

TOGETHER PCS



KEEPING PACE WITH PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

Welcome to TogetherPCS, the district's monthly newsletter featuring students, staff, alumni, coaches, curriculum, community partners and so much more!

In this issue, we catch up with a Pinellas Park High School alum who took a job with Chick-fil-A for the free food while still in high school and is now a proud franchise owner/operator. We also share the story of four St. Petersburg High School swimmers who will represent Team USA at the 2026 World Junior Open Water Swimming Championships this weekend in Argentina, as well as some highlights from our first day of school.

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

[NOMINATE HERE](#)



The school year just started, but the District Application Period for the 2026-27 school year is right around the corner. Here are a few things you can do to prepare:

- If you are new to the district, make sure to set up a Focus parent account at focus.pcsb.org.
- Make sure your parent account is linked to your student's account in Focus.
- Make sure sibling accounts are linked to you and to each other (important for sibling priority consideration)
- Double check your contact information: make sure your phone, email and address are up to date so you don't miss important communications.
- Mark your calendar for upcoming **DAP fair dates** to learn about all the special programs the district offers.

WHAT'S INSIDE

THANK YOU PINELLAS EDUCATION FOUNDATION



A big thank you to the Pinellas Education Foundation for making this year's school supply drive a success. In partnership with the Hillsborough Education Foundation, the Foundation hosted three joint collection events at Tropicana Field with the Tampa Bay Rays, at Al Lang Stadium with the Tampa Bay Rowdies, and at the Pinellas Education Foundation offices.

Together, the effort collected more than \$83,000 in school supplies and donations to help students start the school year prepared to learn. Business partners, volunteers, and community members helped collect, sort, and pack the donations. The Foundation team hand-delivered supplies to 23 of the district's highest-needs schools before the first day of school.

This incredible effort was a true community-wide collaboration. Thank you to the Pinellas Education Foundation and everyone who donated their time, resources, and generosity to help ensure our students have what they need to begin the school year ready to learn.



Three of the four Hansen siblings - Sawyer, Brinkleigh and Karrington - along with St. Pete High freshman Ansley Bess, will represent Team USA in Argentina this weekend.

THREE SIBLINGS, ONE TEAM

For the Hansen family, swimming has always been a family affair.

The siblings have grown up sharing practice lanes one minute and competing against each other the next. But always pushing each other to be better.

This week, Sawyer, Brinkleigh and Karrington Hansen will have an experience few siblings ever will: representing their country together on the world stage.

The three St. Petersburg swimmers are among just 12 athletes nationwide selected to represent Team USA at the 2026 World Junior Open Water Swimming Championships this weekend in Santa Fe, Argentina. All three are products of St. Petersburg High School and St. Petersburg Aquatics, where their shared swimming journey began.

Sawyer is a sophomore at St. Pete High, Brinkleigh is a junior, and Karrington is a St. Pete High alumna and now a freshman swimmer at the University of Kentucky.

[Read the full article](#)



ACHIEVE TOGETHER

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Chris Devine, a 2014 graduate of Pinellas Park High School, is now an owner/operator of the Chick-fil-A franchise in Tyrone.

Chris Devine may have gotten his start at Chick-fil-A for the free break meals, but what kept him there all started on the football field at Pinellas Park High School.

A proud member of the Class of 2014, Devine now serves as the owner/operator of the Chick-fil-A at Tyrone Square Mall. But when he returned to his alma mater recently, it was the memories of his time as a Patriot that came rushing back: coaches who expected more of him, a mentor who taught him the value of showing up and being accountable, and friendships that will last a lifetime.

"I got a lot of goosebumps," Devine said. "A lot of memories and a lot of things coming back to the surface from my time here."

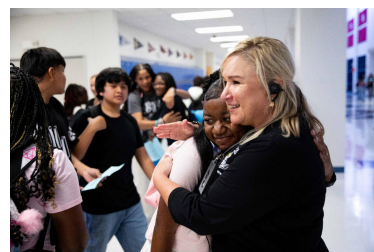
Devine was deeply involved in football at Pinellas Park, where he says the experience helped shape the person and leader he would become.



[Read the full article and watch the video](#)



BACK TO SCHOOL 2026-27



From the band and cheerleaders welcoming students to A-rated Lakewood High to balloons, music and more, Pinellas County Schools students are back and better than ever!

The Superintendent Says...

"Across Pinellas County, the school year is in full swing. It's exciting to see our students and staff settling into routines, building relationships, and getting down to the important work of learning. I'm proud of the energy and commitment I see across our schools, and I'm grateful to the teachers, staff, families, and community partners who make student success possible. Together, we're building on the momentum that has made Pinellas County Schools an A-rated district and a place where every student can experience excellence."



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

SIGN UP HERE



VISION: 100% STUDENT SUCCESS

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

PCS Compliance Statement

Pinellas County Schools | 301 Fourth St. SW | Largo, FL 33779 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!