

SEPTEMBER 2010

Pinellas PTA[®] Courier

Official News of Pinellas County Council of PTAs *everychild.one voice.*[®] Volume 21, Issue 1



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Wow, another summer has ended and school is back in session. First let me begin by saying thank you to each of you that has volunteered to be a board member of your local unit PTA. Thank you to our business partners, patrons, administrators and school board members. Without each and every one of them Pinellas County Council PTA could not do what we do. I hope that each month when you receive our newsletter you will take a few minutes to sit down and read all about the events and happenings that are occurring in our schools and community. And if you have not had the opportunity I invite you to check out our website at www.pccpta.org.

For those of you that may be new to PTA let me share with you who we are. The Pinellas County Council of PTAs is a group of local PTAs organized under the authority of the Florida Congress of Parents and Teachers. Its purpose is to provide leadership, serve, assist and act as a resource for local units.

With that being said let me introduce my theme for the year.....Educate, Empower, Enlighten. Let me share with you the definitions of these words. Educate- to develop mentally, morally or aesthetically especially by instruction. Empower- To enable or permit. To provide with the means or opportunity. Enlighten-To furnish knowledge. As Pinellas County Council PTA President, my goal is to

Educate • Empower • Enlighten

make myself and the board available to all of you to Educate, Empower, Enlighten. Our goal is to reach out to parents, students, grandparents, school staff, business partners, community leaders all for one common goal...everychild.onevoice. Throughout the year we will be offering programs and trainings to help you at the local units to Educate, Empower, Enlighten your families and school staff as well.

We will also be building partnerships. Our first partnership is with Clothes to Kids. The mission of Clothes to Kids is to provide new and quality used clothing to low-income, school-age children in Pinellas County, free of charge. We will have our kick off at our Fall Workshop on Saturday September 18, 2010 at Pinellas Park High School. Please go to our website for details at www.pccpta.org. I am asking each individual to please bring a new package of colorful boys underwear (boxers preferred) or girls panties to be donated. Our goal is 500 pair of new underwear for the children of our community. We will also accept donations of gently used school clothing. There is a tremendous need for young men's jeans!! We will also have a session at the workshop on "Why Clothes Matter" and what your school can do to help!

The PCCPTA Fall Workshop is day of training, and education, for our local units, school administrators and members. We offer a variety of classes during our breakout sessions and have many exhibitors and vendors available for you to explore. The required insurance and legislative advocacy classes will be

offered! Be sure you bring along your school administrator so that you will qualify for your PTA insurance!

I look forward to working with you and coming out to your schools for trainings, events, and programs. Please feel free to contact me at: pccptapresident@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,



Maria Kinzer
Pinellas County Council
President PTA
pccptapresident@yahoo.com

Children are likely to live up to what we believe of them.

~Lady Bird Johnson

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

The education team's summer planning was exciting and we are looking forward to all the great upcoming events. Our general meetings, Reflections Program and health and safety fair are sure to get everyone excited about the potential of what each local PTA unit can do at their school! I encourage you to get your student liaisons more involved this year by giving them an email address to be used for PTA correspondence. The email address, for example, could simply be yourschoolnamestudentrep@gmail.com.

Once set up, we'd like you to email me at malfred@tampabay.rr.com with the contact info. One of our goals this year is to have our PCCPTA student liaison, Megan, communicate directly with local unit student liaisons. We need your help in making that possible; by providing them with a PTA email address and sending it to us.

I'd also like to encourage all PTA units to apply for grants as needed to enhance or help offset the cost of your events and programs. One particular grant available is the 2010 PTA Healthy Lifestyles Grant. **The deadline to apply for this grant is September 10th!** Everything you need to know to apply can be found at http://www.pta.org/pta_healthy_lifestyles_grant.asp.



PTA Healthy Lifestyles

There are many opportunities out there so be sure to take advantage of them. If you would like more information on grant writing or how to find grants, please contact me at malfred@tampabay.rr.com.

And lastly, as you begin setting your budget for this upcoming school year, I'd like to see each PTA with a line item for scholarships. We have several great scholarship programs that could use our support right here in Pinellas County such as Doorways and Walker's Rising Stars, both of which are through the Pinellas Education Foundation. Or, you can always give to the Florida PTA Scholarship Fund. Any amount that your PTA is able to contribute towards scholarships is a help.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon. Don't forget to bring the kids to our September general meeting for ice cream and some fun activities!



Michelle Alfred
PCCPTA
VP of Education

being part of your PTA, don't be afraid to ask about it. It's important that students have a voice in their school's PTA meetings. So what are you waiting for? Your PTA isn't going to get more student representation if you sit around and do nothing. So get up and make the first step. Talk to your students, or talk to your school's PTA. It only takes one person to step up, and then others will follow. So be that one, make the difference.



Megan Bartholf
PCCPTA
Student Liaison



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STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

Students are a huge part of PTA. It's important that you get their opinions and hear what they have to say because students provide a different perspective on your PTA's programs and ideas. Students bring not only their own ideas and concerns, but also those of their peers. And students may have great ideas to help your school. So adults, if you don't have student representation on your board, you should go out and ask the students for their help. Most of them are willing to help if asked. And students, if you're interested in



NATIONAL PTA AND FACEBOOK ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

Collaboration committed to
educating kids, parents and
teachers about responsible and
safe Internet use

In June National PTA and Facebook announced a formal collaboration to promote responsible and safe Internet use to kids, parents and teachers. Together, National PTA and Facebook will establish a comprehensive program that will provide information, support and news to encourage citizenship online, reduce cyberbullying and

advance Internet safety and security.

The partnership is founded on the belief that awareness is essential to supporting safe and responsible Internet use. Thus, in addition to creating comprehensive and engaging resources, PTA and Facebook are committing to aggressively promoting Internet safety information to their respective audiences. National PTA will use its Website (www.pta.org), and actively reach out to the 24,000 local PTAs across the country with a goal of reaching every American public school. Facebook will raise awareness of the resources among the hundreds of millions of parents, teachers and children using its service through an in-kind Facebook commitment equivalent to \$1 million and promotion on other parts of the site, including the safety center.

The announcement kicked off the National PTA convention in Memphis, Tenn. which marks the 40-year anniversary of the union of two parent associations dedicated to children and when the National PTA became a desegregated association. At the convention, PTA is reaffirming its commitment to closing the achievement gap between students of different ethnicities and economic backgrounds. Recognizing that disparities exist not only in students' access to technology but also in their access to related education materials, the partnership extends these efforts. As part of the agreement, both PTA and Facebook are committed to working to shrink the digital divide, by reaching families, regardless of income or race and providing them with tools and resources to keep them digitally smart on-line.

"Our vision is that each child, parent and teacher will have the knowledge and tools they need to harness the power of the Internet effectively – and safely," says Charles J. "Chuck" Saylor, National PTA President. "Today, as we kick off National PTA's convention in Memphis, we are announcing a partnership that will provide parents all across the

nation with the knowledge, tools and resources they need to keep their children safe in this ever-changing technological society."

"Nothing is more important to us than the safety and well being of the people, especially the many teenagers, who use Facebook," says Sheryl Sandberg, Chief Operating Officer of Facebook. "Only through the constant and concerted effort of parents, teachers, law enforcement and industry can we keep kids safe and help them develop into tomorrow's leaders. We are proud to be working with National PTA toward that goal."

The partnership builds on National PTA's 114-year history of advocacy on behalf of children and Facebook's efforts to create a trusted environment for its more than 400 million users. As was the case with the recently redesigned Facebook Safety Center, Facebook and PTA will consult with many child safety, education and technology experts to collect, build and maintain a comprehensive set of multi-media education resources for this initiative. The process will include significant input from Facebook's global Safety Advisory Board.

To stay up to date on the initiative visit the PTA's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/ParentTeacherAssociation> and the Facebook in Education page at <http://www.facebook.com/education>.

About Facebook

Founded in February 2004, Facebook's mission is to give people the power to share and make the world more open and connected. Anyone can sign up for Facebook and interact with the people they know in a trusted environment. Facebook is a privately held company and is headquartered in Palo Alto, Calif.

About National PTA

National PTA® comprises millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and

community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. PTA is a registered 501 (c)(3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.

**National
PTA**
everychild. onevoice.



REMEMBER BREAKFAST!

Remember breakfast, it's the most important meal of the day! Studies show that kids who don't eat breakfast are less able to learn at school, get less iron (an important nutrient) in their diets, and are more likely to have a higher body mass index (BMI), which is a sign they may be overweight. On the other hand, kids who eat breakfast do better in school, are more likely to participate in physical activities, and tend to eat healthier overall. So tomorrow morning, don't run out the door on an empty stomach. Fuel up with a healthy breakfast! A wonderful article on this topic can be found at www.kidshealth.org



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**JOIN US FOR THE 87TH
ANNUAL FLORIDA PTA
CONVENTION
at the Gaylord Palms,
November 5th - 7th, 2010!**



**What is the Florida PTA
Convention and why attend?**

Convention is Florida PTA's annual business meeting where members can vote on resolutions, attend workshops and gather new program and fundraising ideas. Delegates to Convention include PTA leaders from across Florida, representing our 340,000 members. Delegates can visit with vendors and other organizations showcasing their products and services. They can attend workshops that include PTA leadership and a variety of topics important to parents and their children. Delegates will have the opportunity to meet and talk with our representative from National PTA, as well as the Florida PTA Board of directors. This is *your* chance to network with delegates from all over Florida.

**What is the purpose of
convention?**

Convention is the place to gain knowledge to help your PTA, develop your leadership skills, network, vote on legislative priorities and resolutions to form our message to take to the legislation in the upcoming session. It is your opportunity to enjoy PTA successes, friendships, be inspired and have fun!

**Is convention a PTA
expense?**

Convention is a legitimate and important PTA budget expense. It offers valuable PTA leadership training for the future success of your PTA. Convention is the most valuable investment your PTA can make. By sending delegates to convention, your PTA's voice is heard!

**Who should attend
convention?**

All Florida PTA members are invited and encouraged to attend convention! Every unit should send delegates to represent them and to gather materials, ideas and knowledge they can bring back and share. The experience of participating in workshops, listening to speakers and talking with other PTA delegates will leave you refreshed and renewed. You will walk away from convention with ideas, information and exciting possibilities for next year. Current and future PTA leaders, including student

leaders, should not miss Convention!! Be one of the many delegates attending this year!

Convention registration information will be available soon on the Florida PTA website at <http://www.floridapta.org/convention.html>.



Get your hotel reservations in early for this great hotel. The special Florida PTA convention rate is only \$139.00 per night. Here's the special link for this great rate: <http://reservations.gaylordpalms.gaylordhotels.com/cgi-bin/lansaweb?procfun+rn+resnet+orl+funcparms+up%28a2560%29;:FPT10>

**Note: Use Group Code
FPT10**

Be sure to bring your family and friends. Only 10 minutes from Disney and all the attractions!

Convention highlights for the coming year: There will be a Building Fund Breakfast on Sunday morning, the Membership Luncheon on Saturday, and of course, the Scholarship Fun(d) Dinner on Saturday evening. The advanced registration information is included in this newsletter. We hope to see you there!

**Families Are Invited to
Attend the
September PCCPTA
General Meeting
& Ice Cream Social**



**Date: 09/16/2010
Time: 6:15 p.m. (meeting at 7:00)
Location: PCS Admin. Building,
301 Fourth Street SW, Largo**

At this month's general meeting we are doing something a little different. Our program will be an iMOM/ All Pro Dad's presentation, beginning with an ice cream social. **Be sure to bring your kids**, they will get to enjoy ice cream and a fun activity with you during the hospitality portion of our meeting. Then during the meeting they will be making postcards to send to the troops stationed overseas. We will also be collecting used magazines to send them as well. So bring your old magazines and any that you can collect from others. These are just a few ideas you could incorporate into your own iMOM/All Pro Dad's event. We look forward to seeing you at the Administration Building on September 16 @ 6:15pm.

If you have any questions please contact PCCPTA Program Chair, Jessica Summers at 727-804-0317 or pjlsummers@msn.com



**DON'T MISS THE
FALL WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 18TH**

Please plan to attend the Fall Workshop on Saturday, September 18th at Pinellas Park High School. This is a wonderful opportunity for your PTA board, administrators, and any interested PTA members and volunteers to get valuable information and ideas for the year. We will have a variety of classes in several major areas: PTA information, family involvement, health and safety, programs, SACs, OSOs, and advocacy. We have great presenters, including representatives from Florida PTA, the Pinellas County School Board, Pinellas County School District, and some of our partner organizations. There will also be a vendor walk and program area where you will find information on great programs that you might want to consider for your PTA meetings, program nights and assemblies. Please encourage as many of your PTA members as possible to attend. At just \$10 for pre-registration, it's a great deal!

Visit our website at www.pccpta.org for the registration form and more information. We look forward to seeing you there!



Mary Bartholf
PCCPTA
VP of Leadership
Workshop Committee
Chair

**PCS PORTAL – GATE-
WAY TO EDUCATIONAL
CONNECTIONS**

Pinellas County Schools is taking teacher-student-parent communication a step further; they have launched the PCS Portal. This new online system will allow parents, teachers, students and staff to log into one single website to access information and communicate through online exchanges. PCS Portal replaces the old ParentCONNECTxp system with more information and a way for parents to become interactive with their child's teacher(s). Portal will also allow parents to review their child's grades and participate in educational video lessons, all with the touch of a button. To log on to the portal, parents should visit the district website, www.pcsb.org and click on the PCS Portal icon located on the home page.

Sharon McNeal, Coordinator
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Maria Kinzer

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Linda Kearschner

Newsletter Editor
Paula Keyser

PCCPTA INSURANCE PROGRAM

By participating in the PCCPTA Insurance program, the PTAs of Pinellas County have a very valuable opportunity each year. The policy protects the insured (PCCPTA, Local Units and Outside Support Organizations) from liability to attendees and volunteers at School Board approved, sponsored activities. Those PTAs/PTSA's and other Outside Support Organizations covered under the PCCPTA policy also benefit from the Pinellas County Schools Blanket-Lease agreement for the use of school facilities for meetings and activities in accordance with School Board Policy.

Below are the requirements in order to participate in the PCCPTA Insurance program:

1. Dues to the Florida PTA must be current.
2. PTA Bylaws must be current and approved by Florida PTA.
3. Dues to the PCCPTA must be paid for the year for which coverage is requested (dues may be submitted with the application.)
4. The PTA/PTSA unit must be a functioning unit with duly elected officers according to bylaws.
5. Only activities which are consistent with Pinellas School Board Policy shall be covered.
6. The following items must be submitted with the insurance application.
 - a. Copy of minutes from the meeting when the officers were elected.
 - b. Copy of the approved front page of the PTA/PTSA unit Bylaws.
 - c. * **Copy of the 2009-10 Financial Review** which was completed at the end of the fiscal year, June 30th. The PTA/PTSA must conduct an annual review of the books by an Audit Review Committee or qualified accountant.
 - d. Completed Voting Delegates form.
7. Unit officers must participate in Leadership training.
8. An officer of the PTA/PTSA must attend the yearly PCCPTA Insurance workshop.
9. Units must be represented at a minimum of two (2) PCCPTA General Meetings during the previous year, not counting the Workshop.
10. Units must attend a minimum of one PCCPTA or Florida PTA sanctioned Advocacy training, program or event and provide proof of attendance.
11. Principal and/or designee must attend the yearly PCCPTA Insurance Workshop.
12. * **All checks must have 2 signatures.**
13. * **The monthly bank statements must be reviewed and signed by someone who does not have authorization to sign checks.**



***Per Aim Insurance Company –
COVERAGE IS VOIDED IF THESE
REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT FOLLOWED!**

If you have questions please contact
PCCPTA, Insurance Chair, Charles Derexson at
727-510-7683 or chasder@tampabay.rr.com





FLORIDA'S CHILDREN DESERVE TO BE TOP PRIORITY!

Want to change the way Florida's children are treated?

PTA members are invited to attend the Milk & Cookie Party Rally at Calvary Chapel of St. Petersburg on September 20, and demand that children become a first priority in Florida's decision making. The future of our state depends on it!



PINELLAS COUNTY MILK & COOKIE PARTY RALLY

Monday, September 20, 2010
5:30 -6:30 pm: Children's activities
6:30-7:30 pm: Program
Calvary Chapel of St. Petersburg,
8900 US Hwy 19 North, Pinellas
Park, FL
Free & Open to the Public
For more information: Contact Adam
Brown, at 813-956-1311 or
adam.brown@childrensmovementflorida.org.

Let your voice be heard!

Join with thousands of supporters from across the state in raising our voices for children. Show influential leaders in Tallahassee and across the nation that we must improve the way we care for our children, making the well-being and education of our most vulnerable citizens Florida's highest priority.

Who will be there?

- »» Movement leaders
- »» Children's advocates
- »» Youth performers
- »» Local celebrities and pro athletes

What is the Children's Movement of Florida?

Led by a 27-member committee of influential Floridians, the Children's Movement of Florida has organized a statewide, citizen led, non-partisan series of "Milk Party" rallies between September 6 and September 30, beginning in Pensacola and ending in Key West. No public funds are being used. For more information visit:

www.ChildrensMovementFlorida.org.

PCCPTA COMMUNITY PARTNER: CLOTHES TO KIDS

Clothes To Kids (CTK) is thrilled to be selected as a community partner by PCCPTA! The mission of Clothes To Kids is to provide new and gently used clothing to low-income, school age (K-12) children in Pinellas County, free of charge. To date, CTK has provided more than 45,000 wardrobes to financially disadvantaged children in Pinellas County. The bottom-line goal of the program is to ensure that our community's school-age children have adequate clothing so that they can focus on learning. It's hard to fit in when your clothes don't fit! Each child receives a complete school wardrobe (five new pairs of underwear, five new pairs of socks, five tops, four bottoms, a dress, a pair of shoes, and a jacket in season). Children may "shop" at a CTK store two times each year.

Clothes To Kids envisions a community in which every school-age child has quality clothing so that he or she may attend school with the confidence and self-esteem needed to achieve academic success. The target population is low-income

students who qualify for free or reduced lunch, but we also serve children in immediate crisis - fire, flood, domestic violence, or sudden homelessness.

There are no other programs like Clothes To Kids in Pinellas County. Children shop in a bright and cheery boutique-like atmosphere and receive a week's worth of school clothing and uniforms. CTK will serve more than 12,000 children in 2010 who would not have adequate school clothing without our stores. Recently we partnered with the Children's Initiative Program at Fairmont Park Elementary School and provided school wardrobes and uniforms for the students in need of these items.

We are also happy to announce that Pinellas County Schools invited CTK to participate in the district's payroll deduction campaign. From September 7 – October 29 it will be possible for PSC employees who want to support the Clothes To Kids mission to join the "\$2.50 = 1" lime green button campaign! That is, if a PCS employee donates \$2.50 every pay period, at the end of the year that will equal \$50 – the cost to provide a complete week's school wardrobe.

Clothes To Kids is pleased to serve the children in Pinellas County and to partner with PCCPTA – and share their vision of 'Every Child, One Voice' by providing every child with one wardrobe!

Patti Hanks
Executive Director
Clothes To Kids, Inc.





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PTA®**

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**WORLDWIDE
DAY OF PLAY**

Expert advice and practical ideas for raising kids and becoming a vital part of their education.

On Saturday, September 25th, Nickelodeon and National PTA® encourage you to join hundreds of thousands of kids, families and communities across the world, as they turn off the TV, go outside and play!

On **Worldwide Day of Play**, Nickelodeon will suspend all programming and go dark all afternoon. Thousands of schools and community organizations will be hosting events engaging kids in physical fitness around the world. Your PTA can participate by making Worldwide Day of Play a part of your September events.

If you need ideas, PTA and Nickelodeon have partnered to create resources for you: free posters, an activity guide and grants.

Visit www.TheBigHelp.com To register your event and be a part of the success story for PTA, Nickelodeon, and families everywhere. Questions? Contact PublicAffairs@Nick.com.

The Big Help Grants Program

Need funding for a project in your area? Through The Big Help, Nickelodeon provides grants to help students who want to make a difference in their communities. Students can team up with their PTA to fund projects focused on: education, the environment, community service or health and wellness. For more information, visit: <http://www.nick.com/thebighelp/>

PTA & Nickelodeon Partner to Support Families

National PTA is proud to call Nickelodeon one of its strongest partners. Through this long-term relationship, PTA is Nickelodeon's signature partner for parents and families. Stay tuned for upcoming information about the relationship and resources at the [Partnerships & Alliances](#) section of PTA.org.

Reprinted with permission from the National PTA.



**2010-2011
REFLECTIONS
PROGRAM**

As you begin the new school year, be sure to appoint a Reflections Chair. Reflections is the National PTA Arts Program that encourages students to demonstrate their artistic abilities and expression in the areas of Photography, Visual Arts, Literature, Musical Composition, Dance Choreography, and Film/

Video Production. This year's theme is **"Together We Can."**

All local units in good standing are eligible to participate and we strongly encourage you to showcase your school's talent. This means that Bylaws must be valid through March 31, 2011 and some dues need to be paid to the State office by December 15th.

You can find out more information on what you need to do to prepare and details on making this an effective program at the Reflections class offered at the PCCPTA Fall Workshop. More information can also be accessed through the PCCPTA website. If you have any questions please contact Debi Klein, PCCPTA Reflections Chair at debi_klein@hotmail.com.

Dates to Remember:

September 18th

Attend Reflections class at PCCPTA workshop

September – December

Conduct Reflections Program at your school

December 10th

Turn in project to county

January 7th

County Reflections Reception at Pinellas Park High School

January 10th

Pick up entries from county





**LOCAL UNIT FEATURE:
CARWISE MIDDLE
SCHOOL PTSA
READY TO
ADOPT-A-PTA**

Carwise Middle School PTSA is very blessed to have the generous support of its members to send their board members to trainings, provide wonderful programs for families and help the school provide a quality education to every Carwise student. In this economy, though many PTAs and PTSAs are struggling and cannot afford to do as much for their families. Carwise Middle School PTSA has kindly voted to adopt a less fortunate PTSA this fall and will give them \$500 so they can send some of their leaders to trainings and possibly State Convention.

Carwise will also be helping a few of their "feeder schools" by supplying sets of Battle of the Books to their media centers. Carwise Middle School PTSA President Bonnie Choate said, "I encourage those PTAs who can, to think about "adopting" another PTA. We are all in this for EVERY child." If you are a PTA willing to support or share resources with another unit, please contact Mary Bartholf, PCCPTA Vice President of Leadership to find a match.



ADVOCACY NEWS

As child advocates the most important things we can do is one, be a registered voter and two, vote! And although the primary has passed, the general election is November 2nd, 2010. If you haven't registered to vote, the deadline for November's election is October 4th. Simply go to www.voteinellas.com and register. You can even opt to have a ballot mailed to your home. It's that easy. Also on that site, you can learn about the current races and link to candidates' web pages.

Our children are our most precious resource and our hope for the future. Take a stand and be a voice for our children and youth.

Nancy Uelmen
VP of Advocacy

**Know the Candidates
Before You Vote
Watch the School Board
Candidate Debate
Online**

The Pinellas County Council PTA has been proud to host a School Board Candidates Forum here in Pinellas for over 20 years. We were delighted to have the Pinellas Education Foundation, the League of Women Voters, Bright House Networks, the St. Petersburg Times, and PDS-TV 14, Pinellas County Schools Television as co-sponsors of this important **non-partisan**, civic event.

The Pinellas County School Board Candidates Forum provided candidates an opportunity to address a wide range of issues that affect children and the future of education in Pinellas County. It is our expectation that the Forum encourage parents and other voters to demonstrate their role as child advocates by becoming better informed about their choices for their elected representatives.

The school board races for Districts 2, 3, and 6 were decided in the primary election with Terry Krasner, Peggy O'Shea and Linda Lerner winning a majority of votes in their respective districts. In the District 7 race, no candidate received more than 50% of the vote, so Lew Williams and James Harold Jackson will now face each other in a run-off in November.

We want voters to understand that they **can make a difference** for our children and communities. It is important that we take the time to educate ourselves about the candidates for school board and their positions. This elected body will be critical to the success of our schools and our children; and therefore the election of school board candidates is among the most important decisions we will make at the polls. By exercising our democratic right and responsibility to vote, we are able to **give children a voice**.

Please take the time to make an informed decision. You can still view the rebroadcast of the 2010 School Board Candidates Forum – District 7 on our website at <http://pccpta.org/Events/SBCF.htm>





INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

October 6, 2010



The Florida Suncoast SAFE KIDS Coalition, sponsored by All Children's Hospital, coordinates International Walk to School Day events at interested elementary and middle schools in Pinellas County. Walk to School Day is intended to help parents, children and school leaders review safe routes to school, as well as teach children overall pedestrian safety. It's also designed to encourage walking as a healthy behavior for children and families. We encourage all elementary and middle school PTAs to take part in this event. If you would like your school to participate, please call Jean Shoemaker, SAFE KIDS Coordinator, at 727-767-8581 or 800-756-7233 or visit www.safekids.org for more information on how to conduct your very own Walk Your Child to School Day. If you have any questions or concerns about a health or safety issue, or need suggestions on what you can do to promote health and safety at your school, please contact Cassie Riddick, PCCPTA Health & Safety Chair at mommy2littleboys@yahoo.com or 727-278-7078.

GET 10 GRAND, GIVE 10 GRAND SWEEPSTAKES!

Mimio Interactive Teaching Technologies, Sorganics and Florida PTA have teamed up to offer one lucky person, PTA and school a prize package valued at over \$10,000! Florida PTA is looking to gain new email subscribers so they can receive the Florida PTA e-Bulletin and Common Core State Standards (CCSS) updates. New subscribers* who register between July 16, 2010 and October 6, 2010 are eligible to participate in this sweepstakes for the grand prize package consisting of:

- (A) A \$100.00 American Express Gift Card to the individual drawn
- (B) A \$500.00 prize pack to the PTA registered by the individual in A to include registration, hotel room and selected meals at the 2010 Florida PTA Convention, November 5-7 at the Gaylord Palms Hotel in Orlando Florida.
- (C) The school affiliated with the PTA in B will have the opportunity to submit up to \$2500.00* to Florida PTA who will in turn match the funds 100% and sweepstakes partner, Mimio Technologies will double to \$10,000.00 in Mimio Technology products selected by the school.

WOULD \$10,000 IN TECHNOLOGY BE USEFUL IN YOUR SCHOOL?

To participate in this Sweepstakes, go to the Florida PTA website. You must first (a) subscribe to receive the Florida PTA E-Bulletin and Common Core State Standards Updates (b) confirm the subscription by responding to the "confirmation email" (c) your email address will be automatically entered into the Sweepstakes. You may submit only one entry, duplicate entries will be deleted. **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY OCTOBER 1ST AT 11:59:59AM. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. INTERNET ACCESS and EMAIL ACCOUNT ARE REQUIRED. *FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF RULES VISIT THE FLORIDA PTA WEBSITE.**

The Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI) is a state-led effort designed to improve educational outcomes for students by developing a set of consistent, clear K-12 academic standards in English language arts and mathematics. In 2009 the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), the coordinators of the initiative, convened a group of leading experts to develop K-12 standards for math and English language arts in 2010. These standards are relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills young people need to be prepared for both college and work in a global economy.

2010-2011**Executive Board Members(*)
and Committee Chairs**

Pinellas County Council



everychild.one voice.®

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chasder@tampabay.rr.com**PCCPTA MEETING AND EVENTS**For more information on these events check our website at
www.pccpta.org.**Sat, Sep 11, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**STAND Pinellas Accessing Resources Conference
Fitzgerald Middle School, 6410 118th Ave N, Largo**Thu, Sep 16, 6:15 pm – 8:15 pm**PCCPTA Gen. Mtng & Ice Cream Social (Bring magazines)
PCS Admin Building, 301 Fourth St. SW Largo, FL 33770**Sat, Sep 18, 2010, 7:00 am – 2:45 pm**PCCPTA Workshop & Undies Drive
Pinellas Park High School, 6305 118 Avenue North, Largo**Mon, Sep 20, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**Children's Movement of Florida Rally - Milk & Cookies Party
Calvary Chapel, 8900 US Hwy 19 North, Pinellas Park**Wed, Sep 22, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**4th annual Teen Dating 101 Program (Open to Public)
Countryside High, 3000 State Road 580 - Clearwater**Thu, Sep 23, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**DMAC Listening Session
Union Academy, 401 E. Milk Drive, Tarpon Springs**Sat, Sep 25**Nickelodeon Worldwide Day of Play
Turn off the TV - Get Outside and Play!