

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

THRIVING SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY GRADES

What do you think are the essential components for a school to thrive and meet student needs?

Provide specifics regarding academic programming, supports, staffing mode, extra-curricular or athletic opportunities, etc.

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- Training
- Assessment of individual situations
- Behavioral specialist sitting in at schools before kids are move to another school.
- EBD
- Safety – Anti-bully
- High quality, happy teachers & staff & maintaining them (3 noted)
- Parental support (committed parents) – SAC (3 noted)
- Amazing PTA + staff that supports it.
- Clubs to open interests in young minds
- ESE, speech, etc...(early intervention)
- Become the pinnacle of education for our youth...people will move here if you give their children AI Teachers
- More specialized programs
- Socio-emotional Development
- Think
- The student needs more
- Principle
- Support
- Teacher
- Progress
- I think that regardless of school size we should strive to offer the broadest spectrum of services possible to reflect the needs of our diverse communities
- Schools like Gulf Beaches Elem. Small community environment, introducing a safe, supportive environment to instill a love of learning
- Fun, action, joy in learning, innovation in what works
- Mental health services
- Classroom teacher support personnel
- Provide as much explicit literacy + phonics instruction as possible. Our children need the support.
- Art & Music (2 noted)
- Models that allow children to move, engage with others + not “stay in their seats” all day. (All grade levels)
- Fundamental policies
- Parent engagement (2 noted)
- Specialized academic support for SLD in reading
- Access to more athletics + health education
- Hands-on – less screens
- Close to home
- Teacher retention
- Same teacher for more than one year
- Having a sense of family + connectedness
- Teacher/student ratios that allow individualized teaching/learning. (2 noted)
- Proper Accommodations for Students w/ADHD

- Great community support
- Small schools
- Resources & support to address various student needs.
- What is Pinellas County School district doing to help/promote families to our area?
- Accessible leadership
- Supportive services, counselor etc...
- Adult only active threat drills
- MORE Communication to parents, communities, staff
- We want more engagement across the board
- Creating smaller K-8 schools with great teachers a that are maintained each year after year.
- Calm down corner as opposed to time outs for regulation
- Community Partners and more opportunities for field trips and experiences outside the school house.
- Relatable teachers, inviting, open, welcoming. Clubs academic and entertainment. Positive environment. Families and generations buy in and a part of it.
- With many students on waiting lists for magnet & fundamental, offer more for thoes families.
- Support Staff for “younger grades” PreK, Kindergarten, 1st grade
- Teacher assistants for large class sizes
- In class assistance for ESE students to be able to participate in Gen Ed class settings.
- OT, Speech, MBA, for full ESE classes.
- Reducing class sizes for 2nd-5th grade
- Funding for classroom essentials + supplies
- Repairs to buildings + classrooms – including staff, janitorial + grounds-keeping.
 - Our PE Teachers at Azalea Elementary perform grounds-keeping duties before, during + after school.
- Support Staff Pay Increases \$15.00 an hour is barely liveable wage + often forces people in these positions to hold multiple positions or seek 2nd + 3rd jobs.
- After School Care programs/day care, tutoring, etc.
 - YMCA does this at our school.

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- Behavior supports are important in order to meet student needs.
- General education students often lose learning time due to other student's behavior or unique needs
- Stronger anti-bully policies. “Start with Hello” week in not enough!!!
- Safe, great teachers, respectful students, current families are excited to be part of the community, educational opportunities for students, extra curricular opportunities
- Receptive + Responsive + Present Principal, school culture + values, teacher average tenure (tells me if they are happy here), location, quality of curriculum
- Dedicated staff & admin, options for student interests, community support
- Support Public schools – more, Backpack full of cash – model, public school – Union City New Jersey
- Music – jazz programs, meet student & community needs
- Need affordable housing for couples to have more children
- Engaging – exciting interesting curriculum that meets life needs such as Finance – Automotive etc.
- Montessori method pacing scale at students pace – everyone successful – correct mistakes recover
- Better pay for teachers
- Programs, quality of education, teachers, extracurriculars & after school activities, safety
- High quality teachers, technology + supplies, field trips, sports, arts, robotics, engaging student activities, competitions, college/career prep
- Student support – tutoring, counseling, parent support – communication w/administrators & teachers
- Programs that meet the needs of the workforce (currently & in yrs. to come)
- Essential for a school to thrive
- When choosing a school, I'm looking for arts and STEM offerings
- I strongly urge PCSB to do what they can to prevent charter schools from cohabiting with PCS students.
- Student supports, extra-curricular or school events, parent involvement opportunities, special school programming
- Keeping music and art in elementary schools
- Happy quality teachers, strong community in + around the schools
- No specific religion in the classroom

- Strong, positive culture with opportunity for parent involvement
- Please keep the Arts as a priority component of the curriculum – enhancing cognitive skills, creativity + innovation
- Small specialty schools – special needs, creative curriculum, arts – performing + visual
- Well-rounded education – including arts, PE/Recess, gifted, ESE services
- Support teachers, Resolve poverty, social safety net, stop abuse of power, living communities that support humanity
- Small class sizes, present + visible guidance counselor, true to history curriculum (take the politics out of it!)
- Women will have fewer children without a positive vision for the future
- Specialized programs for students that are high functioning on the Autistic Spectrum

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- Fundamental school mentality @ All schools, mandatory parent involvement.
- Small class sizes, extra curricular opportunities for all students – add more K-2 opportunities, consider club sports and just have local events w/nearby schools, Focused opportunities w/school events for families to get together in an academic/social way
- As a prior private school parent, I look for restricted technology. Elementary should be writing, reading paper, using hands.
- Quality education and proximity to homes
- More mental health support, staff
- Variety of programs to engage students at all levels. Ex. Sports at elementary level to build to higher grades. Keep teacher/student ratio low.
- Trained teachers, literacy professionals, provide programs that engage students
- Safety, education, programs, extracurricular
- Family involvement
- Programs to bring every student up to grade level
- Teachers need supplies to be supplied from the districts, not them or families
- Replacing support staff when they leave the school and not just cutting the job for others to pick up the extra work.
- Low student/teacher ratio, leverage, but don't depend on technology, focus on both academics, creativity, & social behavior
- Pk-1 should be blowing bubbles Not filling in for testing
- Keep the Arts + Arts integration model! Our school went from a D to A in 4 short years!
- Expand gifted programming
- Catch students early who struggle/can't read.
- Academic programming – gifted, support – speech therapy, extra curricular – sports, music, Art
- Safety, a principle that has control over what is acceptable and what is not sets the expectation for safety & inclusivity! Social & emotional support from all faculty & students.
- After school programs (STEM, dual language, environment/outdoor learning for additional cost) Possibly older student led? (possible sliding scale?)
- Dual language immersion beyond Spanish
- More Dual Language schools or K-8 dual language immersion school
- Teachers and staff who are Happy, well paid, and care for the students. Applies to All Schools
- When a school has 8 ASD unites, +500 other students, giving ASD more support than 1 Behavior Specialist.
- Less Testing + more in class writing
- Arts education is essential for all students, Community voted for this via referendum, Elem – Visual + Music for all students, Secondary – comprehensive classes
- More support for students who are struggling
- Educational Path options: Gifted Program, Reading, Arts, IB, etc. Variety of educational programs
- Please adopt an actual social studies curriculum for elementary
- Arts programs, Special needs programs to accommodate population, continue Title 1/ERELM programs for struggling readers
- Equity in class sizes to manage students, some classes are large over 20+ while others are less 15, student behaviors – we need support for teachers who have students who are disrupting the learning of others – no support from admin. those student are not being removed + blame for behavior is falling back

on teachers.

- Family Involvement + accountability is so important. It works at Tarpon Fundamental.
- Parent Involvement, great staff
- The SLD student have left to parent choice, Public school trying to standardize and “science of bla bla” is why
- Support for children with needs at each Elem school. Sensory, behavioral, etc.
- Teachers need more autonomy on how to teach, build more relationship based model will allow child to feel safe to learn and fail. Too much control from district or state.
- Internal climate surveys 1-2x's a year. They are in the classroom - teachers will have the best data climate – also surveys from the students.
- Should learn more from charter schools while they have more enrollments & gain more popularity.
- Full time interventionists in every school
- Parents need support on how to support tech based learning canvas, Focus, Clever. There isn't much cohesiveness
- Staffed to meet the students + staff needs, Acceleration options, Safe + supportive environment, Strong leadership
- I think staffing (and within that proper supports for student needs) and academic programming make for a thriving school. Specifically school w/in school models w/additional supports w/neighborhood. PreK (early childhood schooling)-6 – elementary, 7-9 (most sup w/academic choice) – middle, 10-12 high more specialized schools
- Meet the needs of students of all levels and abilities.
- Smaller class sizes, after school clubs, before/after care opportunities, teacher effectiveness, school leadership = positive + innovative

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- Hi! Thanks for asking for input. My son has attended a Christian School, a Catholic School and now a Public Middle. The private schools are smaller, staff participate in additional tasks. It is more streamlined. That is a good option for smaller schools if schools need to downsize. I'm also ok with absorbing middle schools into elem + highs – may be K-6 + 7-12? Like Germany? More focus on technical or college career offer basics. 727-XXX-XXXX Thanks!
- Need less focus on upper grades due to them being tested and more focus on primary grades + reading success. Plus the holes early! (need staff for that)
- Don't need so much focus on passing tests. School grades do not equate to good schools.
- Need happy teachers which leads to...happy students, engaging curriculum which leads to...students who love learning trusting teachers as professionals, paying teachers well to recruit strong candidates
- Reading intervention, social emotional support/curriculum built into daily class instruction, school wide enrichment model (Ridgecrest Elem)
- Extra-curricular activities are important to maintain so students can have access to different opportunities
- Staff to ensure students can actually read on grade level before advancing (vs. standardized testing only)
- Lower student-to-teacher ratio especially K-2
- Teacher assistants especially K-2
- Extra curricular offerings
- Give principals more authority over decisions impacting their schools. Specifically related to staff. GBEMS – Mr. Kalach need more authority related to staff.
- Gulf Beaches dedicated teaching staff performs and serves all children in all aspects. (dedicated teachers)
- Gulf Beaches does not have an assistant principal, social worker, or magnet coordinator and has maintained an “A”. Let's eliminate these positions at other schools to save \$. (2)
- Early, high-quality (w/fidelity) interventions for young ESE students. Lower ESE student to staff ratio.
- Teacher assistants in elementary school to help out kids that are struggling so they can stay with their peer.
- There should be programs of all levels. There needs to be a community feel to all schools, relationships built with kids + families
- Supporting our most struggling students ie- smaller class sizes/lower teacher:student ratio, intervention teachers, add'l student svcs ppl to support unique needs
- Small schools do not have additional staff the staff wear multiple hats. Eliminate extra positions and require people to do more.

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- Free B4 & After childcare with home work help & organized physical exercise & optional team activities. Fun but not competitive.
- After school programs that do not have additional costs, like gardening, lego building, this is for elementary schools
- More Early Childhood at same location, educational/childcare – meet them where they are.
- After school team activities Track/Cheer/Gymnastics/soccer all non-competitive & flexible teams other sports too
- Best practices were and should be best practices. Quit jumping on the latest band-wagon with our children.
- Technical skills enhancement
- K-5 – emotional support for “big” transitions, after school events/sports, school events (Midtown Academy is a great ex)
- During and both after school. Music/Lessons/singing/chorus/clay pottery/ painting, theatre, crafts—Jewelry
- High adult to student ratio. This allows for flexibility in delivery of instruction& intra-grade level intervention is important Yes!!
- Supplemental food support hungry kids cannot learn!
- Support arts, music, extra-curricular activities
- Essential for school to thrive: staffing model student to teacher ratio, extra-curricular Arts+ Music!
- Support from district, safety, culture, good education, community
- Parent/teacher portals for open communication, parent/teacher support, heavy student involvement
- Parental involvement consistently & continually
- Midtown Academy needs shade for the playground. It is too hot
- After school academic support. Lots of parents are working extra hours to support rising cost of living and students are falling behind
- More VPK3 and VPK4 Yes!!
- Free school lunches for all

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

THRIVING SCHOOLS MIDDLE GRADES

What do you think are the essential components for a school to thrive and meet student needs?

Provide specifics regarding academic programming, supports, staffing mode, extra-curricular or athletic opportunities, etc.

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- K-8 or prep classes for Middle School during 5th grade
- Classes or Teachers that provide this for elementary students.
- Contingency plans for teaching in case like COVID.
*Our child/student finished 5th grade at beginning of COVID, did virtual Learning 6th Grade (Great jobs by Teachers!)
- “Began Middle School” as a 7th grader in person- that was a huge transition.
- Support for Teachers + Staff in instance like above.
- Middle Schools need a larger Counseling Department or Staffing. This is an awkward some times difficult transition for young adults.
- Full communication between Teachers + Staff w/parents → Everyone being on the same page.
- Classes or Programs around Mental Health, + removing stigma from needing or asking for help.
- Let young adults/students not feel pressured or rushed into taking AP courses in 7th or 8th grade.
- More clubs or real athletic teams on the middle school level.
- Mentor Programs (I know we have them – but maybe a community partnership)
- Class for Parents or Program to attend to prepare for choosing High School students want to attend.
- Explain the “lottery” model. How it’s done, based on zoning, demographics, or economics. Not fully convinced all students are given the opportunity to attend “better” or higher performing schools outside of their direct communities.
- Qualified Teachers
- Academic + Arts Education
- Sports Choices
- Community Engagement Opportunities
- Small Class Sizes under 18 students per class
- Move administrators around more often – it seems some Admin are given priority & they need to experience all education aspects from different economic level.
- Socio-emotional education
- Specials
- Smaller classes (2 noted)
- Meeting each student where they are at – WITH THE ALPHA SCHOOL MODEL
- Music, art, sports
- Classroom + w/hands on learning (MS + HS)
- Focus on how to think not what to think – how to organize self + information for success in school + life (AVID seems like a good program)
- Consider neurodiverse schools
- Literacy program for Middle
- A stronger partnership with surrounding trade schools, cosmetology, nursing and Art schools.
- Safety + strong anti-bully stance
- Parental involvement – strong school Innovation (Mangrove desks)
- Active PTA + great staff partnership – sports
- High quality, attentive, happy teachers

- Smooth transition from Elem to Middle School. If schools work together families are more apt to participate

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- Qualified Administrations
- Smaller student bodies for better behavior management
- Sports, Clubs, extras
- Support for thriving arts programs
- For a school to thrive, they need support from staff, district + families. There should be availability for adequate staff to handle all situations @ the school.
- To look at unit allocations + class sizes, especially in schools with multiple ESE units. Class size at 25-30 arent conducive to learning
- Quality teachers, high quality adm
- A strong admin team that supports their staff + needs when it comes to discipline
- The legislative needs to work cooperatively with communities and create laws that support them. Ex. Singagapore
- Do not allow history to be revised - let parents know if they are trying to do this
- Graduation school with real opportunity for future for each student
- Inadequate tutoring Seminole Middle School – I had 2 students who needed math tutoring. All student were put in ne room for all subject.
- Strong Mentors, Happy teachers, strong behavior support
- Engaged + Happy staff (pay)
- Legislative needs to respond to educators, work collaboratively, cooperate – LWV FL Policy on education, Stop (book end public schools) constant legal battle between private & public
- Students able to explore electives
- Teachers who consistently show up and challenge students to thoughtfully engage with the material, scaffolded learning models so high ability students are challenged & not given busy work, fun extracurriculars in the art & athletics Middle + High Sch
- K-8 Leadership to be community “friendly” – friendly but safe enviroment – Good + active communication between parents + administration
- Effective behavior specialists
- College advisory staff
- Some more supports when it comes to resources + materials in Mid Science. We did not purchase new curriculum
- No specific Religion in the classroom
- We rely on transportation for MS/S/ES magnet programs to south county please keep it!
- Internships – integrating academic learning with hands – on learning, small school alternative learning, integrate students in to the community – building connectivity

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- Bring every student up to grade level, Extracurricular
- Programs + teachers that push kids, our honors curriculum needs more creativity, gifted @ middle is IB w/gift sprinkled not gifted
- Meaning Ful consequences for misbehavior – not a one-size fits all.
- Strong supportive ratio of support staff for alternative students
- Smaller classes!, more academic/behavioral support, more school counselors, more programs starting in middle school (ie: medical at PHMS)
- Student Needs: small class sizes, Extra Curriculars, Quality teachers, curriculum options.
- GATI, SEM Clusters, but more often and better schedules, more marketing, a plan to plan get different companies to come in
- More Real Life Field Trips
- Academic programming – Elective options that are diversified – technical, career, STEAM, Extra curricula – sports, art music
- Continue Magnet Programs – survey students what they would like
- Athletic opportunities, small school
- Transportation assistance to them
- Smaller class sizes to mitigate maturity issues, Dynamic schedule opportunities that blend academics and student interest or supports, Current MS method isn’t truly allowing studets exploration opportunities

- Provide more counselors
- Do not standardize SLD because SLD student have OPT is why Pinellas as “A” schools
- Safety, Education, Programs, Extra Curricular
- More mental health support staff
- Offer magnet programs for middle school

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- More counselors
- Daily interest period (like Morgan Fitzgerald M.S.)
- Look at thriving elementaries, they have active parents and PTA's, how can we keep that going in middle schools.
- Extra-curricular opportunities, robust elective options, athletics, staffing model that provides enrichment & intervention
- More staffing to assist teachers in classrooms and put more adult eyes in hallways. Also, more staffing for small group teaching in middle schools.
- Student services – emotional support like therapists and mentors, crisis centers for mental health issues
- Better electives & sports
- More after school programs, sport, extra-curricular activities
- More tutoring before + after school. Even if it is supervised student to student

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- Magnet programs, clubs, support staff
- Diversity!
- Sense of Community + Social Support!
- Parental Involvement
- Free B4 & After childcare with homework help & organized, physical exercise & optional team activities fun but not competitive
- Clubs, support for music & arts, support services for students
- Athletic opportunities non-competitive for elementary age (ie run club), competitive (middle- H.S.), After school Academic support/tutoring
- Widest variety of Academic choices as possible to be as competitive as some private schools.
- Smaller teacher to student ratio when possible
- Schools that teach empathy skills! And help kids builds – connect as intellectual cultural understanding individuals
- Home Economics – cooking/sewing, shopping, menu planning, budgeting, shop – how do things work/make & fix.
- More stress reduction training to assist with behavior issues
- After school team activities, track/cheer/gymnastics/soccer, basketball, all non-competitive & flexible teams.
- During and/or after school music/lessons/singing, chorus, theatre, painting, crafts, clay/pottery, jewelry
- Sports, clubs, outside activities to assist in engagement to get kids to come to school.
- Higher teacher ratio – middle schoolers need more adults
- Career prep discussions, shadowing opps, matching interests w/careers

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

THRIVING SCHOOLS HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

What do you think are the essential components for a school to thrive and meet student needs?

Provide specifics regarding academic programming, supports, staffing mode, extra-curricular or athletic opportunities, etc.

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11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- More counselors – too many kids for 3 to 4 counselors on the High School Level. Especially for Juniors and Seniors
- ESE Support – Classes and staffing
- Block Scheduling proved to be a favorable alternative last year during/after the Hurricanes OFHS Students , parent, and teachers preferred this over 7 period classes 5 days a week. Example – Some students are taking 4-5 AP or college level courses in 1 day – work load. Adding homework in all classes after.
- Moving Early College classes on campus instead of at college. *Let 16 year old high school students finish out high school w/their peers on campus.
- Funding for Arts Programs at least equal to Sports programs
- More emphasis on Arts and Tech Programs
- Stop Banning books and curriculum. Keep teaching real and proven, fact based history. Keep religion out of public schools and classrooms unless all are welcome and observed.
- Update the mental health lesson and ask kids from SR&R to help because these lessons are very unengaging for both students and teachers.

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- Important teach ALL history, stop banning books
- Keep high school program diversity even at the cost of extracurriculars, parents will choose based on all offerings
- College advisory staff
- Essentials, sports/athletics, transportation, data, personnel enthusiastic vision
- No specific religion in the classroom
- Art, music, the curriculum should not be determined by the religious beliefs of legislators
- High quality teachers
- Teachers as tutors in specific subjects before and after school
- Challenging course work, strong teachers, variety of extracurriculars
- Combine 2 high schools, open another fundamental high
- Dual Enrollment housed in + on school campus – our staff teaching
- Options for learning – tech track, college track, entrepreneur track
- Large H.S. (9-12, 7-12), Shared facilities, shared specialists (one stadium, auditorium, etc.)
- Are schools (H.S./M.S.) w/over 2,000 students more successful than four schools w/500 each? Success? Cost?
- Art and Music are important
- Being able to compete on national level for top universities
- Program equity – N, Mid, S
- Adequate staffing
- More trade schools – electrical, plumbing, mechanical, technical, feeding into the jobs current + into future trends
- Quality teachers
- Fight back against revising history

- Sports, clubs, extras
- Keep middle + High schools larger to preserve the diversity of course offerings
- Weighted grade curriculum
- More elective at middle + high
- Strong admin & support staff
- More magnet based, teachers who care and are wordly in the subjects they teach
- Support from admin and district Not micromanagement, decent/effective trainings, behavior support

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- Programs that will allow all students to thrive even if they have IEPs. Not all programs are inclusive!
- Dunedin H.S. - would like to see increased support/funding for NJROTC Program
- Dunedin H.S. Kudos – Excellent leadership, supportive environment, diversity of programs, principal K. is incredible
- Extracurriculars: Music, Art, STEM, Athletics, Transportation assistance for extracurriculars
- Magnet programs
- Additional early-colleges offerings or campuses
- Provide real-life training. Teach more civics, Provide more counselors, offer college/credit courses
- Wide variety of AP courses AND on campus dual enrollment
- OT type services, Brian Breaks Therapy, Sensory room. So many get dysregulated do not know the skills to self soothe
- Smaller school environment, real life opportunities, hands on
- Career-tech, academies – healthcare (nursing, tech, trades)
- High school needs to offer programs + curriculum that will make student a competitive college applicant.
*More AP classes if not IB or Cambridge
- Tarpon: to actually teach the Vet program. Dissect animals open back up the surgical area, take it back from the weight room. Stoop teaching Vet from Worksheets and videos. This is a hands on career.
- No demonizing college, or majors not in making money (music, arts, etc), have options to help enter trades, help with career transition
- More mental wealth support, staff
- Parent/student/school partnerships, it's great all the programs and extras offered @ high & middle school level but the bigger schools lose the abilities to communicate & support
- FFA: needs to be for all ages not just for the senior class. Younger kids can learn @ a younger age. Tarpon
- Proper staffing levels to meet all students' needs, blend of extracurriculars athletic opportunities for interests (art, STEM, track)
- Athletics: Better transportation, add student Fan bus
- Additional Early college partnerships w/local colleges (USF, etc)
- Wide variety of courses/electives, trade schools *partner w/colleges/universities
- Provide real vocational experiences, auto mechanics, police academy
- Athletic opportunities, small school
- Academic program opportunities, more teacher lead in developing how to reinforce learning, too much control it seems with current model and so many teachers are unhappy and losing the talent, project learning, field trips to business, real world connection, speakers coming in, monitors, volunteers, etc.
- ESE – self-contained classroom, small class size, strong academic supports
- Athletic opportunities, swimming – great for sensory, heart health, team building, tennis, baseball is coming back big, flag football boys/girls, safer and gaining popularity, basketball, soccer, hockey
- What is essential to thrive to meet the students needs, social – debate programs, group projects, Arts programs, planning, performing, sports, athletics, Recess, PE, emotional – school psy on site, support anxiety, depression, pressure of male & female performance, social, home, physical – not all schools have Recess, PE is only.
- DHMS an elective in our school. We needed to choose executive Function (AVID) support over physical. We need both, Art was another one we chose for emotional support. Can't try many electives the whole year – only two.
- Staffing model, teacher's aide this really helped with the quality of life for the teachers & more focus on what the students needed additional support also allow more volunteers in class to help teachers, the teachers are either afraid to let volunteers to come in or it isn't encouraged
- Academic rigor, experiential opportunities JOH for High schools/middle *parental involvement

- Don't loose the Vet program at Tarpon
- If we are a one to one device school – why can't my students get devices? We need to have accountability for missing laptops and backups!
- Pool: ground breaking 2016 where is the pool in Tarpon? Could be used for several schools!
- Academic opportunities that support real world needs. Not just trade schools but practical/real applications to life and studies. Maintain clubs/athletics/extracurriculars, Look @ opening more seats for high demand programs
- We need more magnet trade programs & we need to push them to middle school families
- For a school to thrive we need to meet the needs of all stakeholders – staff, students, parents, and local businesses near the schools. We also want to do more than the needs – we need to inspire the future – our students in cooperation with our community – preparing for future jobs and lifestyles. We can do this by providing innovative and forward thinking courses. We battle with continuing to meet the state required subjects and courses that help remediate those students who struggle with the minimum requirements. So we must maintain energetic staff and provide an environment that is comforting to those who are not “yet” there. Providing support with ESE, ELL and federal requirements is also essential. We do not need a new program for this, but pure caring support. This means enforcing the rules the board has set but also providing extra counseling and social workers to help the complexities of the various learners. If the secondary teacher lacks these supports the burnout is increased. So then we need more support for the teacher Who is invested in all students needs. Secondary is difficult for the student & teacher if the student struggles with a purpose for school so we need support to provide AVID strategies – Language support for the various languages. If a teacher wants to invest in a creative course that students want – we need administration to support – Do not prevent teachers from growing to other courses to teach. But also not – surprise – your it – quick do this

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- All schools do not have to be the same
- There needs to be equitable funding across schools. Some schools have access to a lot of “outside” money
- Dear Board & Superintendent, I foresee a demographic fiscal change coming to the district. This Bard has been spending money and getting lesser results. I'd like to see the total contraction of your Administrative \$ Union industrial complex. Get out of social work.
- The part is over folks. Good luck, Daniel Amend
- Strong school-home communication/connection, smaller class size, lots of Family/volunteer engagement opps (equitable), lots of opps for individualized instruction, transparent leadership, commitment to healthy policies (physical activity, nutrition, social-emotional), safe outdoor space, reading specialists, support for staff, teacher pay
- Class sizes less then 20 kids. If not possible, teacher aids
- Need for alternative schools so every school can act as a fundamental school
- Smaller teacher to student ration
- Thriving high schools consist of programs that are beneficial to the community, techical trainings, intro college level programs
- Thriving high & middle schools should not have large population of student crowding does not produce productive classrooms
- To meet student needs, a school need a full staff: highly qualified teachers, ESE teachers, support staff, office staff – full
- More options in courses
- More autonomy for schools/less district oversight
- Safety is the most important thing – Staffing needs to realistic.
- More electives, more counselors
- Look at sport sponsors like colleges get for sports programs to bring in additional funding

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- During and/or after school Music/Lessons/Practice
- Home Economics cooking/sewing, shopping, menu planning, budgeting, Shop – how do things work/make/fix
- More stress reduction training, to assist with behavior issues
- Shadowing/mentoring w/local companies
- These meeting should held locally due jobs + traffic. This was great.
- If schools combine, how will staffing be determined – seniority only? Performance? Will host school be given preference to keep staff already employed ahead of school joining the established school?
- More electives
- Parental Involvement, Safety (Emotional + physical), Social support, NOT SO MUCH emphasis on Testing!, more teacher to student ratio, Diversity
- More ways to participate in any arts programs & sports activities – we can't all be great!
- If staff reductions ultimately come from this, will efforts be made to offer affected staff other positions they are qualified for?
- School that has financial literacy education that teach/guide students toward managing, understanding finance + how it works in real world.
- Technical programs that students can get certified in skilled trades
- A school that gives a well-rounded growth opportunity for students in all areas: academic, sprout, clubs, community services. All students have the chance to participate in extracurricular sports activities. Strong academic background of teachers
- Vocational/trade opportunities for high schools
- Culturally enriching classes, more trades, Role Model that is inviting, Class where the students resolve conflicts
- Learning area is not great because the cost of living is much higher elsewhere
- Larger schools with more student class choice + extra curricular/athletic choice like lacrosse, swim
- If land is closed, housing is affordable to all, not some 2. Schools that offer counseling + programs that offer real programs for financial literacy 3. Class that offer real-world solutions
- Have administration that help resolve conflict + not play both sides, Ask the student what they want to see. Ask them what they would want to see happen.
- Lakewood High should stay the same because kids won't get the great teaching that they are getting at LHS.

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

SCHOOL CHOICE

What are the most important factors to you in choosing a school?

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- Safety and neighborhood
- Academic reputation
- Welcoming staff (2 noted)
- Quality specials
- School spirit and parental involvement
- Programs
- Background of leadership
- Classroom sizes
- Sports
- Counselors
- Psychologist
- Real mental therapy
- Proximity to home
- Screens
- Testing
- Adult only active threat drills
- Student / teacher ratio
- Location (5 noted)
- Programs
- School Grade (3 noted)
- School Size (2 noted)
- Extra-curricular
- Athletics
- First impressions
- Interactions of the people
- Active PTA willing to do things differently not the way things used to be.
- Taking allocated public money and going to an AI based school model.
- Free play time
- Outdoor play time
- Same teacher for more than one year
- Foreign language
- Arts (2 noted)
- Music programs
- Diversity of offerings (classes)
- Ability for individual learning and support for students.
- Ease of access
- New programs / learning as they come up – change as needed.
- Quality of education (2 noted)
- Diversity all around students and staff
- More support for small schools.
- Woodlawn needs help with an attractive
- I choose different schools for different kids based on interest – Sanderlin and Perkins
- People
- Honestly, I wish there was more focus on good community schools and less complexity about choice. I understand the need for crossing socioeconomic boundaries but maybe use zoning for that.

- Family and community involvement
- Needing to make a choice means some figure they may as well choose private.
- At ES level: programming that parent thinks will be interesting to their child.
- At MS and especially HS level: programming that is interesting to the kids.

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- Demographics, school grades, Safe learning environment, programs & offerings, teachers being supported/volunteers
- Community is important for our kids. How will this be maintained?
- Academic excellence with strong/positive behavior for students
- Well rounded education – including arts, PE/Recess, gifted, ESE services
- Extra curricular activities, after school clubs (both academic & athletic)
- Academic programs such as center for Gifted Studies
- Really like interest period at Morgan Fitzgerald Middle
- The most important factor in my school choosing include academic quality, strong programs, safety.
- If a student start a DAP program in 9th grade they should be able to finish the program before it's closed.
- The education level and additional certifications for teachers, for example gifted teachers or IB World School Teachers.
- Academic Programing that meets needs in the future, Communication-Teacher-Parent, Parent-Teacher, Extra-curricular activities, Exceptional teachers retain
- Close to home/neighborhood school
- Proximity, strong teachers, challenging coursework (AP)
- Location: Community schools + student progressing together
- Enrichment, staffing, behavior plans
- Highly qualified/effective educators, strong leadership/admin, great family involvement
- Diversity of learning experiences/voices – providing doors & windows of learning for student to see the world outside of themselves
- Choosing school – how good the students do academically
- Location, Rank, Leadership
- Teachers that have stayed at that school! There is a reason they stay!
- High-interest programs, great teachers, attractive environment
- Academics (CGS), safety / the neighborhood, school climate, field trips, teachers, extra-curricular
- The community feel from staff that they will actually CHOOSE the children to help them be their best selves. Be their support away from home. Also, what do they offer that my child is interested in
- Academics, student body, teaching staff, extra curricular arts/theater, world exposure
- Strong, positive culture, opportunities for parent involvement on campus
- Teachers with established relationships with community
- Smaller class size, smaller environment to create “family” or intimate feel to encourage those relationships
- Support the repeal of co-location of Hope Schools in PCSB
- Admin & staff & community perception
- The only way to attract more families with young children is to have new-er housing that can compete with prices families are paying to purchase a home in Pasco or Polk County. Housing prices are driving families away from Pinellas
- Overall school culture and support from students. A school with lots of family involvement and support

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- Magnet programs – survey student interests
- Cut admin and compete for student homeschooler will pay for a good teacher. Homeschooler parent choice will end public school. P.S. need to end their practice that don't work.
- What is the consensus in the community about student behaviors – fewer disruptions are viewed more positively. Ae disruptions addressed effectively.
- Community
- High performing academics, Community feel. Is the school population also a part of the surrounding community, Great staff that is visible in community
- Overall school rating/grade, School size (small), Average student:teacher ration
- Track record with academics, Behaviors – are they under control, Demographics, Programs available to enrich experience

- Safety, Quality Educators, Student interests
- Class size, location, Academic programs offered
- Teacher quality, diverse population
- STATS: are incorrect, the Step Up Act. Parent choice is booming. No lost of kids from birth lost from Not choosing public school
- Smaller Community Feel, Excellent teachers + staff who are invested in their students success, Safety
- Safety + class size
- Proximity to home and grade of the school
- A blend of strong academic support along with a feeling of community within the school (students, staff, family involvement)
- Excellence in all areas, including comprehensive arts programs. These programs set PCS apart!
- Community feeling, great staff, approachable admins, magnet programs
- ESE availability
- STEM/STEAM, Robotics/AI focus school
- No Hope Charters. Be specific so we can avoid this. We will think of something the community needs
- Keep HS class sizes small with supports in place for struggling students
- Academic opportunities for advanced students
- Voucher system is wrong/unethical, If private/public partnership is needed, keep it with non-profits. Private schools should not profit off of public school infrasture, unless there is a profit share program
- Meeting students interests + Educational needs!!! Kind, care, low turnaround!
- I look at building amenities and age, school ratings, extra curriculars and curriculum offered
- Programming available, staff/student relationships
- Teacher experience and low turnaround
- Student supports meets their academic needs appropriately (high or low)
- Programming, DAP programs
- # students, student/teacher ratio, class offerings
- School grade rating, good teachers, FUN family involvement, Kind kids, good administrators, Sutherland lacks 3 & 5
- North/mid/South county options for programs. Not just North & South.
- "Hands-on" learning opportunities for students who may not thrive in a traditional classroom.

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- Feeling inviting, community oriented. Kids want to be there, learning is fun! Not just scripted from a book.
- Choice programs but specifically family oriented magnet programs, language immersion, teachers who are empowered + supported.
- Quality Education, proximity
- I like programs that interest kids. The absolute most important thing is are my kids safe. Parents really worry about that especially moving into middle
- That funding does not go to private vouchers or charter
- Child care, Rclub. location, traffic
- I like school choice. My kid is zone for Osceola MS ad he was able to go to the CAP program at Azaela MS, which was helpful for his 2 family household. School in btwn both houses.
- District application programs – student interests
- The programs that are offered
- Magnet programs, electives, administrators
- The students & families are engaged with the school community
- Options to fit diverse population yet feel like a community
- Imp when choosing a school? Program offerings, safety, strong teachers & administrators
- School choice is key for 2 households (ie divorced parents) being able to choose a school in between both houses
- All staff engagement within the building
- Choosing a school based on grade, Quality education and culture. GBEMS has an amazing culture. Great staff (when the principle has autmonty to choose them)
- Continue magnet and fundamental with before and after care options for working families.
- Opportunities for students they usually wouldn't have in their day to day lives
- Most important factor in choosing is proximity to my house. I like my kids to ride bikes. I do not want to be in a care circle 2x everyday.

- R'Club, Transportation, Class sizes, Program offerings
- My kid is in the 7th grade (Azeala MS) Again, two family household we hope we can choose a H.S. in between both houses.
- Small class sizes/low ESE stud to staff ration, Variety of extra-curriculars, High quality staff, Diverse school population
- Staff # + ability to support every student + meet their needs
- Block schedule
- Program offers, discipline

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- Parent engagement throughout the year.
- Safety, programs
- Safety, class sizes, caring staff
- Academic programs/excellence, robust extra-curricular activities (art, music, sports)
- The most important in choosing a school is that it's a good fit for my child! Excellent staff, dedicated administrative team.
- Gulf Beaches Elementary, #1 Safety, #2 Good education/Teachers, #3 Culture, #4 Consistency
- Most important Factor in choosing schools: 1. Ranking (A school), 2. Resources (programs/IEPs/driving reading/math/science), 3. Diversity of the student body
- Safety for staff and students
- School grade, Safety, Representation
- Safety, Caring staff
- School Choice Schools should have VPK3 and VPK4 makes it easier for families
- Safety, programs (specialized), grade, excellence, Teacher capacity
- Effective discipline programs to keep students safe from conflicts or misbehaved students.
- Smaller teacher to students makes it easier to create a learning environment.
- Instructional + uninstructional that are concerned and prepared to take on the many concerns of students and parents
- Small class size so students get more attention per the original class-size amendment
- What are we doing to stop predatory charter schools?
- Academics, #1 Safety, Community, Social Support, Parental Involvement
- Most important factor is the extras like magnet programs
- Safety, lots of loving adults

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

GRADE CONFIGURATIONS

E.G., BIRTH-GRADE 2, K-5, K-8, 6-8, 9-12, ETC.

What grade configurations are you most interested in seeing in your community? Why?

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- K-8 – Gulf Beaches ES kids choose to leave at 4th grade afraid to attend feeder school Tyrone. Keep K-5 at Gulf Beaches ES, convert Disston Academy to Gulf Beaches MS 6-8. Kids get together be together K-8.
- 6-8 – kids get to stay together, families stay engaged and excited. Families won't leave the district due to middle school fear.
- I love VPK-8 concept for our schools. It creates a learning community that supports them being a toddler to teen years and bring a continuity that will prepare them for growth easier.
- K-6, 7-9, and 10-12
- Reaching the children early – K – 12
- 5-8
- More K-8 options
- K-8, 9-12
- K-6, 7-8, 9-12
- K-8
- Z-VPK, K-8, K-6, 7-9, 10-12
- Grades 3, 4, 5
- Consider 6th grade “centers” w/in middle schools...that's sort of what's at Tyrone, but it's not marketed that way...introduces kids to middle school in a “safe” environment.
- VPK-8 would be ideal
- More K-8 some PK-2, 3-5, 6-8
- K-8 More PreKs
- K-6, 7-12 (worked for me and the small community I grew up in) Depending on building – could cohort for like groups ex: 7-9 10-12
- K-12 sounds most efficient
- Middle school is scary for all. A more K-8 would service families for a longer period, than Pk-5 and 6-8. Walsingham Oaks was a GREAT move!
- K-6, 7-8, 9-12
- Early Childhood Center on the southside – similar to Betty Rey Ivey Center.
- Consider K-6 schools and 7-9 schools with HS being 10-12
- PK-12 if done right w/age spacing and proper oversight. Many private schools achieve this, thus retaining kids, staff, involved parents.

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- More K-8 schools would be a plus, if there have to be school consolidation.
- K-8 Montessori Schools, Fundamental Schools, All successful at their need & place.
- K-6, 7-9, 10-12, split sessions
- More K-8 schools including the entire community in planning – north, mid, south county, Prototype K-12 school
- Have early childhood/preschool centers from 6 months (or younger) to 4yr old.
- More K-8 Fundamental Schools
- K-8 would be a great idea to expand to. It would allow the middle school age kids to continue in an environment they are already familiar with and may cut down on behavior issues that we see daily.
- K-8 is appropriate with smaller student population
- K-8, 9-Pre-College, 9-12 + Vocational Programs
- Combine smaller elementary schools. Sell for a commercial property/multi-housing/residential

- K-6, 7-12
- 6-12 campus for magnet programs where middle schools feed high schools ie – TSMS + TSHS
- Birth-5th grade
- Birth to 2nd, 3rd to 8th, create sister schools – 2 principals & share one AP
- K-8 or maybe 6-12 but put feeder magnets together. Similar to ELMS + ELHS
- Affordable/free high quality child care would help improve birth rate & resident retention, affordable housing
- Current configuration – K-5, -8, 9-12 or K-8, Staff child care especially 0-2. It's hard nan educator salary
- Birth-PreK in neighborhood schools
- Keep the same grade configurations – K-5, 6-8, 9-12
- Early Child Ed Birth-Pk3
- Phase out 6-8 – K-8 or K-12 allows lasting relationships between students and staff.
- Love the early childhood center idea! Birth – 2nd grade, 3-5 campus's i.e. upper division elem
- Birth – 5th grade, 6th grade w/elem 7+8 w/H.S.
- Birth to 2nd grade
- Birth to 2nd grade option – Childcare costs are part of what is driving families from Pinellas
- K-8 – fundamental if the waitlist is longer than how many students are being accepted, that should tell the Board what community wants.
- K-6, 7-12 schools

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- If changed from current... prefer K-8 over a 6-12 approach. With a size that allows for community feel (how zones are combined). For parents K-8 provides stability in child care where high school students are more trusted independently.
- I like the idea of taking 6th grade out of middle school. I could even see taking 9th out of the same building as 10-12, but still part of high school.
- More K-8. With the layout of the neighborhood and crazy traffic in Pinellas,, consistency in location for families, and thereby family involvement is extremely beneficial.
- VPK3-2nd grade – better younger keep them from the beginning, 3rd grade-7th grade – development better than being exposed to to old, 8th grade (all ready exposed to most things)- 12th grade – learn what they like in a program + specialize.
- K-8 – the shift to 6-8 is rough and in line with social/culture shifts among students
- K-8, 9-12 + dual enrollment w/SPC
- K-8 and 9-12 and offer pre-school at the K-8 schools
- 6-12 for more advanced students to take higher level classes
- I like more K-8. I feel it's less stressful for kids to make such a huge change.
- Bring the college courses for dual enrollment to the school the student is in.
- K-8 Gifted Program, 6-12 Gifted Program
- PreK-2, K-6, 7-9, 10-12
- Birth-grade 2, less transition for young families
- Either more K-8 or small school bands. Birth-2nd – Early Childhood, 3rd-6th – elementary, 7-9 – intermediate/middle, 10-12 – high
- K-8 – K will continue to get smaller bringing other grade will stabilize building
- K-6, 7-9, 10-12
- K-8 is an appealing option to bridge to high school
- PreK-2 – Early Childhood programs throughout county (particularly in low SES areas)
- K-8 (ie dual language, gifted, STEM/Robotics/AI)
- PK-2, 3-6 or 3-8, K-6, 7-8, 7-12
- PrK3-2nd, 3rd-8th, 9th-12th
- 6-12 – So advanced 6/7 graders can take high school level courses earlier – this opens high school schedule for more AP or dual enrollment courses
- K-6 Maturity level close, 7-8 Maturity level close, 9-12 Maturity level close
- K-8, 6-12 or maybe 7-12, K-6
- Option 1: PreK-2, 3-9, 10-12; Option 2: PreK-8, 9-12
- K-8 options through-out the county - As a parent of a KG, I feel the stability would be great.
- ASD – special needs w/trained staff @ all schools or in all areas.
- K-8 grade configuration
- Provide more early education. Provide more reading skills time.

- Combine early child development/care with K-2 to create Infant-2nd grade schools. We did this at the New Directions In Learning Partnership School
- Make Fundamental schools K-8
- Open to adding K-8 option
- Create a school just for 8-9 grade, 6-7th separate from 8-9th, High School 10-12 only
- K-8 option in East Lake. Brook Creek!
- K-8 grade configuration!
- I like the K-8 models and 9-12 should be separate
- PreSchool-2nd, 3rd-6th, 7-9 10-12, Keep options smaller size!

12/4/25 – Hollins HS

- I like the birth-gr. 2 idea because I wonder if PCS could “attract” families to PCS at the childcare level + capture their interest to start kindergarten at the same location of childcare. Especially since highly-rated, price-competitive childcare is so rare to find.
- K-8 would be ok
- Very interested in the K-8 model; or k-7/8-12 when thinking about age and career pathways
- PreK-6th Reduce units from grades k-5, add rooms for preK + sixth 7-9 or 7-12
- Leave high schools alone.
- K-8, 6-12
- Make Gulf Beaches PreK-8 use Diston Academy as the middle school one principal oversees over all, families are still together for all events.
- Pre-K through 8th grade, families pull out of good elementaries as they fear bad reputation middle schools.
- K-8 specifically where older students mentor younger aged students
- K-5 K-8 if population is decreasing make these adjustments work!
- K-8 – would be great I had a kid in 5th grade + another in 8th grade. Then 6th and then 9th. Driving 4 x’s a day was exhausting!!!
- The model I find helpful would be K-2 3-5 6-8
- Early childhood education programs are invaluable Birth-2 programs allow students to receive a continuing of education + exposure to early literacy + numeracy that makes them more likely to be lifelong learners. Big fan of the Birth-2 or birth-5 model!
- I like K to 8. I am wondering if this could help with some of the behavior issues that can happen in middle school.
- Middle school and high school side by side to share resources and enrichment
- K-8 for families that have kids in different grades to avoid kids in families at different schools.
- Birth-2nd could be helpful for families that need childcare for working parents to be able to live within financial means.
- Strong magnets is what keeps families from leaving for charters. Do not make too many K-8 + loose electives + trades. 7-12 model maybe cool. I went to something like that up north.
- K-3 4-8
- K-8 programs are also very cool! Love the community + that allows students to thrive by keeping a stable environment.
- 6-12 options schools allow for advancement & diversity of electives
- If K-8, must have good separation of physical space.
- I like the idea of K-2 or 3-5 centers literacy focused
- K-8 6-12
- K-8 or 1st-8th CGS standalone school, birth-2nd grade w/focus on socialization, gross/fine motor skills early literacy
- K-6, middle schools 7-9, high school 10-12

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- More K-8 and Early Education
- Early childhood – 1st dev, 2nd—6th building blocks, 7th-9th interest refining, 10th-12th trade/career focus
- More childcare centers birth-1 yo
- K-8! And more early education models
- Adding more VPK3 + VPK4 to existing elementary schools
- PreK to 3rd grade, 4th to 8th grade
- I think that the schools should partner with childcare providers maybe partnerships providing early education on campus
- PK-8, PK-6, 7-9
- K-6, 7-9, 10-12
- K-8
- 6-12
- K-8, 9-12
- K-8 but smaller schools with magnet focus (doesn't have to be smaller than 300)
- K-8, 9-12
- I'd love to see K through High school or at least K through 8th grade
- Birth-4 (VPK), K-5, 6-8, 9-12
- I work at Bear Creek ES as the counselor. I have heard many parents say that they wish Bear Creek were a K-8 school. I believe that at our school that could be very successful. This model is a great idea.
- Hi – 5, kindergarten + 1st grade combined classrooms for high kindergarten and low first graders
- K-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12 grade level schools
- Montessori style schools with combined grade levels and classroom assistants. Esp. elementary level

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

SMALL SCHOOL SIZE

E.G. ELEMENTARY LESS THAN 400, MIDDLE LESS THAN 650, HIGH LESS THAN 900

If a small school is important to you, are there things you would be willing to give up in order to keep a small environment?

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11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- NO! Keep everything the same
- Shared sports teams might be an approach – so each small school isn't responsible for all sports. Students at School A are invited to try out for Sport X at School B- vice versa
- Small schools can't offer/have the same resources that larger schools can. Teachers feel surveys are not confidential and scared to be honest b/c of repercussions by admin – small schools give up a lot – more duties, more for students, less for teachers and difficulties w/community support for programming and Great American Teach In, and more!
- Sharing, counseling, resources with other schools.
- Small schools still need resources to support student success Don't take people and hands away.
- More specials and breaks for teachers.
- Small school size could forgo (some) extra-curricular and athletics because focus can be on college prep – workforce prep – or pre- apprenticeship type training
- Middle, high school and upper middle too large 15 students max per class
- Regardless of school size, we should offer the broadest spectrum of services possible so that ALL of our students are served
- Could there be small school grouping approach. It seems like each school / admin is responsible for so many things – more shared resources in a “complex mngr” approach. So the technical stuff is constant but the culture / environmental is more individual.
- Gulf Beaches does not have a A.P. or a guidance counselor, or a magnet coordinator. If we don't have them, save money for the district and eliminate those positions elsewhere.
- Gulf Beaches does not have a library or gym and we thrive and make do, we are small. You can also be larger if staff makes it “feel small”.
- Extra curricular activities. I don't believe small schools.
- Should have to give up staff positions – the need is great for human resources

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- Is not about size. It's about quality. Who are you servicing?
- Combine smaller schools instead of sharing space w/charter schools
- The most important for me in schools is to motivate the children more
- Small School not in favor of
- Don't take anything away
- Keep grade configuration
- Small schools – Less administration
- Parent pay for extra curriculars, donation account for student scholarships – supplies
- Small school – advisory team, teaching team, operations team
- Small school is not so important to me
- Don't keep schools that aren't fully serving students
- Not important. Larger schools: more activity choices
- Small schools are not practical (2 noted)
- Nothing should be given up
- Small Schools, curriculum specialist instead of AP, some (not all) extracurriculars
- Small schools are important. They create a close, family feel
- Keep AP's at all schools.

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- In order to have a small school I would be willing to give up extracurricular activities
- What am I willing to give up for a small school. I already drive both kids to & from school 25+ min 2-4 times a day. Willing to give up stick timelines to academic rigor. I don't mind and prefer material that promotes critical thinking higher level over overload of info
- Small schools are important to my family – at Elem, Middle & High Schools levels. Willing to have smaller programs (arts, sports, etc) in exchange for a small school/family environment
- EAS schools are small due to population and ESE requirements. Need to stay small.
- Less ESE services for a smaller school. Legal Issues, "It's not just a good idea...it's the law"
- Land
- Right size admin staff in small schools
- Close knit community w/familiar staff
- Small school should be a DAP program
- In order to have smaller schools give up transportation and Food/Nutrition
- We are at Tarpon Fundamental currently and absolutely love it! Please don't change it unless its to make it a K-8
- Standard smaller school with shared (sufficient) Admin & Gifted Resources
- Students & Families feel lost in huge schools. They need to feel more personal so we don't continue to lose kids to home school/private/charter.
- Smaller schools should be used for specialized programs. Student focus in an area.

12/4/25 – Hollins HS

- Save on transportation costs, start having students of multi ages ride buses together high school and elementary together on bus, less buses and routes.
- Nothing. Our student deserve creativity + thoughtfulness
- Keep all extra-curricular no matter what. Need well rounded students.
- Large schools are fine, just hire enough teachers
- Gulf Beaches. #1 Beach community has been devastated. I believe we are a beacon in this community. Great program, worried about cuts because of enrollment and community. I want to know specifically what we can do to create and nourish our program, what is the district specifically looking at.
- Trained mental health counselors on staff full time.
- Nothing. Small often equates to better quality instruction, education. + family involvement. Families don't want to be another #.
- Placing schools near locations to draw families to move and stay in place.
- Not a huge fan of smalls schools. Larger schools w/more students & programs gives our students more exposure to diverse communities + opportunities to engage.
- Elementary's should have smaller class sizes with more one on one relationships with their teachers.
- Gulf Beaches Elem has community support, family involvement, funding for digital resources have been cut district wide as a small magnet for digital learning, can we receive funder to increase digital resources to support our innovation program?
- Gulf Beaches – Showcasing our schools is a constant effort! Are we going to be eligible for continuing to support school community?
- Sports
- I would like to see schools of different sizes with families to be able to choose a school that fits their child's need, even out of zone.

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- Expand Bear Creek's ASD program to a center.
- Small school = safe
- Have an AP/Behavior spec. Principal needs to take on more duties not delegate.
- Bear Creek is the only elementary school, south of central, that is not in TZ, not have a magnet or fundamental program
- Smaller schools + smaller classroom sizes
- Also from Bear Creek – Ideas – continuing partnerships + new one, for food pantries, mental health service, parent education: GED, some college course, a real community hub
- Bear Creek Elementary School is a model of how a small school should operate. And we have given up a lot...

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

IDEAS OR CONSIDERATIONS

GENERAL: ACROSS THE DISTRICT

What other ideas or considerations do you have that the district should consider?

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- If combining high schools, make sure to include any programming each has, for instance, if a HS has medical magnet, the magnet moves to the new combo.
- If combining middle schools, make sure to include any programming each has, For instance, if a MS has environmental studies, that magnet moves to the combo.
- If combining schools make sure new school community has some things in common – similar or backgrounds, similar areas. Too much difference in pop. may cause probs + not make school cohesive.
- Look at magnet programming
- Are there any that seem to have declining enrollment/interest? Why? Outdated(no longer applicable) or using too old a curriculum may be eliminated. Ones that aren't as popular anymore, *do not* enlarge. Those that have large wait lists (eliminate underwater basket weaving to increase auto repair)
- Schools can be a hub for the community's needs: clinic, food, clothes. These are things that sometimes prohibit families from thriving. It may change their idea of what schools do
- Make district sports centers for countywide sports, little leagues, kickball, swimming, soccer, football. Let the community use those instead of city parks
- Make public schools more appealing. I've heard more students are seeking private or home schooling. Review other international models that are successful + integrate or change. Kids don't always do well when the have to just "sit" All day – get them moving + interesting with each other with purpose. Allow some "fun".
- What about all the affordable housing being built. Shouldn't this help bringing more children to the county? What is the District doing to help attract families?
- Funding to create magnet at new school
- Bring in an AI curriculum which can adapt to each student. This is a 1-on-1 student tudor model that is scalable
- Adult only active shooter drills
- More hands-on less screens
- Survey of parents + why they choose charters
- Help out new CTSO being formed like DECA at PHUHS with 40+ students
- No neighborhood middle school in far north county (closest is 25 min drive)
- Combine Cypress + Brooker into one K-5 and make other school a neighborhood middle
- Small schools provide a connectedness to community + the scholars it serves. Support them!
- Pivot the curriculum to the Alpha School system. They are eating your lunch!!!
- If you choose not to adapt to the new AI tudor model all schools will close or be taken over.
- Tyrone is piloting a food a pantry...any way to bring community in.
- Offer specialized classes for adults at school pro spaces

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- LWVNPC has a lot of research and solutions to poverty, Hillsborough County League has a lot of research on Charter Schools. Schools, students and community need to be supported with social safety net and physical & mental health
- Support teachers (American Teacher more), Move backpack full of cash model public school Union City New Jersey very successful
- Schools don't fail – children learn and evolve at their level and pace. All are successful – (Montessori method excite, engage - success)
- Pacing schedules to children can learn at their pace with rigor, excite the child allow them to move around - Universal pre-K – Everyone successful (Montessori)

- Cooperation & care vs. Competition in success
- Keep families informed. No one should be caught by surprise. Schools directly impacted should know what they are facing.
- More STEM – Computer offerings located equally throughout the county
- The idea of an early childhood center is very appealing, especially if the cost to young parents could be less than private childcare centers. This might be a great attractor for young families to Pinellas County
- Add technical schools
- Keep open schools that double as hurricane shelters
- Equity for all and historical & contemporary lessons about human empowerment + capacity
- Refuse to change history
- Add more locations for all the programs already offered like Tech H.S., Cyber H.S. gifted, arts, etc. Having only one location is hard on parents/students
- Allowing much smaller class sizes
- Repurposing a school campus as a conference center! We have limited conference space in the county and could make revenue.
- Add languages back into the curriculum
- High academic standards/expectations starting in middle school
- High school boys' volleyball (there's already MS Boys VB)
- More model U.N.
- Choose wisely the leadership of schools – considering school climate + area servicing
- Keep transportation options available, especially for school choice programs – it becomes a lack of choice if there's no easy way for parents to get their kids to a school
- Please keep the gifted magnet programs
- More mid-county choice program options, esp. for elementary school (but the others, too) so much is far north or far south with a real lack in the mid-county
- More AP STEM
- More Golf & Tennis
- Open an in between north + mid county technology high school – computers/cyber security
- Great interest in Birth – Gr 2 Early Childhood Centers
- More Vocational Options
- Concern that all stakeholder information will be included
- Community Partnerships, Innovative Program Initiatives that attract enrollment: AI, Health, Cyber Security, STEM
- Utilize buildings for alternative learning styles – provides an opportunity to utilize the arts as a part of an alternative method of integrated teaching
- Reinvent education to take advantage of declining enrollment.
- Moving to a charter school sets the student back. It takes 3 years to catch up.
- Do Not White Wash History
- Provide More Counselors At Schools that are open
- Keep Separation of Church and State
- Good Teachers with tutoring opportunities. Open programs in conjunction with community businesses like Authentic Martial Arts
- Multiple Extra-curricular options
- Offer birth-2yr. old day care in strategically located schools to support staff children & local child care needs
- More Technical Trade Schools Start Young
- District should consider what made this change may reverse in future + land may be needed again. Better to keep the land + utilize it for own student's future
- Fewer immigrants equal fewer children
- Put a staff Day Care/Development Center, North County, Mid, South
- A Dyslexia center in mid + south county, like we have north county
- K-6, 7-12 could be considered
- Offer arts programs in other schools throughout the county

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- Forums/input asked for directly from staff? We are very (teachers) insecure in what our future looks like, not good for our mental health
- I see lots of questions asked of "community members". How come there are no communication

- Primary schools age 3 – grade 2, Intermediate schools grade 4 – grade 8
- Partner with MAPS Museum
- If early childhood programs are part time – provide childcare that's affordable.
- More early child care centers in vacant buildings
- Reading skills are the building block for the rest of education. Do more to ensure reading skills are the best possible
- How do schools being closed or combined effect front office staff such as: office clerks, Family to community liasons, DMTs will they be displaced or will schools have double?
- How does all of the planning impact staff? When will staff be notified of all changes if it is their school?
- Program or easing KG students into A structured full day of school. Beyond that of VPK. Perhaps in summer
- Reasonable school hours 8 or later
- Year round school options for all K-8
- The class size aw is not being adhered to in all classrooms. Please truly adhere to this law. Keeping class sizes at or below the maximum and employing the corresponding number of teachers should be a top budget priority.
- Close the admin building + put those offices into the empty buildings in the specific areas those people work in. (3)
- Please Please Please let parents + staff know about changes ASAP, Have we considered a 4 day school week w/community programs available on Fridays?
- All schools should have a Fundamental mentality. Parent involvement mandatory!
- Education based Childcare to Community (sliding scale cost?) Possibly student assistants (staffing) (Birth-VPK)
- What does the process look like for staff if their school closes?
- If certain schools are directly impacted, engage specifically that school population and community it serves. Hear their feedback specifically. (2)
- Can the Largo Administration Building be moved into schools and that building be leased out?
- More schools but smaller in size and population
- What assistance will be offered to staff with these changes?
- We work/co-hatch to repurpose space
- More Technical schools where employees invest in their future needs without defunding or public schools
- We need more magnet programs that feed from elem to middle or middle to high + they should be geographically near each other
- If the state wasn't choking funds thru vouchers, the obvious solution is to Lower class sizes + offer more alternatives
- Stop vouchers for higher income families. Make private schools meet same requirements as public schools
- Shift to modular school approach? Smaller schools in neighborhoods (zoning?), shared administrative staff
- County-wide County-funded extra curriculums? Shared school resources this way.
- Medical partnerships w/high level coursework
- Provide more social and outdoor recreation time and activities
- PHUHS is too large. Should use other buildings for more trade type schools.
- I would love to see a trade school in North Pinellas County. I think having more daycare centers, especially one North county would be a great use of empty buildings, will bring in more revenue
- I would like to see a strategic plan that is less focused on decreasing enrollment, but also is adaptive to the possibility of a Plateau...
- Parent-child classes (early childhood programs, VPK)
- Hire more counselors for all grades. Provide afterschool care for Pre-K through grade school.
- Optimize classroom utilization, should never be a vacant classroom
- Year round schools, with shorter summers and more breaks throughout the year
- Year round schools esp. for early grades
- Move district staff out of the largo building to empty spaces in schools. Rent out district offices.
- I'd like to see an Early Childhood Center for North County. I would like to see a PreK-2 school. Early childhood focused.
- If you have a school w/ a long waiting list (like fundamentals) Please consider creating more of these in-demand programs, even in nearby areas
- More options for DOP students to get their diploma credits on then walk with their class
- PreK-2 Early childhood focus options throughout the County (particularly in low SES communities)
- A program similar to PGCA which closed last year. These students no longer serviced.

- We need to look at cutting positions at the district level before we cut jobs that directly effect our students. It's disservice to all students that 1 on 1 MBAs were not approved for this school year. Shame on Pinellas County

12/2/25 Dunedin HS

- The partnership with YMCA – See Iceland Model
- Shifting school have to better match parent work hours +
- Recommendations for overall improvements, each real facts/history, stop banning books, Keep religion out of public schools, Pay teachers better pay – not just new or recruiting
- Better advertising on DAPs. A lot of people are confused + intimidated.
- What is being done to address the costs borne by Public schools for co-locations with Schools of Hope?
- Why is Action not take to question this or challenge?
- More early childhood centers that are affordable – more appealing to have kids
- Early childhood centers – preK-2nd or birth-2nd
- When are school staff going to learn of changes? When the general public does? Re: jobs, transfers, etc.
- Stop building admin – utilize current facilities
- Overall improvements provide free lunch for all, Teach more government/civics, Provide more early learning reading teachers and aides
- K-2 configuration model – easier for interventions High + low, more opportunities/access to close achievement gap (2)
- Right sized punishments based off grades, KG punishments should not be the same as 6-12.

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- More arts club/extra-curriculars, arts involvement from museums, on-profits + local galleries
- Focus on partnerships – lease o supporting programs, Don't move charters in
- Work in partnership to increase affordable housing to draw back students
- Look at anyone in drop and have them retire to make more teaching positions available for young new teachers
- Partner with TEC @ the high school level
- Downsize the staff at the admin building. Lots of salary waste on people who do not work with kids, which is what we are supposed to focus on
- Less grass, rewild w/natives, obtain carbon credits for space
- To save money eliminate redundant positions. Get rid of schools police utilize city and sheriffs instead of district funded.
- Please ensure the separation of church + state when considering private/public partnerships
- School closures are heart-breaking, but I love the idea of consolidating schools to create better quality programs for students. I appreciate the innovative solution to what is an extremely hard path forward.
- Special programs in elem. We need something to focus on besides just testing. When engagement is high scores will stay high
- Offer a buyout to encourage teachers to retire early to make room for young new teachers.
- Year Round School
- Community shared program space i.e kitchen that is used by students for culinary Arts then rent after hours to public
- Year round school isn't a terrible idea. Child care is expensive over the summer + xmas break
- Focus more on primary reading success rather than throwing resources all of tested grades and passing tests to school sizes then a test result (esp w/these tests)
- Use available capacity to provide wraparound services – esp in high need areas
- Some classroom are to small for the amount of students in them

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- NO CHARTER SCHOOLS or using our public funds for private schools!
- JUST SAY NOPE TO SCHOOLS OF HOPE
- Partnering with more mental health services for families (2)
- CHARTER SCHOOLS SHOULD BE MADE TO PAY TO UTILIZE OUR SPACE.
- Reach out to FL universities for research partnerships
- Do not do 6th-12th grade. b/c of maturity differences. (2) * - Lakewood student
- Charter Schools should pay to utilize public school space (2)
- Increase Pre-K options in public schools at reduced cost to help with rates

- Say “Nope to Schools of Hope!”
- No private partnership! Slow way to take over our public school system! More Tech Schools
- More VPK in Elementary School. We need more blended VPK units
- Idea – stop pushing students to early graduate (eliminate high school credits being earned in middle school)
- Utilize spaces in conjunction with senior programs, possibly set up to allow seniors to be mentors
- Charter Schools should remain separate. More mental health support
- High schools have more programs and pathways therefore K-8 would be more beneficial for high schoolers and middle schoolers future
- More services (early childcare, mental health, food pantry)
- Partnership with yoga programs that can rent space and provide classes to school kids
- Why are parents choosing charter schools already?
- How can we increase per-pupil funding?
- Consider losing tech and adding HUMAN resources. Kids don't learn if they don't feel connections
- K-8 more
- Do an analysis of Schools of Hope financial impact. They should have to pay share of space, power, shared staff resources, tools, materials, etc.
- Do better w/gifted testing in schools. Kids were tested in afternoon + promised they could play after. Almost all gifted kids I meet were tested outside of school which is costly.
- Will hourly-paid/support staff members be re-located if there is school closures?
- Making more elementary school schools K-8 If space allows.
- Need Spanish more than 1x/week
- What are you doing to end or put an income cap on vouchers? It's not just declining birth rate.
- Offer afternoon and/or night schools option for traditional students who struggle + help keep building running 24/7
- More technical schools, culinary, carpentry, auto, engineering
- More VPK in public schools
- More research partnerships with state universities (USF, UF, FSU) eg. UF + their reading programs, USF + MTSS research, FSU + bullying research
- I want to keep my school gulf Baches with digital learning and every school.
- Important factor in choosing a school is: School/Grade/Performance
- Everyone in the district has to give: not just low income + south county schools. This impacts us ALL!
- Community partners, Specialty academic programs, technical school's, pre-college partnerships, K-8 or 6-12
- More diversity in staff, gender, race

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

IDEAS OR CONSIDERATIONS

SCHOOL SPECIFIC

What other ideas or considerations do you have that the district should consider about a specific school?

Be sure to include the school name.

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- We at Bear Creek may be small – but we are mighty💙 We welcome community
- Resources to our school – clothes 4 kids, food pantry, clinic, etc to keep us moving
- Lynch, Sawgrass, Sexton, very close to one another...empty classrooms at Lynch empty buildings
- Woodlawn is a thriving small school. Scholars are experiencing success again.
- Gulf Beaches is amazing. Tyrone has been great too. Move guidance @ middle school level to support family involvement,
- We love Sanderlin and Perkins. Sanderlin inclusion is a model for the district
- Rename schools with bad reputations like a restructure for bankrupted business. People don't want to go to Tyrone Middle because of an old reputation. It got a brand new building give it a new name and start a new reputation.
- Fix the reputations of newly A/B rated schools, such as Tyrone Middle. You have to convince families it's real + can be long term an A/B.
- Midtown Academy is a vibrant community with a strong parent commitment. The school is passionate about arts and literacy.
- Lakewood – The programs are phenomenal

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- Walsingham Oaks needs a new principal that did not come from either legacy school. Clear bias is taking place.
- At Oldsmar elem. some teachers are teaching their former students children. This shows commitment to our schools + to our community + to our families. 🟡
- Oldsmar Elem. prides itself on where "learning is a family affair." This is shown through teachers who have been there for decades and who have brought their own children to OES. These teachers are the foundation of the commitment to an "A" school and it's community. 🟡
- It seems silly and doesn't make sense that Walsingham Oaks K-7 middle schoolers have to go to other schools to participate in after school sports.
- As a community member, not a parent, I have often wondered why a small school, (Anona Elem,) has a campus full of portable buildings. Yet just a few miles away Oakhurst Elem. has a beautiful modern campus and building. Is this school Anona, one that could be repurposed?
- There's a lack of middle school theater electives outside of the magnets – consider adding to Osceola Middle
- More Early Childhood Centers
- Real world community learning wing speakers, field trips, wrap around support from the community
- Seminole High School marching band has changed our live for the good.
- Look at reason why students are going to charter/private. What can we do to make improvements
- CGS(+) this is the #1 thing keeping my kid in public schools. I am dismayed by the decline at Ridgecrest & want to see a renaissance CGS – Ridgecrest (2) Morgan Fitz – more students, more field trips, student competitions (robotics, coding, science fair), more robust arts (instruments, theatre) CGS (3) more gardens/green spaces, sports, use the YMCA, have student swim team, career exploration w/community partnerships
- Walsingham Oaks: K-8 – very excited to participate in building out the school, slightly disappointed in 6th grade preparedness. I hope 7th grade will have more electives.

- Doing the best to keep all schools' enrollment #'s even – There shouldn't be an elementary school with 350 kids & one with 750.

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- On the surplus land we can develop a housing program offered to recent college grad to have a place to live. Can be rented well below market + in accordance with teacher salary. If you go into teaching you have security of affordable housing
- Partner with SPC or USF to create "teaching" schools. College students can learn + practice while students get a rich experience. Similar to UF teaching schools
- Could we do a 4 day school days and offer a lease to homeschool couples to use buildings on the 5th day
- More athletic opportunities – lacrosse, ice hockey, field hockey, open the fields for community members
- Academic programs need to expand. Could we offer more "trade" type programs in middle schools.
- Arts Integration brings up student's scores-- Sandy Lane!
- At Sandy Lane we have a very large lot. I propose we sell off part of it to build affordable housing for families and staff.
- Use a vacant building (like Pinella Gulf Coast) for after school programs. Buses could drop the kids on the way to CSC the programs could be programs not offered at smaller schools.
- North Pinellas – East Lake Middle School options are Tarpon Middle or Carwise. There should be a closer public middle school option. Can be K-8 option or utilization of a building for just 6-8.
- Combine Baypoint MS with Lakewood HS in a 6-12 model
- Rethink staffing models for arts + perhaps other elective areas. Look at best national models Texas ISD's – Virginia, etc.
- Extra curricular, contacts with big companies, Jabil – Tech aerospace, Hospitals – medical, Publix – cooking, hospitality, Dicks, private sports – Flag Football, Baseball, Football, Government/Debate Class – H.S., Straz – performing arts, Home Depot, Lowes, Ace – labor, Valpak – advertising, Humane Society – Volunteer vet
- QR code vs post it notes in meetings, SAR portal so parents don't have to call & overwhelm the SAR office 4 updates
- More partnerships to rent space, ad space on buses, sponsor athletic programs
- There are limited 6-8 options in East Lake. Re zone Brooker Creek and Cypress and make Brooker a K-8 with a special purpose. (Magnet)
- At Sunset Hills E.S., we are so close to Pasco county that we get a lot of special attendance requests. Prior to this school year, we had enough kids who were on the waitlist for SAR to make a whole kindergarten class, but we didn't approve the requests + the kids enrolled elsewhere. Our enrollment will continue to dwindle if we miss the opportunity to pull kids from other counties prior to school starting.
- PHUHS – Lost a counselor last year & the counselors have 600 kids each on their case load. How can the students & families get the help they need/deserve? Please revisit for this school!
- Behavior, Desperate needs for renovations at some schools
- Oldsmar – K-8 school at the OES site possible? We've had a consistent problem with busing and traffic to Carwise to the point that some teachers note that the Oldsmar Kids + parents aren't as involved as those from other areas
- Important – Behavior. As a teacher I see teachers leave because they can go to private school, have 12 kids, and barely any behaviors they then recruit other teachers. Parents then lose faith in the schools + leave. We are losing our thriving students because as parents they are tired of their kids being around screaming children. Behavior needs a HUGE overhaul!

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- Rename schools to get rid of negative views. Rebrand, reopen with a new name. Example rename Tyrone Middle. New building/new life.
- Tyrone Middle, among others, has a negative reputation. Im zoned for Tyrone + my kid's magnet program fed into it. I'm considering switching elem schools to avoid it.
- More after school program options
- Just please keep ESE studs in mind. Consider "hubs" sites for ASD units to provide better services.
- Increase student services/mental health support. Instead of whatever formulas used for social workers & interview staff, psychs, & families to gauge needs.
- Increase teachers & staff morale to retain great teachers. (inc. pay, take things off their plate, more behavior support, lower class sizes)
- School specific Re-Gibbs HS GHS is a legacy school. Preserve it.

- Please consider how teachers/staff will be relocated if/when schools close.
- What happens w/EAS schools and centers because of low populations?
- More mental health counselors

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- Skycrest has a prominent ESOL (Spanish) student population. Instructionally, a dual language program could help these students bridge the gap between languages. Research shows that continued growth in 1st language acquisition increases 2nd language acquisition. This could lead to increase instructional knowledge, student engagement and buy-in, and could make increase Skycrest's student numbers (filling building occupancy) as this program would also be attractive to parents as a school choice (Skycrest ES)
- Please keeps Bay Point Elem open!!! Maybe add a program like daycare. But don't take anything away! Thank you.
- Partner with organization that enhance the education and ethics of the school rather than bringing people to fill the space.
- Save the culture of the existing schools that are thriving & successful. K-8/HS Gulf Beaches ES
- Mangrove Bay, Partnership not working, Safety concerns, Parking lot fields being used
- Mangrove Bay, Not sure what we could give to keep enrollment lower but, willing to work on solution
- Metal detectors all schools
- Mangrove Bay Building too small to hold 500 children, Hallways too small feels overcrowded
- Trained staff to give advice
- For Bay Vista Fund. Elem. School, also consider renting out space for school and community improvement.
- Please put shades in Midtown Academy playground. It is too hot – Archer (3rd grade)
- Gulfport Ele food pantry care package
- Midtown Academy needs playground shades. Their playground is un-shaded and very hot.
- Bay Vista Fund Ele. School should be left where it is and include a VPK program.
- NorthShore ES Historic school 100yrs. Old, Community involvement, Highly dedicated teachers, very new Prin. & AP who don't know what makes this school so special as it was and stop making it like another school.
- Incentives for senior/experienced teachers to go to TZ/"rougher" schools so they're not full of new teachers
- What are we doing in Pinellas County to raise per pupil funding?
- More magnet school options. Marine, tech/vocation, Medical, Dental, Automation, Trade
- Metal detectors
- For small schools willing to give up school transportation for Bear Creek
- Assistants in each classroom is needed not wanted. Teaching and behavioral coaches working in conjunction modeling it in the classroom
- Bear Creek is the only elementary school south of central that is not TZ, magnet, or Fundamental.
- Skycrest ES Return SPED unites Skycrest
- Bardmoor ES Have PreK in a separate building with its own playground and add more PreK/VPK units.
- Have the setup of RBT in the classroom to support teachers before the children get out of hand. Then you have to send to EBD units. Now you have 10-15 students within one room, that need to be reset from Bad behavior before you can teach
- If we provide more affordable child care, more people will decide to have children
- For small school collaboration with Birth-K at Bear Creek.
- I would like to see Bear Creek welcome a food pantry, clinic, or other community outreach programs. I second this!
- Bear Creek The only elementary school south of central, that is not TZ, magnet, or Fundamental. Some families prefer small traditional schools.
-

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

BUILDING/LAND REPURPOSING

How would you like to see property utilized if a school is closed or if the district sells/repurposes properties?

E.g., green space, housing, recreation centers, etc.

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- Convert a north and south county school closure into a STEM center, like the old Pinellas County Science center. Offer field trips to all schools like the Boyd Hill/Brooker Creek trip. School system keeps the building and land for future use if the needed and also provides a state of the art STEM center instead of just certain schools with access.
- If a school closure must occur, would it be possible to repurpose it into teacher housing (like dorms) that way the district owns the building if it is needed in the future again.
- Lease, not sales
- Keep them as schools and not sell!
- Green spaces (3 noted)
- arts
- Sell vacant schools and convert the property to affordable housing. (2 noted) This can help keep families in Pinellas County
- A mix of community services, housing, museum/rec.
- Sell to the highest bidder
- Repurposing for affordable housing first responders, hospital workers, etc. (2 noted)
- Church
- Community center (2 noted)
- Before / After school Programming (2 noted)
- Sports / activity space for reservation by surrounding schools. Sometimes there isn't enough at the current schools – too much overlap / competitive
- Affordable child care for employees (2 noted)
- Childcare in general (2 noted)
- If considering land sales, do what is good for type of land. For example, if vacant land is environmentally sensitive, don't sell to developer. If vacant land is near other developments, ok to sell to developer.
- More M.A.S.T.R. programs and tutoring mental health and other after school programs
- Adult day centers (geriatric or special needs)

11/17/25 Largo HS

- Tax Payers should not have to pay for repairs and upkeep for charter schools if it wasn't feasible for Public Schools to do it.
- School District property should stay green – no mega complexes because dirt helps prevent flooding (6)
- Affordable housing (teacher housing) (5 noted)
- Pinellas County needs conference center spaces. These could be used by the district and rental to others
- Lease space to service providers for community (2 noted)
- If we sell: Affordable housing for community or PCS staff. Repurpose: Charter schools, parks, sports complex (4 noted)
- Property Utilized – parks recreation area for all ages
- Do Not Allow "FOR PROFIT" companies to use Public Schools. As of right now they are not held to same standards as Public Schools.
- Women's (& children) shelter
- More parks with large playgrounds with separate equipment for younger and older kids, splash pads!!!
- /variety of tutoring opportunity and senior centers

- Do Not Allow for profit charter schools to use public schools facilities unless they pay Going Rate of rent, lease, utility – they pay maintenance
- Center for card, VR APD run for adults w/ disabilities/ASD when aging out
- Turned into facilities providing affordable child care for low-income families
- Repurpose schools for recreation or senior centers perhaps SPC extension or even FCU/FSU extensions
- Funding for Public Schools cost much less than law enforcement and incarceration.
- If Bldg is too old or too costly to repair – sell to Pinellas County ONLY for stormwater improvements or Affordable Housing.
- Recommend DeMand more funding for small schools. Small schools are important. They should not have to give up important assets of education.
- Provide more after school care/tutoring at schools facilities even if not open for regular school. During school year and summers
- Provide more affordable child care/preschool education at under used locations
- This questions is hard to answers without specifics on the property. People would be able to give better answers if you gave more specific information.
- If property has to be sold, it should be made into green space and/or developed into affordable housing.
- If there's no mor "Hope" it has been determine to close Provide FREE recreation centers
- There s no grater need in Pinellas County than affordable housing.
- Utilizing schools – childcare, tech training, community partnership programs. If land is sold, use funds to improve schools - *teacher housing!!!
- Re-purpose property! Green space is important, however the close proximity community should have as say in what property becomes. Re-sale value is very important.
- Sell to sports complex idea to include things like band + cheerleader Gym space
- Building usage: after school activities – like private art classes, rent/lease, Other: cooking class, dance class
- Green space, Park, Housing (public), Daycare with green space, engaging & creative spaces
- Student + Family Services, field trip destinations + opportunities
- The property of closed schools should be used for parks, green space, exercise areas, ball fields
- Parks or lease in case pop. booms and need for add schools increase
- I think it wold be great to utilize spaces by creating partnerships with other outside agencies that are here to support our students such as gyms, activity centers or career options for HS students instead of going to PTEC or leaving daily to accomplish their goals towards their future. We should have more nature involving spaces because that will give students space to relax, release + express themselves outside of classroom with so many rules + no freedom. I also think a GREAT idea would be to have move counselors added to support students + maybe staff. Use some space for therapist to see students, especially those with limited resources.
- Affordable housing, rec centers
- Repupose/Utilize properties – affordable housing
- IF PCS property is sold priority should be to provide affordable housing + green space
- No empty buildings, community space or housing
- Affordable Housing
- What to do with closed schools? Conver to affordable housing for elderly and low income, Make green spaces like parks, community gardens.
- Affordable housing, greenspace, not commercial business
- Property to be sold Or re-purposed should be green space – no more development

12/2/25 – Dunedin HS

- Definety YMCA, not a lot of options for tween – teen would help with friends, safety, health, belonging, sprots facilities, Art buildings med to high level, Maker spaces, experience to try things like E
- Help low income families with summer camps/educational support
- Please no private school use of public school facilities. Please do not use our tax dollars to support private businesses.
- Utilization/partnerships – need more, Technical schools throughout, Early childhood care, More YMCA/or summer programs
- Make sure more transportation help for parents if they have to change schools.
- If land is available - - Keep it natural. Pinellas needs more nature and natural areas.
- Use facilities or land for affordable housing. Include some green space/parks.
- More affordable childcare
- Lease the property/land

- Rec centers, libraries
- Property, birth- 2nd grade
- If a school closes I'd like to see a park/playground/wellness center
- Use land for housing for staff & low income families, if you sell must be to business that will strengthen the community
- I would like to see any land sales be tied to a substantial percentage of that land used for of that land used for workforce housing. Bring workers.
- Housing – specially opportunities that lead to ownership. Not more apartments. Condos/homes., Rec centers or green community space be distant 2nd because Pinellas does public space well.
- Offer some aligned arts organization rental spaces.
- No sharing building space with private or for-profit schools – unless the lease an empty school at a price that benefits the district – I agree
- Merge smaller micro schools (Montessori, Fundamental, career-tech, Gifted etc) or utilize schools being closed
- Properties should be used for community connection and building. Common third spaces in neighborhoods
- Back to the county
- Selling property – can we invest that \$ into better higher salaries for teachers + rehiring of move support staff which increases the value we put n our teachers + staff
- Teachers are barely getting by financially
- Technical schools – Enrichment programs for teens including jo prep, college prep, goals as set forth by organizations such as Operation Jacks Village
- Depends on location
- Closed properties used for trainings, student workshops
- Affordable housing for PCS staff, Yes! ●
- If property is sold, what happens to the proceeds?
- Conservation easement
- Incorporate land use for storm water use improvements
- Sell land to affordable housing developers – Not to Scientologists!, Medical centers like Bay Care
- No mixed purposing with charter and private. I agree (4)
- Community Use of facilities (gyms, gardens, cafeterias) for fees
- Use the land for Farm to Table! Make it a class for kids & stop buying garbage food from other sources
- Community space – community centers or parks
- Public-private partnership for staff housing
- If schools need to consolidate or close, I am all or leasing space to non-profit community orgs that benefit ALL – YMCA's, social service orgs, head starts. No sharing w/for profit or private schools! (2)
- Sell land to developers for affordable homes.
- Park or center for kids in PCS to use. Centers could incl. after care/before
- Would it not be more profitable and in long-term stability/sustainability to infact lease currently owned property?
- Private & public schools should not share the same buildings, only leverges private/public partnerships when majority of bucket goes to increase of resources or PCSB.
- Can PCS properly be utilized for teacher housing/community housing that would foster family growth and school sustainability
- The MAPS museum would like to move from Pasco to Pinellas & be an integral partner in STEM Education
- Rent to a non-profits that will allow a safe place for youth or teens to showcase their talents while helping them be better human beings, + the importance of investing in their communities
- Youth sports + outdoor activities have grown. Pinellas Co needs new/updated sport/activity fields.
- Innovation labs, Adult education (language, certificate programs
- A non profit or organization that benefits the vulnerable in our community helping them succeed.
- Offer properties for community outreach, utilize funding from sales to improve schools, repurpose for childcare in other areas
- Please Do not make repairs just to benefit private schools. Please stop “white washing” history.
- Create centers where students can visit and experience high levels of Science/Arts & technology. Repurpose the space
- Building/land use for affordable housing for employees
- Community good non profit (most important) + ideally academically related/community
- I'm in favor of reporpousing properties for something of value to the community rather than selling them. The property belongs to the public and should remain that way forever
- Use the space for early childhood development in partnership with organizations like Head Start.

- See: Iceland model – brought down drug/alcohol abuse.
- Don't sell land, create field – snack bar can fund them and ALL kids playing. Those that don't make grade & homeschoolers
- Sell off land/property in low-economic areas only if utilized to provide low-income housing

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- Affordable housing communities for all PS staff (it's hard for teachers to make rent + build a future too, not just assistants)
- Selling property and have affordable housing for teachers
- I would rather the school system sell off properties than fully support charter schools on their campuses.
- Something that wither benefits the community like a rec center or can be utilized to create a profit for the community such as renting the land out.
- Affordable housing or transitional housing for foster children
- Don't allow charter schools to share space at PCSB expense sell or lease properties so charter schools use their own funding
- Gardens/urban farms to supply fresh foods to food desert communities. Teach kids + community members to farm + create jobs
- Take an underused school, turn it into a teacher apartment building, that can be leased to teachers and if ever needed turned back into a school in the future.
- Would rather land be sold than support charter
- Green space, Affordable housing (not condos)
- Doctors offices + services for kids, Don't bring unsavory businesses where schools used to be – lower home values
- Move some Admin District Departments to building as Hubs ELA Center, Math Center for District offices + P.D. etc (model classrooms)
- Parks, open space, No charter schools
- Increase schools to offer PreK classes, utilize property & bldgs. For more daycare for staff and parents
- Use empty spaces to provide wraparound services – esp in low-income areas
- Adult classes, libraries in every school!!!, P.E. indoor space
- Repurposing old building to create new childcare centers is a good idea, but they need to be affordable
- Edible Food Forest used for educational purposes
- Bring healthcare services to schools – we need nurses, social workers, food pantries, too.
- Turn an underused school into a district STEM center for field trips for a certain grade level.
- Offer adult fun classes
- Affordable housing for teachers and community
- Green space
- Build affordable housing for teachers!
- Behavior centers (trauma-informed), trade centers (mechanic, home ec, electrician, plumbing, etc)
- Trade schools, less focus on college track
- Housing for teen moms that do not have or limited family support
- Don't sell school property. Lease before selling. Once gone it's gone. Charge charter schools & any other outside functions to use our bldgs..
- Green spaces, housing – low income, families are priority
- Repurpose schools for education for trade. Jobs that can not be done by AI, plumbing, HVAC, Electric, mechanic, baking, veterinarian, fire rescue, law enforcement
- Do not sell. Lease.
- Use vacant land to create a community sports complex, and use it for district sports competitions.
- Early child care options for PCS employees & non-PCS employees. This is a huge need in our community
- Voluntary voc. programs, i.e. farming, shop, etc. Bring back the trades for HSchoolers.
- Repurposed to serve student populations, after school programs, daycare (Betty Ma Ivey), community centers, third spaces for teens
- Use the land for field trips i.e. Patti Farm, Old Mickey Farm, grow gardens
- Parks, of course, but intentional 3rd spaces for older students. Would love to rec community centers or other areas tailored to teens that provide them growth + development opportunity w/o the pressure of an educational environment
- PCSB should NOT permit buildings to be shared with charter schools.
- Recreation centers or day care centers for the community

- Closed schools should be repurposed into affordable housing and/or green spaces. Affordable housing is necessary in this area as prices climb

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- Gulf Beaches we want at least K-8th. Preserve for future growth. Don't sell or use to expand grade levels of existing schools. ie K-HS.
- If school is closed...More green space, outdoor science center. Do not build affordable housing...where will those kids go to school? We just tore down the school.
- If a school must be closed, the property should be utilized for housing.
- Sell flood risk properties + use proceeds to reinvest in existing schools/ teacher housing. Focus sales on flood risk + chosen, not zoned schools.
- A school property once closed could be used for as rentals for community space or for hosting non-profit programs that benefit the community
- Literacy/Math, intervention, community-school partnership, programs for smaller schools w/out interventionists
- Removing portables and replacing them with green spaces or other amenities.
- Affordable housing!
- Affordable housing – convert to 1 bedroom apts, workforce housing, interns, support staff
- Colocate or repurpose building to provide more early childhood care to community. Addresses high childcare costs. Appears successful; Psec repurpose.
- Building/land repurposing – community programs, hurricane shelters, parks
- Low-econ. housing, Community partnerships
- Green space, theater, music, give back to students/community w/opportunities to come together
- Green space/parks, trail circuit, tree, playground, etc.
- Southeast, St. Pete grocery store/food farm market
- Housing
- Continue to look or partnerships to keep buildings + programs running
- Green space, food pantry or grocery – even meal preparatory
- Food pantry or grocer if near a food desert
- *Free* Early Childhood Education
- No public money should be devoted to any charter school
- Buildings repurposed into transitional housing units. Cafeteria available for soup kitchen meals. Front offices for case manager/social workers etc. Playgrounds for kids staying on campus.
- Early childcare 6mo-PreK, green space, community centers, housing, food pantry
- More green space outdoor, science (STEAM) opportunities. NO private partnerships! Either utilize it for the community or sell it.
- Income based housing programs
- Property should be used for parks, Green space or affordable homes to attract more families (duplex) no apartments, (Townhomes)
- Renting/leasing space to services like speech/occupational/behavior/and physical/etc. Therapists/practices
- Libraries! Repurpose education spaces to provide wider educational outreach/opportunity.
- Green spaces like the old Rio Vista School now a park

PLANNING FOR PROGRESS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As the district embarks on the planning process, please share any ideas for community engagement throughout the process.

Comments transcribed as written. Feedback may contain grammar/spelling errors.

11/12/25 – Boca Ciega HS

- For the southside of St. Petersburg there are food deserts. Creating community agricultural skills gardens. I also love the concept of an agricultural and technical program connected to our high school that would give them a trade.
- School of Hope is not a healthy competition model.
- Reach out to large employers for sessions on site (hospitals, corporations – e.g. Raymond James, Jabil, etc.); maybe large churches or community organizations.
- An online chat board but requires registering and a parent portal to only stakeholders can recommend no bots or those with no connection to school.
- I would like to see more availability for Question & answer sessions at these meetings.
- Go to individual schools talk to PTAs too.
- Some schools need more engagement from the district to be attractive to the community.
- Request to be on agenda at booster meetings at other practices and events.
- Students should be introduced to people in the workforce who would discuss their journey to their present career.
- Businesses/employers can be invited to talk with students about career and career paths.
- Mentors – Mentors – Advisors
- Please keep us up to date regarding Schools of Hope.
- Participate more in community events.
- Contacting local news channels.
- Continuing community forums
- Market more in the community, have programs school related at the local community centers.
- For schools with small capacity, partnering with home school, private schools and charters for theater, foreign language and sports.
- Round table discussions
- Marketing with prompts to prepare in advance.
- Bring in more technical programs in elementary school.

11/17/25 – Largo HS

- Build entrepreneurship – collaboration w Score + Jr Achievement + green house
- Keep Community Fully Engaged – Public Schools should remain Public it is an affordability issue. I see that private schools are growing faster than public
- Concern that low SES areas will be hit the hardest
- Please keep having these meetings. Please send home flyers with the kids so parents are aware.
- Publicize under what conditions public schools outperform charter schools
- Personal invitation to community groups, Zoom, PTA's, parents (online feedback) social media/email, community churches, city pages
- How to engage the community: no surprise, allow some choice & ability to appeal a controversial decision
- District Engagement – surveys, site meetings-where school is impacted, town hall mtg
- As many ways as possible – in person mtgs at a variety of times/locations, surveys, social media links to comment on PCSB website
- Engage community – town hall mtgs, online feedback
- Struggling schools will be impacted most as we close schools + redraw lines. Those students will be harmed most with changes.
- Important that all families will have opportunity to provide input
- Community Engagement: Live stream this meeting, Feedback can be done on-line. I think this would ensure larger participation.

- The properties should only be sold or utilized in ways that benefit the community (vast community)
- Re-organize ideas you've collected + do another survey (pared down) Jan-June 2026
- These meetings are great – There should be a community needs assessment that does not include private enterprise
- Engage community with feedback meetings as you do now
- Community Meetings, Surveys, Zoom Meetings or Virtual Meetings, Online Forums
- Each school should sent out info to families for input
- Surveys, Community mtgs, Youtube live streams
- Surveys, Community Meetings, International Research on model systems, Charter School research shows lack of oversight & corruption at some locations
- Schools that are under capacity/underused should have a louder voice. These meetings should take place at those sites. Parents and students should know.

12/2/25 Dunedin HS

- Inform staff of what these changes mean to their career forward motion
- STATS: are incorrect – Did not include Pork admin in public schools
- Please advertise opportunities better
- Make reels, social media, love all the emails but the community at large doesn't get these
- Targeted focus groups
- Continue community meetings, online surveys, get the word out to more parents
- Virtual/streaming of progress meetings
- Newsletter at District level? Data reveal on website and/or raw data on enrollment etc
- The community should be able to attend virtually. The district can require pre-registration and verification to attend the ability to view meetings online and submit feedback.
- Thank you for offering these sessions! More of these through the process.
- Survey students!!
- Concierge or mobile units to help families navigate magnet programs + offerings.
- Survey w/specific indicators
- Engage community changer of commerce, businesses, hospital boards, principals to send out flyers & email, ask the kids in surveys what they want, its their future
- Community want to help all kid, end exclusion, drug/alcohol abuse, Follow the Iceland Model
- Survey
- Survey + Youtube live for mailies working @5.30
- WOW...taxpayer are pay for govt worker child care @ I V I E school!

12/4/25 Hollins HS

- Use spaces to provide private, medically-necessary therapies for ESE studs. like ABA, speech/lang., OT, etc., Inclusive enrichment opportunities like music, special interest clubs, etc.
- Engage the community through these town hall. Socia media is also great tool to collect wide ranging data.
- Please remember PTA in your community conversations. As of Dec 1 we have 1900members an increase over prior years. Those families care deeply about our school
- Open communication + opportunities for public to engage, voice ideas + questions- like this! Create groupings of public comment + share stats "60% of respondent thing..."
- Some schools do not make families feel welcomed
- Online forums/social media presence
- Parents are left out of conversations with district. District focuses a lot of energy on organizations
- Better relationships with PTA
- Encourage school business partnerships. Places like Disney regular have sponsors for rides, if business could sponsor schools they could offset some of the operating costs.
- Hold meetings at the schools under consideration for closing or change
- Community partnerships for employee childcare
- Visiting each school to speak with staff openly regarding what they suggest for their school.
- Involve outside Business' t be attractive in schools
- District needs to allow school community input at a face-to-face meeting so their concerns re addressed for the changes (for a school that will close)

12/9/25 Lakewood HS

- Continue to have in person engagement meetings
- Posting online surveys in Facebook Community pages – specifically of the town w/the school closure, livestream mtgs
- Send notes home w/students as reminders, in person forums more of them
- U-Matter 365, Inc adult mentoring, Pinellas County Urban League, Fifth Avenue Mentoring – Faith-based nonprofit providing mentorship, education support, community outreach and positive social spiritual guidance to youth
- The district should keep having meeting with the community
- Community schools nonprofit partnerships that help meet the needs of struggling families, food pantries, clothing, jobs
- Weekly family message/email from school (phone call)
- Surveys, engagement in different language (ex Spanish), workshops, online interactive
- Engage community with live polling. Holds board accountable for what the people truly voted for.
- Continue to have meetings and demonstrate that input is being taken seriously, online surveys, live streaming these meetings
- Continue community involvement
- Live public polling during planning meetings to show public opinion on district decisions and hold district publicly accountable
- Preserve the existing culture of the community and take their desires into account to draw students & families back.
- Volunteers to pair up with all ages after school.
- Like Mangrove a place to exercise & gather. Sunshine Center is a good example of a way to use space for comm.
- Gulfport Montessori more parent involvement Question is How do we reach out to more parents.