For more information on these events check our website at [www.pccpta.org](http://www.pccpta.org)**Wed, Oct 6**

Walk to School Day

**Oct 25 - Oct 29**

Red Ribbon Week

**Sat, Oct 16, start time TBD**Televised gubernatorial debate sponsored by  
Children's Movement of Florida/University of Miami

Check local listings

**Tue, Nov 2**

Election Day

Don't Forget to Vote!

**Thu, Oct 21, 6:15 pm – 8:15 pm**

PCCPTA Gen. Mtg &amp; Mock Convention

PCS Admin Building

301 Fourth St. SW, Largo, FL 33770

**Nov 5 – Nov 7**

Florida PTA Convention

Gaylord Palms, Orlando



## Don't Miss Your Opportunity to Nominate Great PCS Employees

Pinellas County Schools has many great teachers and support employees that work hard to ensure that your child succeeds in school every day. This is your opportunity to recognize those PCS employees by nominating them for either the Outstanding Educator of the Year Award or the Support Employee of the Year. Nominations for both of the awards may come from anyone, including teachers, students, parents, volunteers, school advisory councils, PTAs, business and community leaders.

### Outstanding Educator of the Year

All full-time, school-based, certified, instructional personnel are eligible. This includes resource teachers, media specialists, counselors, therapists and classroom teachers as well as full-time workforce education teachers paid by the district. Winners and semifinalists will be honored at the annual "Evening of Excellence" recognition event sponsored by the Pinellas Education Foundation, at Ruth Eckerd Hall, March 1, 2011.

### Support Employee of the Year

Every day hundreds of bus drivers, teacher aides, library assistants, bookkeepers, custodians, warehouse workers, food service staff, secretaries, technicians, clerks and assistants make a difference in the success of our students and the operation of our facilities. Any full or part-time support employee who serves at a school or district level is eligible. Semifinalists will be honored at a breakfast where the winner of each category and the Support Employee of the Year will be announced. Achieva Credit Union will sponsor the award ceremony planned for late January at Feather Sound Country Club.

Both nomination packets can be found on the district's website, [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org), under "PCS News." Nomination packets also may be requested by contacting the district's communications office at (727) 588-6122. **Deadline for all nominations is Wednesday, Oct. 6.**



## Nov. 19 Is Deadline for Young Heroes Nominations

Here's your chance to nominate students who have given of themselves through community service or who inspire others through their deeds and strength of character. Nominate a student for the 2010-11 Young Heroes Award.

Winning students will be profiled on WPDS-TV14 and on the district website. Winners also will receive a \$500 Savings Bond sponsored by DITEK.

Nomination forms are available on the district website, [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org).

## Family Information Workshops

The district is hosting several workshops designed to inform parents how to assist their children to succeed in school.

### Topics include:

- Navigating the PCS website
- Understanding parent/teacher conferences
- Dealing with school disciplinary issues
- Ways to become involved in your child's education

**Workshops are scheduled from 6 – 7 p.m.**

**Oct. 6 – Gibbs High**  
850 34<sup>th</sup> St. S, St. Petersburg

**Oct. 7 – Countryside High**  
3000 SR 580, Clearwater

**Oct. 13 – Pinellas Park High**  
6305 118<sup>th</sup> Ave. N, Largo

To register for a workshop, call (727) 588-6000, ext. 6484

## Stay Connected with PCS

**WEB** – For the latest district news, visit the PCS website, [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org).

**TV** – School board meetings are held twice monthly during most months and are streamed live at [www.wpds.tv](http://www.wpds.tv). Rebroadcasts are available on Bright House Networks Ch. 614, Knology Ch. 2 and Verizon Ch. 46.

**TWITTER** – Sign up to follow district news on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/pcschoools](http://www.twitter.com/pcschoools).

**PCS PORTAL** – Review your child's grades, participate in educational video lessons, and communicate interactively with your child's teacher through this online system. The portal is located on the district website, [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org). Just look for the PCS Portal icon.

## Tips for a Successful Parent-Teacher Conference

In order to help your child succeed in school, it's important to communicate with your child's teacher. One way is through a Parent-Teacher Conference.

**Prepare** – Bring a list of questions or concerns you may have regarding your child's education to the conference.

**Communicate** – It is important to listen as well as to ask questions. Share information about your child with the teacher.

**Plan of Action** – If you or the teacher identify areas that your child needs to improve, work with the teacher in developing a plan of action to accomplish the goals.