

Our District Vision

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



District School Board of Pasco County 2010-2011 School Profile

Calusa Elementary School

Principal: Kara Merlin



Heather Fiorentino
Superintendent

Message from the Superintendent

The 2010-2011 school year is off to a great start, as we have a strong team of talented educators working throughout our schools every day. We are eager to partner with you to make this a successful school year for your child. One important way we can work together to maximize your child's potential is to reinforce the expectation of good attendance. When students prioritize being at school on time, they are more likely to have a successful experience. We appreciate your help in achieving this important goal.

Our theme for the year is *Learning in the 21st Century*. You will notice an emphasis on the integration of technology into your child's learning as we strive to prepare all students for the challenges of tomorrow and provide equitable access to the tools he or she will need for success. Additionally, our focus is on developing the 21st Century Literacy skills that are needed in our ever-changing world. We want to help our students become better problem solvers, engaged in the world around them and equipped with the critical thinking skills that are needed for analyzing, developing innovative solutions and sharing their creativity with others. Today's students are tomorrow's leaders and we are fostering a supportive learning environment that will help them to reach their dreams.

As we immerse students in an enriching educational environment, we will be expanding the availability of digital learning content. With the use of these resources comes the need for a higher level of personal responsibility for students. We want to help your child develop an understanding of how to navigate online resources in a responsible and safe manner. As part of the cultivation of those skills, we will enforce high expectations that all students will appropriately use these tools to enhance their education. Your help in reminding your child to use technology in an appropriate manner would be greatly appreciated.

As you are probably aware, our District still faces significant financial challenges. In addition to a third consecutive year of multi-million dollar budget shortfalls, districts throughout the state are required to implement the final phase of the class size amendment this year. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to prioritizing the needs of students and ensuring a high quality educational experience for the children of Pasco County.

Again, thank you for your support of our school district. We look forward to working with you to maximize your child's success this year.

Heather Fiorentino, Superintendent of Schools

Lottery Dollar Expenditure Data

Funds received from Educational Enhancement Trust Funds (Lottery) in 2009-2010:

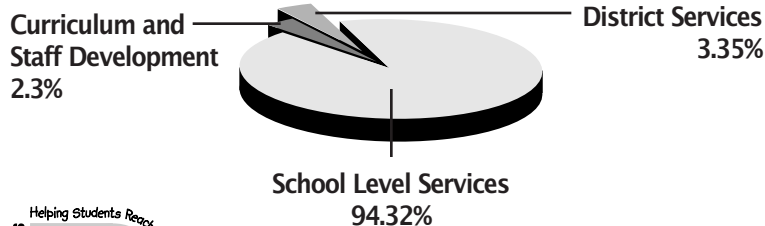
Pasco County received: \$186,637.00

Amount distributed to schools: \$187,547.00

Our school received: \$1,667

General Operating Budget

The 2010-2011 budget for all funds in the district included a General Operating Fund of \$480,271,190.00



A more detailed report of the NCLB SPAR (No Child Left Behind School Public Accountability Report) or a complete copy of the school improvement plan is available in the school office for review.

Calusa Elementary School

7520 Orchid Lake Road
New Port Richey, FL 34653
(727) 774-3700

For more information about Pasco County Schools call the Communications and Government Relations Department
(727) 774-2717 West
(813) 794-2717 Central
(352) 524-2717 East

Message from the Principal

Welcome to Calusa Elementary- Home of the Firehawks! We are set for an amazing year of growth for everyone at Calusa! Teaching strategies are changing and student engagement is increasing with the use of new technology equipment. Teachers are utilizing common grade level planning time and ongoing student data to make instructional decisions based upon the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. In addition to excellent differentiated instruction, we currently offer chorus, violin, Chess Club, Running Club and Odyssey of the Mind in either before and/or after school classes. We are proud of the well-rounded education your child will experience at Calusa and we encourage your involvement in our school!

School Mission Statement

Calusa Elementary will develop the whole child into a responsible, independent, lifelong learner.



Learning Environment

The District School Board of Pasco County provides an environment conducive to teaching and learning.

School Membership
Total Students
(September 2010)

584

Percentage of
students on
free or reduced
price lunch:

68.2%

Students with
good attendance
perform better
in school.

School Improvement Plan 2010-2011

The fifth grade students at Calusa Elementary School made a five percent gain in the area of science during the past school year and our students with disabilities made gains in reading! As a school community, we held monthly meetings to review and discuss student data. Staff members participated in trainings and worked collaboratively to ensure that best practices were being utilized. Administration and teachers participated in school-wide walk-throughs to monitor best practices and set goals for school improvement. We continued to increase the inclusionary practices for students with disabilities. The Raptor system was used to monitor campus safety. We utilized our website to provide families and community members with updated information and we held several family nights to share information with parents about mathematics strategies.



**Report drugs, guns, weapons, violence,
bullying, and other criminal activities.**



**Remain
Anonymous**



Campus Crime Stoppers Hotline 1-800-873TIPS (8477)

Web Tip: <http://www.crimestopperstb.com>

Text Tip: Text "CSTB plus your message" to CRIMES (274637)

Teachers and Staff

The schools, district and state ensure professional teachers and staff.

Total Number of Instructional Staff
47

Number of newly-hired instructional staff members and administrators at this school:

6

Percentage of out-of-field teachers in 2009-2010:

5.5

Percent of instructional/administrative staff who were newly hired in 2009-2010:

School	District	State
12.2%	13.3%	14.8%

Degree Level of Teachers

	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Graduate Degree
School	67.4%	32.6%
Districtwide	69.2%	30.8%
Statewide	65.3%	34.7%



Family and Community Involvement

Families and community members are encouraged to volunteer in our schools. There are many areas in which volunteers assist: assisting teachers, working with students, supervising students, and helping with school activities to name just a few. To register to be a volunteer at a school go to www.pasco.k12.fl.us and click on the Volunteer Application.

Family and community involvement make a significant difference in a child's success.



Pasco County is proud to have 192 National Board Certified Teachers employed in our schools.



Volunteer Hours

Number of hours volunteered at this school during the 2009-2010 school year:
3,785

Number of hours volunteered district wide during the 2009-2010 school year:
361,704



Student Performance

Our students successfully compete at the highest levels nationally and internationally and are prepared to make well-reasoned and healthy lifelong decisions.

School wide proficiency data by subgroup

The state target proficient percent for this year is 72% for reading and 78% for mathematics.

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian	Disabled	Economically Disadvantaged	ELL
Reading								
Grade 3 %	61	62	63	100	100	52	55	29
Grade 4 %	69	20	58	100	0	39	55	0
Grade 5 %	73	60	75	100	33	38	65	75
Mathematics								
Grade 3 %	68	25	62	100	0	48	54	14
Grade 4 %	53	40	43	100	0	8	46	0
Grade 5 %	42	20	50	0	33	20	34	0

Florida School Grade and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

The percent of students scoring at certain levels are used to calculate school accountability results.

Our school was assigned the grade of D for the 2009-2010 school year.

FCAT Achievement

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) provides feedback on students' performance on the Sunshine State Standards. Data reported from spring 2010. A level 3 or higher in science, math and reading is the minimum state standard, while a 3.5 or higher is the minimum state standard for writing.

Level	Reading					Math					Science				
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Grade 3															
School %	28	12	30	25	6	23	16	32	21	7					
Pasco %	18	11	33	31	7	13	16	34	27	10					
State %	16	12	33	31	8	9	13	32	30	15					
Grade 4															
School %	18	20	32	28	2	19	31	32	18	4					
Pasco %	16	13	33	29	8	12	19	39	22	8					
State %	16	13	32	29	11	10	16	36	27	12					
Grade 5															
School %	16	14	41	25	5	28	30	22	18	2	28	35	32	3	1
Pasco %	15	15	34	29	8	16	28	27	23	6	18	35	34	9	2
State %	15	15	33	28	9	14	23	27	27	9	19	32	35	11	4

Grade 4 FCAT Writing

Scores range from 1 (low) to 6 (high).

School	3.2
Pasco	3.6
State	3.8

No data are reported when less than ten students were tested.

