



School Matters

District School Board of Pasco County

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

November 20, 2014

Technology Update

The district remains committed to digital literacy and digital instruction (ICT). When we removed tech specialists from the schools it was primarily for budgetary reasons. Since then, I've heard from principals and teachers about how this has affected schools, and we now are working to address your technical assistance needs. We are moving increasingly to technology-based instruction and assessment, and we need to have qualified technicians in schools to help with day-to-day technology problems, but teachers still need to develop information, technology, and communication literacy skills. In an effort to make sure we are on the right track, we established a digital technology committee with broad district representation. They will look at current technology in schools, whether our technology infrastructure is adequate to support our needs, what supports we have available, what supports we need to add, and what funds we need in order to accomplish our goals.

Outstanding Social Studies Teachers

Every year, the Florida Council for the Social Studies recognizes an elementary, middle, and high school Social Studies Teacher of the Year for each Florida school district. Congratulations to Pasco County's winning teachers:

- **Stephanie Huff** – Seven Oaks Elementary
- **Stephanie Anderson** – Thomas E. Weightman Middle
- **Scotty Carroll** – Zephyrhills High

They were recognized at the Florida Council for the Social Studies' state conference held October 24, 2014 in Orlando, and during the November 18 school board meeting.

Outstanding School Volunteers

The Outstanding School Volunteer Award is presented annually to school volunteers who have shown outstanding dedication and commitment to quality education in Florida. The District School Board of Pasco County 2014-2015 Outstanding School Volunteer Award winners are:

- Youth Category: **Sydney Payne**, Gulfside Elementary School volunteer
- Adult Category: **Hiral Patel**, Odessa Elementary School volunteer
- Senior Category: **Leslie Thiel**, Gulf Middle School volunteer

New School Board Leadership

Congratulations to Steve Luikart and Joanne Hurley for being elected District School Board of Pasco County Chairman and Vice Chairman during the November 18 board meeting.

HWC Holiday Hours

The Health and Wellness Centers (HWC) have some updated holiday hours:

- November 26: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- November 27 – November 29: CLOSED
- December 24: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- December 25: CLOSED
- December 26:
 - Land O' Lakes: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 - Gulf, Central, Hudson: CLOSED
- December 31: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- January 1: CLOSED



I joined Fox Hollow Elementary faculty and staff, including Karyn Kinzie (L) and Martha Tillim (R), to serve Thanksgiving Hollow Dinner.

Kudos

Andrew Dunn – I just wanted to say thank you again for helping me work on the prevention video. I appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule you assist and also giving me some tips for future videos... Thank you again for all your help.

–Alex B. Fasano,
Pasco County Parks and Rec Supervisor

*Happy
Thanksgiving!*



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