



*The Difference is You!*

# TEACH PASCO



**District School Board of Pasco County**  
Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent



# Welcome to Pasco County Schools

If you are looking for a place to teach, work and live, where the community supports schools, and what's best for students is at the center of educational decisions, then Pasco County is for YOU!

## Pasco's Vision

*Our vision is to create a community which works together so all Pasco County students will reach their highest potential.*

## Guiding Principles for Pasco's Vision



### Continuous Progress

- Students working to achieve high standards
- Educating the "whole child"
- Variety of flexible student groupings
- Teams of teachers working collaboratively

### Continuity of Care

- Environment that promotes families as partners
- Schools where students are everyone's responsibility
- Respect for students as capable, unique, valued learners

### Ensuring Equity & Excellence

- All students receive a quality education
- An integrated, rigorous curriculum
- Instruction actively engages students
- Curriculum, instruction, and assessment working together



Dear Teacher,

Teaching is an honorable profession filled with many rewards and demands. It is a profession that has the power to shape America's future. As a former teacher and as a parent, I know firsthand the positive impact and influence a teacher can make on the life of a child. In Pasco County, we are looking for the best to teach and influence our children, those who live in our communities and learn in our schools.

Teaching today is more than just caring about children and knowing one's subject well. Teachers need to discover what motivates children, how to assess students' strengths and weaknesses, as well as, how to create classroom environments in which children thrive. In Pasco County, we take significant pride in the professional development and training we provide our teachers, so they can provide a quality education to our students, utilizing best teaching practices every day in their classrooms.

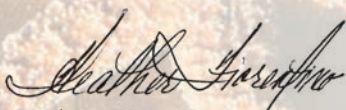
Pasco County is one of the fastest-growing communities in the nation. Our student population is estimated to continue to grow over the next decade. To meet the needs of our growing population, we have been building new schools. Our dramatic growth presents a need to fill many teaching positions and offers opportunities for advancement within our schools. If you want the challenge to mold the future, the opportunity is here for you in Pasco County.

Our schools offer a wide variety of educational programs for all students, the college bound, as well as, those headed for a technical school or the workforce. We are proud that we provide the right curriculum and programs to meet the needs for ALL students. We have an outstanding reputation across this state; I hope you will come join us to make our system even better.

Pasco County is not only a wonderful place to work, but also a great place to live and raise a family. Our county offers suburban areas with new modern facilities, homes and apartments; with a pleasant blend of country rural, complete with the hometown feel. We have just the right community for everyone. With sunny days and brilliant blue skies, Pasco County also offers the perfect climate and is in close proximity, driving distance to many beaches, big-city cultural events, amusement parks and sports teams.

I hope you will consider working in our schools. Please contact the Human Resources Department for employment information or visit our web site at ([www.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us)).

Sincerely,



Heather Fiorentino  
Superintendent of Schools



# The Difference is YOU!



## Pasco Prepares Students for Global Citizenship

### Curriculum is standards-based.

- Curriculum is current with state standards and expectations.
- Curriculum is integrated and connects ideas across disciplines and to students' lives.

### Instruction is rigorous and relevant.

- The district supports and monitors the implementation of research-based best practices such as Learning-Focused Strategies.
- Students have opportunities to learn real-world knowledge and skills, and make connections with other students, adults, and the community.
- Students have opportunities to engage in career-focused activities; secondary students work in learning communities and interest-based teams.
- Student learning is enhanced by experiences in the fine arts.

### Instruction focuses on critical thinking and problem solving.

- Students have opportunities to collaborate and innovate with others locally and globally.
- Instruction emphasizes deep knowledge of content.
- Instruction includes applied skills related to work ethic, collaboration, and cultural awareness necessary for success in work, postsecondary education, and citizenry.

## Pasco Provides Support Systems

### Mentors are assigned to teachers new to the district, and teachers needing differentiated support.

- All teachers receive mentoring during the first year of teaching in Pasco County; additional years of mentoring are available.
- All school-based administrators receive mentoring for one year; additional years of mentoring are available.
- A variety of support strategies, including a mentor, are provided to long-term substitute teachers and teachers new to a content area or level.

### High quality professional development aligned with the Florida Professional Development Standards is offered to employees to enhance their effectiveness.

- Faculty, staff, and administrators are provided strategies for working in schools with changing demographics.
- The district explores ways to enhance planning time during the contracted day.

### Career pathways that promote opportunities to develop advanced skills and pursue certifications are expanded.

- Support personnel are encouraged to pursue instructional positions and may be offered financial assistance.
- Leadership skills are developed at all levels.

Welcome to Tampa Bay, a place filled with sunny beaches and bright futures. If you're looking for a great quality of life, it doesn't get any better than Tampa Bay.

*Combine an ideal climate, tropical breezes and some of the nation's most popular attractions, and it's easy to understand why the Tampa Bay area is a favorite tourist destination. Its residents get to enjoy the fun all year round!*

### Florida Beaches

Clearwater  
Hudson  
Tarpon Springs  
Fort De Soto  
Caladesi Island State Park

### Higher Education

University of South Florida  
University of Tampa  
Saint Leo University  
Pasco-Hernando Community College  
Hillsborough Community College  
St. Petersburg College

### Theme/Amusement Parks

Disney World  
Sea World  
Busch Gardens  
Universal Studios  
Epcot Center  
Weeki Wachee Springs  
Homosassa Springs  
Lowry Park Zoo  
Adventure Island

### Sports Teams

Tampa Bay Buccaneers  
Tampa Bay Rays  
Tampa Bay Lightning  
Orlando Magic  
Tampa Bay Storm

### Culture and Nightlife

Tarpon Springs Sponge Docks  
Pioneer Museum  
Dade City, Zephyrhills & New Port Richey Main Streets  
Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center  
Ruth Eckerd Hall  
The Florida Aquarium  
Museum of Science and Industry  
International Plaza  
Channelside  
Ybor City



Tallahassee

Jacksonville

Gainesville

Orlando

Lakeland

Tampa

Clearwater

St. Petersburg

Pasco  
County



Average  
Daily  
Temperature  
**73°**



### Driving Times to Florida's Popular Destinations

- Disney World. . . . . 45 minutes
- Universal Studios. . . . . 45 minutes
- Busch Gardens . . . . . 30 minutes
- Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center . 30 minutes
- Raymond James Stadium. . . . . 30 minutes  
*(Home of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers)*
- St. Pete Times Forum . . . . . 30 minutes  
*(Home of the Tampa Bay Lightning)*
- Tropicana Field . . . . . 45 minutes  
*(Home of the Rays)*
- Museum of Science & Industry . . 30 minutes
- International Plaza & Bay Street . 30 minutes  
*(Shopping Mall)*
- The Florida Aquarium . . . . . 30 minutes
- Tarpon Springs Sponge Docks. . . 20 minutes
- Florida Beaches . . . . . Minutes!**



Ft. Myers

West  
Palm  
Beach

Ft. Lauderdale



# Testimonials

***“The district/schools do such a great job of welcoming new teachers and making them feel at home. I also love the mentor program they have here at WCHS. My mentor always has a helping hand and is there for me anytime I need her.”***

Nicole Wall, Rhode Island Recruit  
Wesley Chapel High

***“Every time I called Pasco they were willing to help.”***

Caitlin Maguigan, Tennessee Recruit  
Pine View Elementary

***“In choosing my apartment, the second they heard I was a teacher I got a mega deal. I save every month on my rent.”***

Kristin Smith, New York Recruit  
Oakstead Elementary

***“Pasco keeps up with the latest techniques and trends in education and gives you the tools to implement them.”***

Amy Schneider, Illinois Recruit  
Gulf Trace Elementary

***“I also have been blessed with a wonderful team leader who has become a second mother amazingly enough. I moved down from Michigan in July and she has been by my side helping every step of the way!”***

Erin Johnson, Michigan Recruit  
Wesley Chapel Elementary

***“I love living in Florida and I love teaching in Pasco County. I am really enjoying Thomas E. Weightman Middle School - the staff and students are amazing!!!”***

Jean Ferek, Michigan Recruit  
Thomas E. Weightman Middle

***“I have made a bunch of new friends that are transfers to the Florida area from up north too.”***

Audrey Sebastian, Illinois Recruit  
Seven Oaks Elementary

***“My transition into Pasco schools has gone very smoothly and human resources staff played a large role.”***

Andy Pickett, Michigan Recruit  
Gulf Highlands Elementary

***“My school strives to accommodate and celebrate diversity in a way that is educational for all.”***

Beth Brocksmit, Indiana Recruit  
Wiregrass Ranch High

***“Pasco really has a strong support system for new employees.”***

Meredith Jones, Rhode Island Recruit  
Wiregrass Ranch High



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PASCO**