

# ***Building a Foundation For Success***



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

## **Superintendent's Annual Report**

**2007 - 2008**



**District School Board of Pasco County**  
Land O' Lakes, Florida

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Pasco County School Board

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November 2008

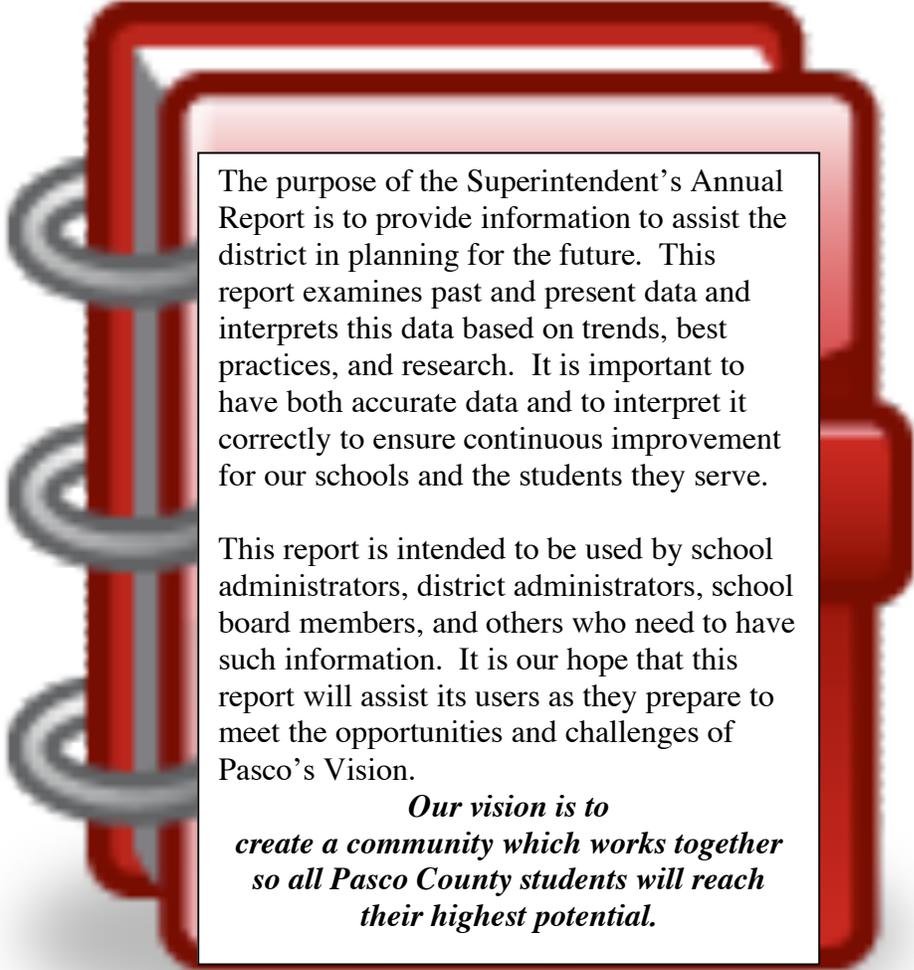
Research and Evaluation Services

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## Foreword



The purpose of the Superintendent's Annual Report is to provide information to assist the district in planning for the future. This report examines past and present data and interprets this data based on trends, best practices, and research. It is important to have both accurate data and to interpret it correctly to ensure continuous improvement for our schools and the students they serve.

This report is intended to be used by school administrators, district administrators, school board members, and others who need to have such information. It is our hope that this report will assist its users as they prepare to meet the opportunities and challenges of Pasco's Vision.

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## **District and Community Profile**

The District School Board of Pasco County is the 11th largest district in Florida and the 60th largest district nationally. It remains one of the fastest growing school systems in the state of Florida. As of May 2008, the district had 72 traditional public schools (43 elementary, 14 middle schools, 11 high schools and 4 education centers) and 4 charter schools serving 65,797 students. Two traditional public schools and one charter school will be added to the district in the 2008-2009 school year. The Department of Education has reported in the Fall PreK-12 Student Membership report that Pasco schools have increased by over 8,800 students (or 15%) between 2003 and 2007. It is projected that Pasco's explosive growth in total PreK-12 student enrollment will reach 85,923 students by the 2018-19 school year. The district's growth of more than 2,400 students yearly (5.4%) will continue to demand the construction of several new schools annually. The District's growing enrollment is also reflected in the number of students provided services from the Food and Nutrition (FNS) and Transportation departments. In 2008, FNS staff served over 16,000 breakfasts and 37,600 lunch meals on an average daily basis. School buses also transported more than 34,000 students daily and ranked 45th in the nation with 479 route buses in the fleet driving nearly 8.6 million miles.

Pasco County is just south of the geographical center of Florida and north of the Tampa-St. Petersburg area. Located on the Gulf of Mexico, Pasco is part of a nine-county region referred to as the "Nature Coast." It was created in 1887 from the southern part of Hernando County and was named for Samuel Pasco who served in the Confederate Army, the state legislature and in the United States Senate from 1887 to 1899. Pasco's 745 square miles of land area contain an interesting mix of urban and rural communities.

Pasco County is Florida's 12th most populous county with 2.5% of Florida's population and 2nd in the state with the largest annual change in population number July 2006 to July 2007. This is evidenced by the county's growth from 344,768 as reported in Census 2000 to 462,715 in July 2007 representing a population change of approximately 34% with 100% of the change attributed to net migration. By year 2010, Pasco County is projected to have a total population of 474,600; by year 2025 – 636,200; and by year 2030 – 681,100 (Source: Florida Statistical Abstract 2007). Based on population change, Pasco County ranks the 7th fastest growing county in Florida and the 52nd fastest growing county in the United States.

The majority of Pasco's residents are in the 25 to 44 (26%) and 45 to 64 (24%) age ranges. In 2007, the median age was 42.1 years as compared to 40 years for the state. This can be attributed to the large population of retirees residing in the county with about 21% of the total population being age 65 or older, as compared to the state's figure of 17%. Twenty-nine percent (29%) of the county's residents were born in Florida and nine percent were foreign born. Families make up 65% of the households in Pasco with an average household size of 2.5 people. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder 2007). Pasco is in the "path of growth" and families with young children are attracted to the area for its quality lifestyle, good schools and attractive environment to raise a family.

In 2007, Pasco County had a total of 218,000 housing units of which 68% were single-unit structures, 20% were mobile homes and 11% were multi-unit structures. Seventy-nine percent of the housing units were owner-occupied and 21% were renter-occupied. Pasco County residents spent 30% or more of their income on housing.

The Pasco Economic Development Council sites the District School Board of Pasco County as the largest employer in Pasco County with over 9,200 instructional and non-instructional personnel. Other large employers include the Pasco County Government with over 2,300 employees and the State of Florida Government with almost 1,300 employees. Leading industries in Pasco are health care and social assistance (16%), followed by construction (11%) and accommodations and food services (10%) (Source: Florida Research & Economic Database, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, October 2007). Among the most common occupations are management, professional and related occupations (33%), sales and office occupations (30%), service occupations (18%) and construction, extraction, maintenance and repair occupations which employ 11% of the workers (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder 2007).

According to census data, 86% of people 25 or older were high school graduates and 20% had a bachelor’s degree or higher. The state educational figures were 85% and 26%, respectively. Compared to data from the 2000 census when only 78% of Pasco residents completed high school and 13% had bachelor degrees or higher, the most current statistics indicate the educational level of the county’s population has been rising (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder 2007).

The May 2008 TERMS database reflected that the total minority population served in the district was over 17,000 students. This represents 26% of the district’s total student body (6% Black, 14% Hispanic, 2% Asian/Pacific, and 4% Multi-Racial). In recent years, Hispanic students have exhibited the greatest proportional growth of any ethnic group in both Pasco and the state. Since 1999, the number of English Language Learner (ELL) students has increased more than 127%. Approximately 3.8% of Pasco County students are English Language Learners. Although the majority of ELL students are Spanish-speaking, these students come from 92 different countries and speak over 68 languages. Approximately 17% of the students are special education (ESE) students. The district continues to plan systemic improvements so that all special needs students will benefit from their educational experience.

Pasco County is located in the southeastern United States—a region that is both economically and culturally diverse. Nearly half of the district’s students come from families who live in low socioeconomic conditions. The 2007 median household income and 2007 per capita income figures for Pasco County, Florida and the United States are reflected in the chart below:

2007 Income Data	Pasco County	Florida	United States
Median Household Income	\$44,526	\$47,804	\$50,740
Per Capita Income	\$23,782	\$26,696	\$26,688

Figures from 2007 show that approximately 12% of the Pasco County population lived below the poverty level, and 18% of related children under 18 were living in poverty. In addition, nine percent of all families and 26 percent of families with a female head of household had incomes below the poverty level (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder 2007).

With a job base built predominantly on service occupations, most of Pasco's work force commutes outside the county for higher paying jobs. According to the Florida Research and Economic Database (FRED), Pasco's unemployment rate of 6.8% for June 2008 was slightly higher than Florida's rate of 5.7% for the same period. The average weekly wage earned by Pasco County residents in 2007 was \$584. This is equivalent to \$14.60 per hour or \$ 30,368 per year, assuming a 40-hour week worked the year around. At this income level, a family of five or more is eligible to participate in the free price meal program and a family of three or more qualifies for the reduced meal program. As of May 2008, approximately 45% of the students served by the District School Board of Pasco County qualified for free/reduced lunch and 36 of the district's 72 traditional public schools had a free/reduced lunch rate of 50% or greater.

Pasco County children are reared in a variety of family environments ranging from extended families to single parent homes. Pasco's culturally diverse students from impoverished homes lack the same educational foundation and opportunities experienced by their middle and upper class peers. Prevailing economic conditions frequently require one or both parents to work outside of the home and, in fact, 68% of families with children six to seventeen years old have both parents in the labor force. As a result, parents are confronted with finding quality childcare and after school activities for their children in addition to establishing and maintaining relationships with their local school staff.

Data from the 2006-2007\* school year reflect that Pasco high schools have a 73.7% graduation rate, compared to the state graduation rate of 72.4 %; however, the 3.5% dropout rate is slightly higher than the State of Florida's dropout rate of 3.3%. (Source: Florida Indicator Reports 2006-2007). These circumstances, combined with the generally lower incomes, contribute to a population of students with special needs. Student needs, coupled with a growth rate of about 2,000 new students per year, pose special challenges for Pasco's educational leaders.

(\*Official Graduation Rate statistics for 2007-2008 has not yet been determined by the Department of Education at the time of printing of this report.

## **Charter Schools**

The Charter Schools Department supports the district's school choice initiative through its oversight and monitoring of Pasco County's charter schools. Charter schools are publicly funded schools that operate under a performance contract or "charter" with the District School Board of Pasco County. The charter allows the school to conduct its educational program under defined rules and regulations, but holds the school academically and financially accountable to the District School Board in accordance with the terms of its charter and Florida Law.

More than 1,000 Pasco County students in Kindergarten through grade eight were served by four charter schools during the 2007-2008 school year. Offering programs with a focus on the arts, language, Montessori methodology, and the inclusionary model, Pasco County charter schools addressed a variety of educational needs in the community.

### **2007-2008 Pasco County Charter Schools**

Academy At The Farm  
Athenian Academy of Pasco  
Countryside Montessori  
Dayspring Academy

## **Communications and Government Relations Department**

The Communications and Government Relations Department meets the communication needs of our growing district by providing direct services to schools and district staff. Employees in the department oversee volunteer programs, graphics services, government relations, and website coordination. In addition, the department produces and maintains the district's major communication tools, such as the Family Guide, Superintendent's Tabloid, school profiles, school volunteer database, and our district website. Serving as the public information office for the district, the department coordinates media inquiries, press releases, and community partnerships and assists schools and departments with crisis management, internal communications and special school board recognitions.

The Volunteer Programs office processes all school volunteer applications and manages the federally funded Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) grant. Graphic Services designs communication tools and offers in-house printing capability to the district and schools. Graphics Services also oversees the Micrographics Department, providing archiving and retrieval of school board records, such as student records and financial and human resource documents. The Government Relations office acts as the liaison between the district and elected officials, develops legislative platforms for the district, offers training on public advocacy, and provides employees with legislative updates. The district website coordinator oversees the district's website and offers assistance and coordination services to schools.

The Communications and Government Relations Department strives to realize the district vision by facilitating effective communication among all stakeholders and promoting a positive image of the District School Board of Pasco County throughout the community.

## **Community, Career and Technical Education Department**

The mission of the Community Career and Technical Education department is “to provide rigorous and relevant educational pathways that assist students in developing essential work skills to be successful in a global economy”

The Community, Career and Technical Education (CCTE) Department supports secondary and post-secondary programs that deliver instruction to middle and high school students, as well as to adult learners. Courses and programs are offered in every middle and high school, Marchman Technical Education Center (MTEC), and Moore Mickens Education Center (MMEC). In the middle school, students are enrolled in a year-long orientation program and rotate through a “wheel” from one content area to another. The purpose of the rotation is to expose students to many different career pathways and occupations. In the eighth grade, students may elect to enroll in semester long classes that encourages them to further explore an interest in a career cluster or pathway. Students are given opportunities to further discover their interests, skills and aptitudes by participating in hands-on learning activities. High school students enroll in job preparatory courses that prepare them for post-secondary education, community college, the university and/or the workforce. In the technical center and adult education at MTEC and MMEC center, high school students and adult learners prepare for occupations that have been targeted as high skill, high wage and high demand. Opportunities also exist for a student to articulate into the community college or university system.

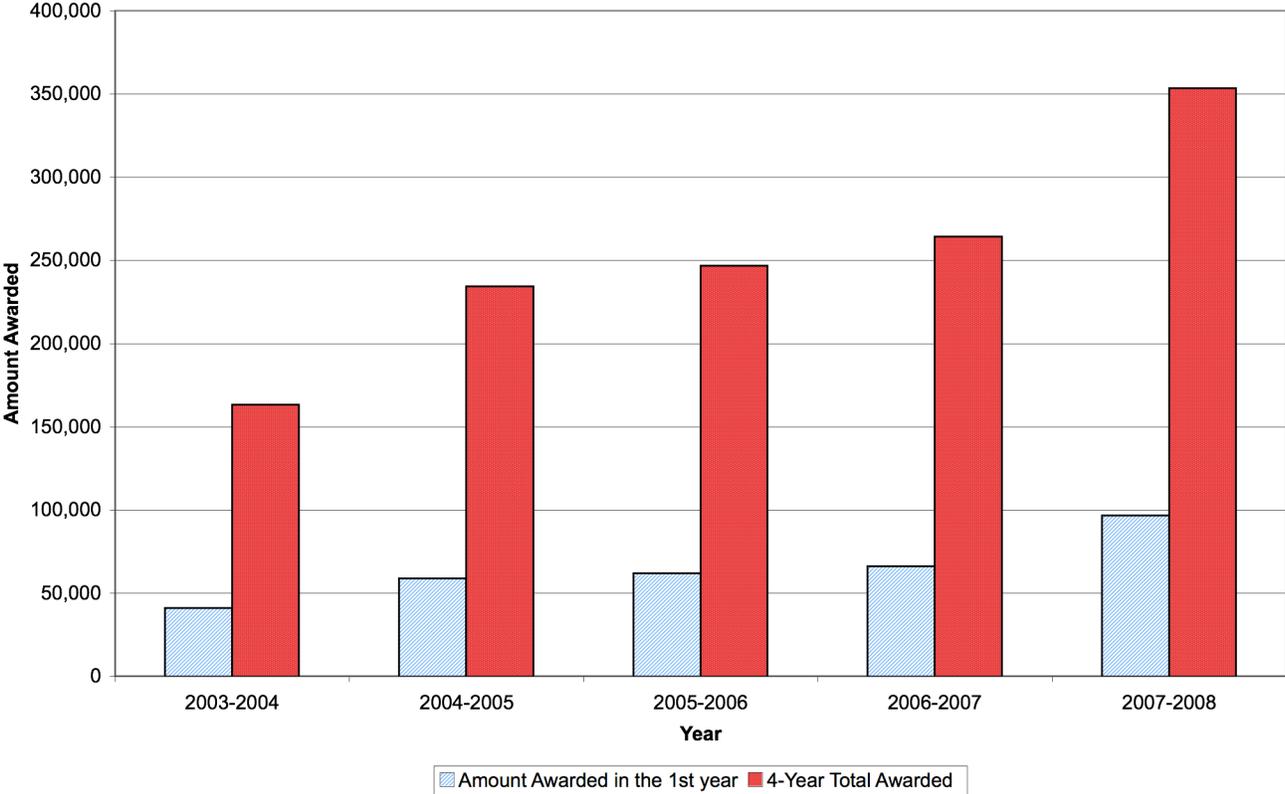
CCTE is playing a vital role in the state’s efforts toward high school reform in Florida. Career Academies designed as, schools within schools, integrate academic with career and technical courses to help students discover their interests and use their talents to provide a career pathway and earn an industry recognized certificate.

Currently six schools have implemented Career Academies. Health Career Academies are embedded in four high schools and Marchman Technical Education Center. In January of 2008, an Information Technology Career Academy opened at Wiregrass Ranch High School. Teams at each Pasco County high school are planning and developing an Academy to open in 2009-2010.

Students who complete a program of study and maintain certain grade point averages are eligible for the Florida Bright Futures Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship. In addition to scholarship opportunities, students are prepared to test and earn industry recognized certification which facilitates direct entry into a high skill, high demand workforce.

The CCTE Department also supports adult education programs for the adult learner who seek enrollment in courses designed to develop the skills necessary to become high school graduates, complete job preparation courses, or learn to speak English. The skills gained by the adult students facilitate their future educational opportunities for post-secondary education and entry into the workforce.

**Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarships**



*Note: Amount Awarded in the 1<sup>st</sup> year is equal to one year of funding. Amount awarded after 4 years is a 4-year total of funding.*

## **Construction Services and Code Compliance**

Our department's mission is to support the District's vision by providing students, staff and parents with cost effective, safe and healthy facilities that provide an enriching learning environment. Our responsibility includes the oversight of new school planning and construction as well as the supervision of major remodeling projects at existing educational facilities throughout the District. Responsibilities include:

### **New Construction**

Since 2005, fifteen new schools have opened, providing the District with an additional 15,184 student stations. A number of these facilities were designed to serve as Hurricane Shelters for the residents of Pasco County. Currently, the District is working closely with Pasco County Government in an effort to co-locate schools and parks and to share these public resources. Additionally, the District is proud to state that Gulf Trace Elementary School has been honored with the recognition as being named the first Silver LEED Certified public K-12 school in the state.

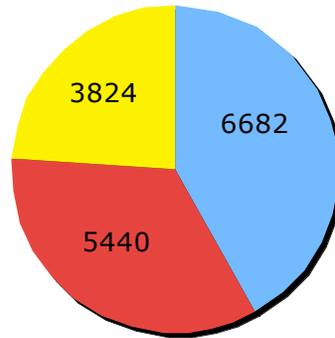
### **Capital Facility Improvement Projects**

A number of remodeling projects, including "Penny for Pasco" funded projects, have been completed at various schools throughout the District. Pasco High School, Gulf Middle School, Gulf High School, R.B. Stewart Middle School and R.B. Cox Elementary School have and/or will receive major campus renovation improvements. Additional projects include classroom building additions, cafeteria expansions, window replacements, paving improvements, air conditioning replacement, support facility construction, lighting retrofitting and the installation of covered walkways.

### **Code Compliance**

All new school construction and remodeling projects, as well as existing facilities, must meet rigid code, governmental regulatory and life safety standards. Building permits, construction inspections and life safety/fire inspections are conducted by licensed and experienced department personnel. To insure the safety and wellbeing of every member of the district community, all facilities are inspected regularly with the intent of providing a safe teaching and learning environment.

### New School Construction 2005-2008



- 9 Elementary Schools Student Stations
- 4 Middle Schools Student Stations
- 2 High Schools Student Stations

9 Elementary Schools	
Gulf Highlands Elementary "G"	762 Student Stations
Seven Oaks Elementary "H"	674 Student Stations
Longleaf Elementary "I"	674 Student Stations
Double Branch Elementary "J"	762 Student Stations
Trinity Oaks Elementary "K"	762 Student Stations
Oakstead Elementary "L"	762 Student Stations
New River Elementary "M"	762 Student Stations
Gulf Trace Elementary "N"	762 Student Stations
Veterans Elementary "P"	762 Student Stations
4 Middle Schools	
Dr. John Long Middle "CC"	1,273 Student Stations
Paul R. Smith Middle "DD"	1,273 Student Stations
Charles S. Rushe Middle "EE"	1,447 Student Stations
Crews Lake Middle "FF"	1,447 Student Stations
2 High Schools	
Wiregrass Ranch High "CCC"	1,910 Student Stations
Sunlake High "DDD"	1,914 Student Stations

## **Curriculum & Instructional Services Department**

The Curriculum & Instructional Services (CIS) department provides the leadership necessary for the implementation of curriculum, instruction and assessment practices in the following areas: reading, English language arts, science, social studies, visual and performing arts, world languages, physical education, health, Reserve Officers' Training Corp (ROTC) and drivers' education. Members of the CIS department review student data with a view toward raising academic achievement; review current and relevant research; identify and provide professional development in curricular practices; select instructional materials and equipment; design and oversee the curriculum; provide schools with technical assistance; and provide input for new school design and procurement of core purchases.

Support services provided by CIS include development of the Student Progression Plan, a plan that identifies student placement, promotion and retention of students, K-12; development and implementation of the K-12 Comprehensive Research-based Reading Plan, a plan that includes the goals for student achievement, best practices, resources and personnel; development of the Progress Monitoring Plan System; management of the Extended School Day and Extended School Year programs; and the Good Cause Exemption process.

The CIS department supports and promotes college-level courses including Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Enrollment (DE) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs. Enrollment in AP and IB courses has steadily increased. Specific enrollment data are provided in this document.

CIS oversees three environmental educational centers: Energy Marine Center, Starkey Educational Environmental Centre and Cross Bar Ranch. The mission of these programs is for our students to develop a sense of personal and collective responsibility for the preservation of Florida's ecosystem.

CIS is responsible for Title I, Migrant, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Graduation Enhancement programs. Details regarding these programs are provided on additional pages.

## **Graduation Enhancement Program**

The Graduation Enhancement Program (GEP) provides educational support for at-risk youth through its oversight of the Graduation Enhancement Programs (formerly known as Dropout Prevention), the Disciplinary Programs and the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Programs.

The GEP is comprised of a series of educational support programs specifically designed to address the academic needs of students at-risk of dropping out and are geared towards placing at-risk students back on track, or maintaining them on track, for completing high school diploma requirements in accordance to the district's Student Progression Plan. These programs are currently implemented in all of the district's middle and high schools, two educational centers and five elementary schools. There are four strands of the GEP, two of which follow a school within-a-school model, one that is based on accelerated opportunities through course modifications, and one that is based on a resource/tutorial model. The Multi-Abilities Alternative Program (MAAP) serves academically unsuccessful students in grades 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 in heterogeneous groups. The Student Support Assistance Program (SSAP), which is offered at the elementary and secondary school levels, provides daily support for targeted students while encouraging participation in mainstream academic/elective classes. The Performance-Based Diploma Program (PBDP) is a computer-assisted, instruction-based program that affords students the opportunity to earn regular high school diplomas through a GED Exit option. The GED Exit Option Assistance Program is a program that permits students who have not passed the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test to exit high school with the GED (State of Florida High School Diploma). The Support Our Students (SOS) Program provides competency-based instruction for MAAP and former dropout students at an education center.

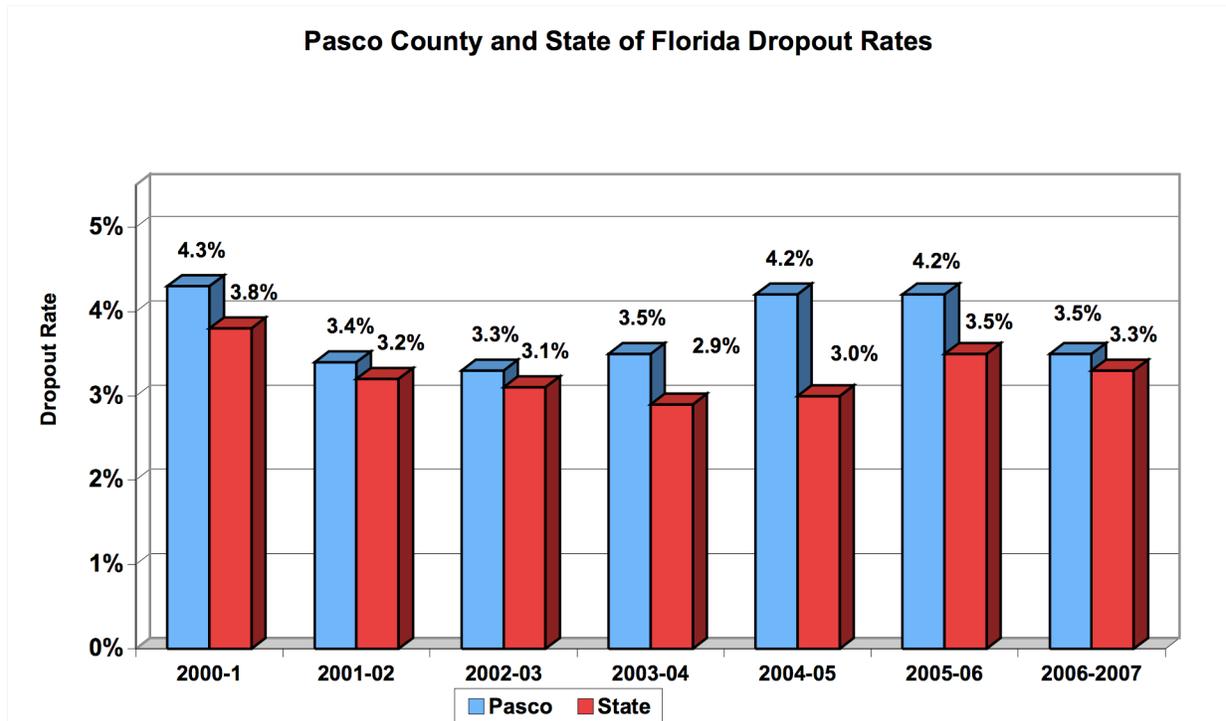
The disciplinary programs at James Irvin Education Center and Harry Schwettman Education Center are voluntary graduation enhancement programs which the district provides for students who have violated School Board policy, have seriously disrupted the learning environment of the school, have been expelled from school, or have a behavior pattern which has not been improved by a continuum of positive intervention strategies.

DJJ programs are provided at the Pasco Regional Juvenile Detention Center, San Antonio Boy's Village, New Port Richey Marine Institute, Mandala Center, Sunshine Youth Services, Wilson Youth Academy, and PACE for Girls. Adjudicated students participate in courses which maintain their educational status in Pasco County schools until they have been released from the facility and are ready to reenter a Pasco County or other public school. Qualifying students will have the opportunity to earn a GED prior to release with any associated fees waived. Students committed to DJJ facilities participate in all required statewide assessment testing. Educational programs operate on a 12-month basis, 250 days yearly with no more than ten of those days being used for teacher planning. PACE operates a 230-day calendar. The Sheriff's Detention Center Program provides K-12 educational services for juveniles adjudicated as adults housed in the Pasco County Jail.

## Dropout Rate

Dropout rates are calculated each year to monitor the percentage students who drop out of school. A dropout is defined by state law (Section 100.01, F.S.) as a student who leaves school for any reason, except death, before graduation or completion of a program of studies and without transferring to another public or nonpublic school or other educational institution. Based on the formula set forth by the Florida Department of Education, the dropout rate is expressed as a percentage, which is calculated by dividing (a) the number of students in grades 9-12 for whom a dropout withdrawal reason was reported by (b) the year's total enrollment for grades 9-12. District and state rates include students in alternative schools and exceptional education schools.

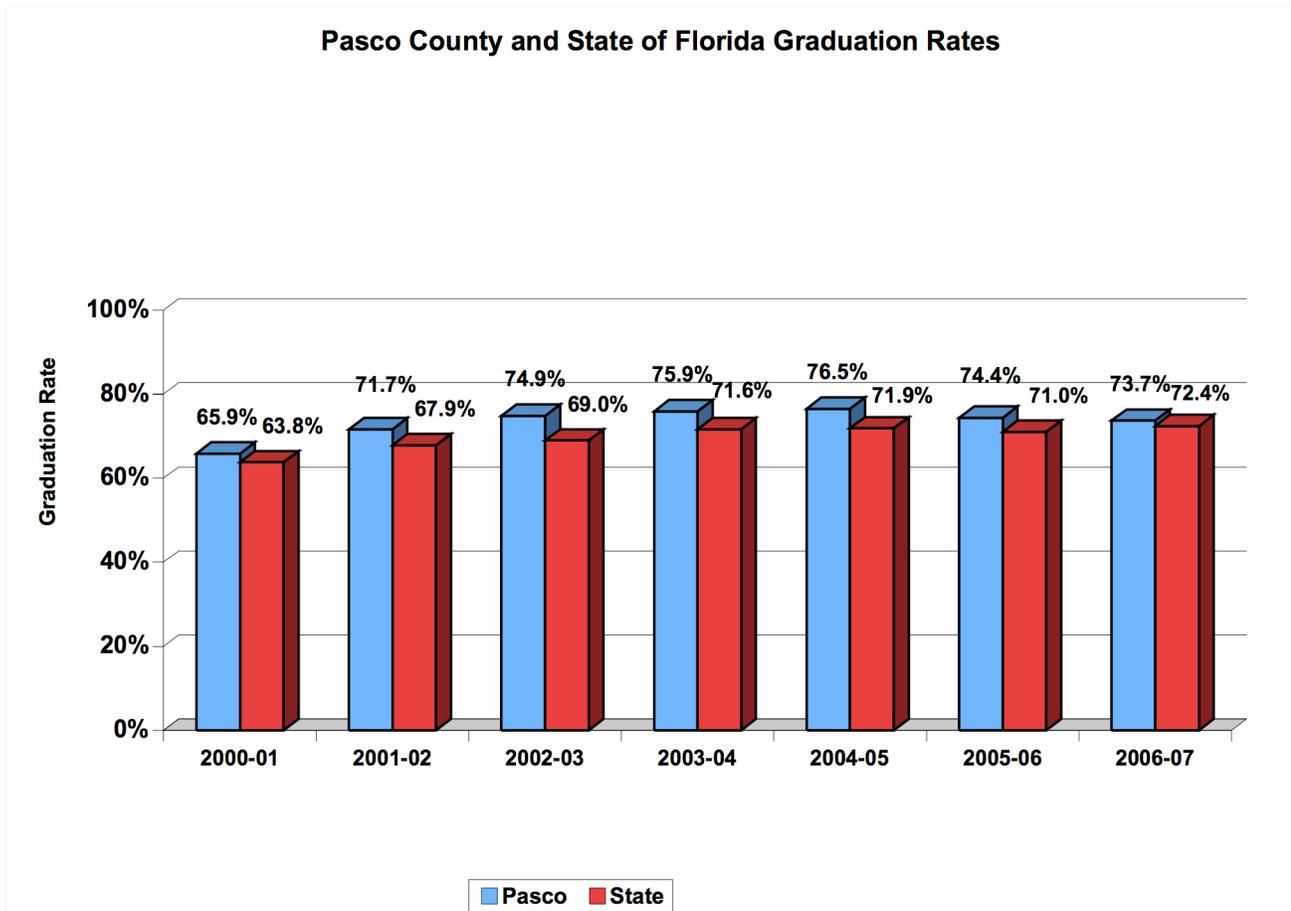
The chart below is based on data reported from 2001 through 2007. It provides a representation of dropout rates of Pasco County schools in comparison to state of Florida rates. Official dropout statistics for 2007-2008 had not yet been determined by the Department of Education at the time of printing of this report.



**Graduation Rate**

The Graduation rate for both the district and the state is represented by the percentage of students who have graduated within four years of entering ninth grade for the first time. Students who transfer out of the school or district to attend school elsewhere or to enroll in an adult-education program are removed from the group of students (cohort) tracked. Incoming transfer students, at the time of their enrollment, are included in the count of the class with which they are scheduled to graduate and are tracked accordingly. A graduate is defined as a student who receives a standard diploma, a special diploma, or a diploma awarded after successful completion of the GED examination. Certificate recipients are not included. Although the school-level rate is shown only for regular high schools, district and state rates cover all schools with graduates, which may include schools other than regular high schools (e.g., alternative education centers).

The chart below is based on data reported from 2001 through 2007. It provides a representation of graduation rates of Pasco County schools in comparison to state of Florida rates. Official graduation statistics for 2007-2008 had not yet been determined by the Department of Education at the time of printing of this report.



**English for Speakers of Other Languages**

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services in Pasco County are designed to provide academic, cultural, social, and other support services to students who are English Language Learners (ELL) and their families. Pasco County’s inclusion model guides instructional personnel to deliver comprehensible instruction in English in order that ELLs develop language that enables them to participate actively in a student-centered learning process. Teachers employ appropriate modifications and accommodations in order that instructional materials, activities, and assessments be accessible to ELLs at all stages of English language proficiency and they create a classroom environment that emerges from lesson planning, delivery, and assessment for student growth in English language acquisition and academic objectives. Initiatives funded under Title III permit the district to offer supplemental after-school and family literacy programs at several sites district-wide. This approach is in keeping with Pasco County’s vision of continuous progress, continuity of caring, and ensuring equity and excellence.

Coming from over 92 countries and speaking 68 different languages, approximately 4% of Pasco County students are in the process of becoming fully proficient in their use of English for daily communications and academic success. Spanish is spoken by 80% of these students, with representative groups of Vietnamese, Arabic, Serbo-Croatian and other Slavic languages speakers.

The district’s ELL Plan, ELL Plan Appendices, and Add-On Certification Program for ESOL Endorsement are the documents governing the adherence by the District School Board of Pasco County to the requirements mandated under 1003.56 F.S., Rules 6A-6.0900 to 6A-6.0909 F.A.C., and the 1990 META Consent Decree. These involve all aspects of the delivery of services as well as elements related to teacher training.

School Year	# of ELLs (LY Students)	Population	ELL % of Population	# of LF Students	# of LZ Students
* 2008	2,856	75,205	3.8	1,016	2,164
* 2007	2,269	64,386	3.5	757	1,782
* 2006	2,155	62,600	3.4	1,001	1,750
2005	1,924	60,203	3.2	950	1,674
2004	1,830	57,476	3.2	976	1,471
2003	1,822	53,695	3.4	865	1,327
2002	2,381	52,469	4.5	531	992
2001	2,137	49,157	4.3	557	958
2000	1,893	47,432	4.0	581	922
1999	1,792	46,064	3.9	634	n/a

\* Survey 5

- LY Students currently classified ELL and receiving services
- LF Former LY students, now exited and being monitored (2 years) for continued success
- LZ Students whose 2-year monitoring is completed

**ESOL Students in Pasco County (Ten-Year Review)**

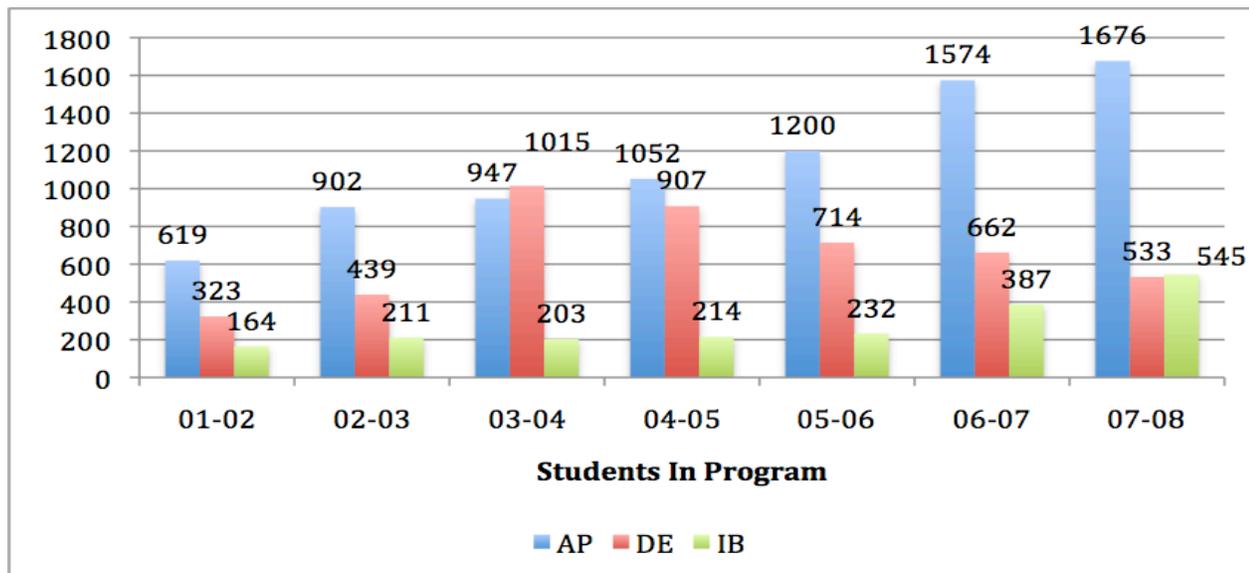
## College-Level Courses

Pasco County Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Enrollment (DE), and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs support Continuous Progress, Continuity of Caring, and Equity and Excellence by providing high quality, academically rigorous courses for highly motivated students. These programs provide students with the opportunity to take college-level courses and examinations while still in high school.

The Advanced Placement Program offers more than twenty courses throughout the school district. Advanced Placement course offerings include, but are not limited to, English, American History, American Government, economics, calculus, biology, environmental sciences, music, visual arts, and several world languages.

The District School Board of Pasco County and Pasco Hernando Community College (PHCC) coordinate the Dual Enrollment Program jointly. This program gives high school students a unique opportunity to enroll in courses at the high school campus or the PHCC campus. Courses are available in English, mathematics, science, visual and performing fine arts, world languages, practical arts career, economics, or electives. Over 190 different Dual Enrollment courses are available to students in grades 9-12 who meet the eligibility requirements.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is a rigorous pre-university course of studies, which meet the needs of highly motivated and academically talented high school students. The planned program of studies is scheduled over four years, beginning in the ninth grade with the pre-IB curriculum and culminating with a two-year IB curriculum for 11th and 12th graders that allows its graduates to fulfill requirements of various national education systems. The IB curriculum is divided into six subject groups that include English, world languages, science, social studies, mathematics, arts and other electives. The IB program is offered at Gulf High School and Land O' Lakes High School.



## **Title I - Improving Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged**

Title I was originally enacted in 1965 as a key component of President Johnson’s War on Poverty. Today, this law still focuses on improving the academic achievement of economically disadvantaged youth. The law itself is reauthorized every five years. The last reauthorization occurred January 2001 and is called the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The two main goals of the act are to provide highly qualified teachers and set a mandatory national deadline for all public schools to bring their students to a “proficient” level.

Title I is also an umbrella term for several different federal grants. The largest grant under this umbrella is Title I, Part A, which supported economically disadvantaged students in 18 Pasco County schools in the 2007-2008 school year. These 18 schools were selected based on their high percentages of students receiving free or reduced priced meals. Title I Part A also supported homeless children from throughout the district, as well as economically disadvantaged children that attend participating private schools. Other federal grants under the Title I umbrella include Title I, Part C, which supports the needs of migrant students, and Title I, Part D, which supports the needs of neglected and delinquent youth.

These Title I federal grants brought a total of \$11,751,062.03 into Pasco County during the 2007-2008 school year. The following table demonstrates the total for each of the federal grants.

<b>Grant Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Title I Part A Basic Grant	\$11,432,695.00
Title I Part C Federal Migrant Education Grant	\$103,989.03
Title I Part D Neglected and Delinquent Grant	\$214,378.00

### **Schools Served with Title I, Part A Basic Grant Funds in 2007-2008**

Anclote Elementary School	J.M. Marlowe Elementary School
Chasco Elementary School	Moon Lake Elementary School
R. B. Cox Elementary School	Northwest Elementary School
Fox Hollow Elementary School	Pasco Elementary School
Mary Giella Elementary School	Richey Elementary School
Gulf Highlands Elementary School	Shady Hills Elementary School
Hudson Elementary School	Schrader Elementary School
Lacoochee Elementary School	Sunray Elementary School
M. P. Locke Elementary School	West Zephyrhills Elementary School

\*Bishop Larkin Catholic School (participating nonpublic school)

\*St. Anthony Interparochial School (participating nonpublic school)

## **Employee Assistance, Benefits and Risk Management Department**

The Department manages various District programs related to employee health and wellness and insuring District assets.

### **Employee Benefits**

Core benefits provided by the District include employee single coverage for Health, Pharmacy, and Dental, \$35,000 Life Insurance, Mental Health/Substance Abuse and Flex dollars. The District is self insured for pharmacy claims and fully insured for all other group health insurance. All employees receive \$150 annually for flex spending. The Department manages Dependent premiums paid by employees, Retiree Benefits (both Board paid and those paid by the retiree), COBRA (offered to terminated employees and those on extended unpaid leave), Voluntary Benefits (purchased by employees with flex dollars or with their own funds) and the medical insurance opt-out program. Employees who opt out of the Health Benefits program still receive the \$35,000 Life Insurance, \$150 flex dollars as well as a \$1,200 annual stipend that is taxable income. The Department is responsible for HIPAA compliance and assuring that the Section 125/cafeteria plan is in compliance with IRS regulations, as well as the FRS Retirement-Pension and Investment plans, the DROP Plan, Special Pay Plan and Early Retirement Plan. Information seminars are offered for those employees nearing retirement age.

### **Employee Assistance**

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides up to five visits per year with a licensed counselor at no cost to employees. A Wellness Program, which includes health screenings, flu shots and various employee education programs, is offered District-wide.

### **Risk Management**

The Department is responsible for the Property and Casualty Insurance program for the District, the District's self insured programs for Workers' Compensation and General/Auto Liability, the athletic insurance programs, and the voluntary student insurance program.

The following table reports the number of employees covered by various programs and the amount funded.

<b>Fast Facts 2007-2008</b>	
Total Active Employees Eligible for Group Health Benefits	9,525
Total Active Employees Enrolled in Group Health Benefits	8,145
Employees Opting Out of Group Health Benefit Program	1,380
Retirees Enrolled in Group Health Benefits	478
Dependents Covered-Medical	2,060
Workers' Compensation Claims	462
Workers' Compensation Claims-lost days	1,657
Total Insured Value-Property	1.3 billion
Board Expenditures:	
Health Insurance Premiums - Active Employees	\$40,240,047.00
Health Insurance Premiums - Retirees	\$ 2,361,540.00
Pharmacy Claims	\$ 9,214,555.00
Flex Dollars	\$ 1,428,750.00
EAP Counselors	\$ 118,065.00
Workers' Compensation Claims	\$ 1,348,914.00
Insurance Premiums – Property/Excess Coverage	\$ 3,104,306.00

## **Exceptional Student Education Department**

As a result of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004, there has been a conscientious effort to serve students with disabilities through increased opportunities to access the general curriculum and, to the maximum extent appropriate, be educated with their non-disabled peers. IDEA requires that students with disabilities receive services in the least restrictive environment. The district's philosophy is that in most instances this can be accomplished at the student's neighborhood school through the availability of a continuum of services. Our philosophy also supports the principle that educational need, not eligibility or a label, determines services through the IEP (Individual Education Plan) process.

Pasco County offers educational services for students from birth to 22 years of age identified in the following areas: Autism Spectrum Disorder, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Developmentally Delayed (birth-2 yr) (3-5yr), Dual Sensory Impaired, Educable Mentally Handicapped, Emotional-Behavioral Disabilities, Established Conditions (birth- 2 yr), Gifted, Hospital/Homebound, Physically Impaired with Orthopedic Impairment, Physically Impaired with Other Health Impaired, Physically Impaired with Traumatic Brain Injured, Profoundly Mentally Handicapped, Specific Learning Disabilities, Speech and Language Impaired, Trainable Mentally Handicapped and Visually Impaired.

Highly qualified instructional and non-instructional support staff collaborate to provide accommodations with assignments, instructional methods, materials, resources and assessment methods that enhance learning experiences for students. Many strategies can be integrated into the classroom to enhance the content being presented, assist with assignments, and to organize the content being learned. Testing accommodations, such as flexible scheduling, audio answers, use of mechanical aids, or a change in format, may be helpful. Use of appropriate accommodations develops a greater capacity for students to take an active role in the learning process and focus on their strengths.

Other available services include: Adaptive Physical Education, Assistive Technology, Audiology, Augmentative Communication, Behavior Specialist Support, CORE Team for Low Prevalence Programs, Counseling Services, Dysphasia Team Support, Inclusion Support, Interpreters for the Deaf, Occupational Therapy, On-the-job Training, Orientation and Mobility, Parent Support, Physical Therapy, Pre-vocational and Vocational Classes, Staff Development and Transition Services for High School Students.

Our district's vision supports the principle that all individuals shall have the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve their full potential and contribute to the community in a meaningful way.

**Standard Diploma Rates for Students with Disabilities**

The following standard diploma rates are calculated based on the total number of students with disabilities who exited school in a given year, rather than using the four-year cohort model described in the NCLB graduation rate. The standard diploma rate includes students who complete their education (earning required credits, maintaining required GPA and passing FCAT or approved FCAT waiver or

	<b>2005-2006</b>	<b>2006-2007</b>
<b>Pasco</b>	38%	42%
<b>*EG</b>	38%	40%
<b>State</b>	39%	40%

GED Exit Option). Please note that this is a change in calculation from previous reporting years.

**Post-School Outcome Data for Students with Disabilities**

The Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) is an interagency data collection system that obtains follow-up data on former students. The most recent FETPIP data available reports on students who exited Florida public schools during the 2005-06 school year. The table below displays the percent of students with disabilities exiting school in 2003-04 and 2005-06 who were either employed or enrolled in continuing education between October and December following their graduation from high school.

	<b>Employed</b>			<b>Continuing Education</b>			<b>Employed/ Continuing Education</b>		
	<b>03-04</b>	<b>04-05</b>	<b>05-06</b>	<b>03-04</b>	<b>04-05</b>	<b>05-06</b>	<b>03-04</b>	<b>04-05</b>	<b>05-06</b>
<b>Pasco</b>	51%	49%	48%	19%	14%	15%	59%	53%	54%
<b>*EG</b>	51%	49%	50%	18%	28%	17%	57%	58%	56%
<b>State</b>	48%	49%	48%	19%	20%	19%	56%	57%	55%

**Regular Class, Resource Room and Separate Class Placement, Ages 6-21 for Students with Disabilities**

To obtain the percent of students with disabilities in each class setting, the number of students with disabilities ages 6-21 in regular class, resource room, and separate class placement are divided by the total number of students with disabilities ages 6-21 reported in December of each year.

Regular class designation includes students who spend 80 percent or more of their school week with nondisabled peers. Resource room designation includes students spending between 40 and 80 percent of their school week with nondisabled peers. Separate class designation includes students spending less than 40 percent of their week with nondisabled peers. The resulting percentages are reported for the three years from 2005-06 through 2007-08.

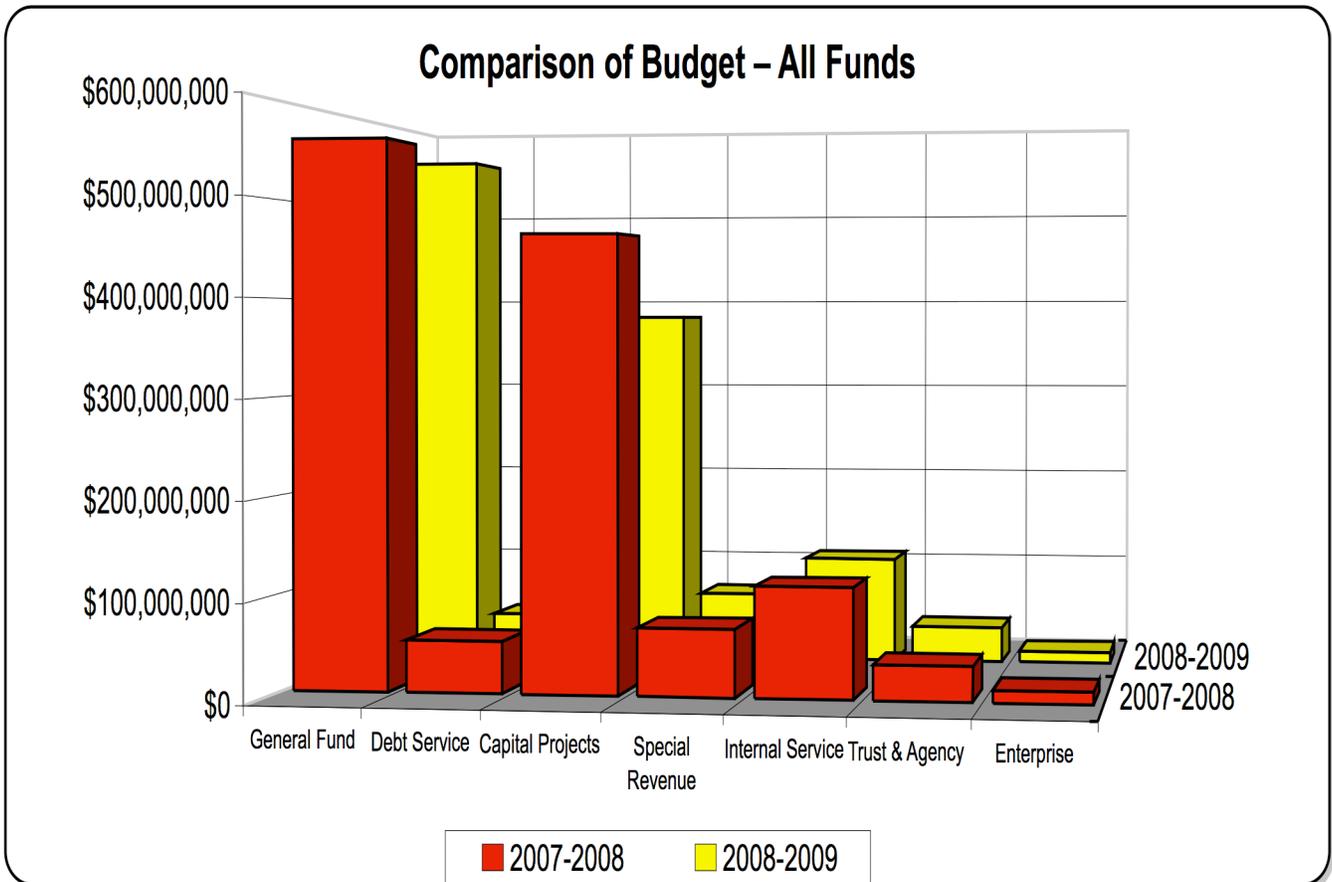
	Regular Class & Resource Room			Separate Class		
	05-06	06-07	07-08	05-06	06-07	07-08
<b>Pasco</b>	75%	77%	81%	25%	22%	18%
<b>*EG</b>	72%	74%	76%	25%	24%	20%
<b>State</b>	74%	76%	78%	22%	22%	18%

\*EG= Enrollment Group defined as districts of comparable size.

***Finance Services Department***

The Finance Services Department encompasses all accounting, financing, grant management, internal audit and budgeting activities within the District. It includes accounts payable, recording of revenues, debt management, investment activities, review of the financial activities of District functions, operation of the computerized financial records system, financial reporting, and payroll operations. The Department is ultimately responsible for ensuring that accounting transactions are properly recorded and maintains all official accounting records.

For seven consecutive years, the District School Board of Pasco County has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) and the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). In order to receive these awards, the District must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized CAFR. These awards are granted only after an intensive review of financial reports by an expert panel of certified public accountants and practicing school business officials.

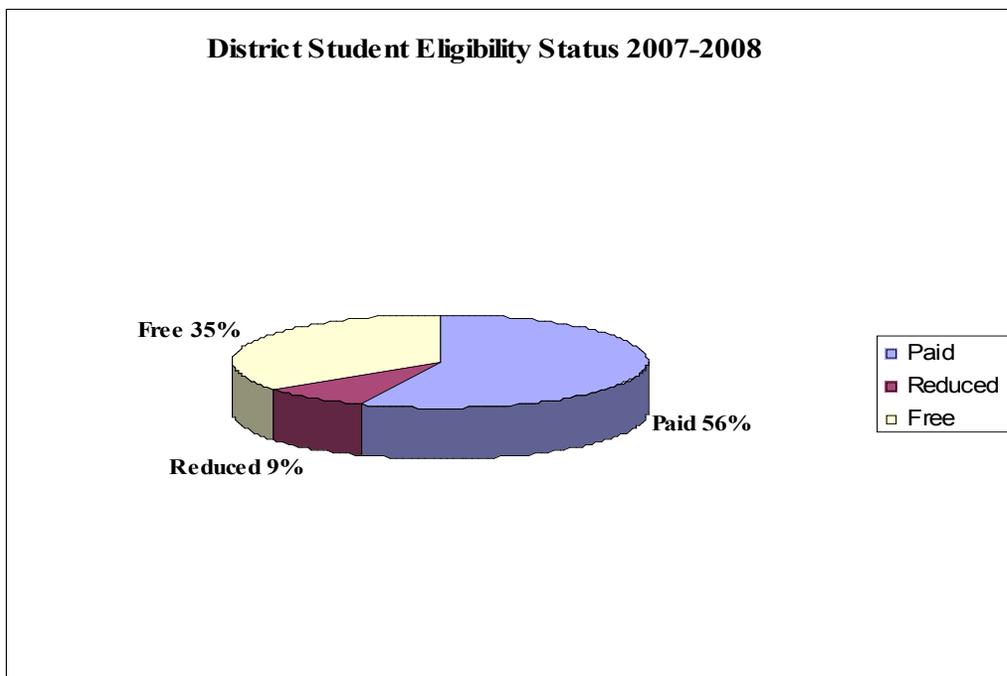


## **Food and Nutrition Services Department**

The Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Department is dedicated to providing nutritious meals for students to help build a healthier student body.

FNS served 2.86 million student breakfasts and 6.75 million lunches in 2007-2008. FNS is self-supporting with all food, supplies, salaries, benefits, equipment and indirect costs paid with FNS funds provided by the federal and state government, and local revenue generated from the price of school meals; \$1.80 elementary lunch, \$2.30 secondary lunch, \$.40 reduced-price lunch, \$1.15 elementary breakfast, \$1.30 secondary breakfast, \$.30 reduced-price breakfast, and free meals were provided to qualifying students. Thirty-one schools participated in the Provision 2 Breakfast Program, serving approximately 1.9 million free breakfasts, which accounted for more than 67% of the free breakfasts served.

School meals are designed by registered dietitians to ensure they meet the USDA Nutrition Standards for calories, protein, iron, calcium, vitamin A, vitamin C, and percent calories for total and saturated fats. A student lunch consists of an entree, two different side choices and a milk choice; breakfast consists of a main fare choice, a fruit choice and a milk choice.



\*Forty-four percent of enrolled students qualified for free and reduced-price meals.

## **Human Resources Department**

The Human Resources Department is committed to providing leadership, support and resources to recruit and retain qualified staff to help Pasco County students reach their highest potential.

During the 2007-2008 school year, the department recruited teachers, administrators and instructional support employees by hosting local job fairs, attending the Great Florida Teach-In and sending recruiting teams to states such as Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Minnesota. Information sessions were conducted for graduating seniors at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg College and St. Leo University. The Pasco Teacher Recruitment Fair attracted 375 candidates seeking teaching opportunities. The School Related Personnel Substitute Fair attracted 135 participants who were trained to become substitutes in the areas of Custodial Services, Food and Nutrition Services, Exceptional Student Education and Prekindergarten Services. The department coordinated the placement of 193 teacher interns from local colleges. The Diversity Task Force studied effective strategies to develop a diverse instructional and administrative staff to more closely reflect the communities we serve. Our certification staff insured that all employees who are required to have a certificate or license met state requirements. We monitored compliance with state and federal guidelines, including NCLB and out of field. For all district employees, the department maintained current and accurate employment records.

The Department of Human Resources helped school related personnel (SRP) achieve educational goals to become teachers. During the 2007-2008 school year, 34 SRPs were provided with reimbursement for tuition and books each semester and eligible employees benefited from continuation of health insurance benefits during their final internship.

The online employment application allows prospective employees the opportunity to complete applications conveniently and permits principals to review applicants' credentials more efficiently. Since March 1, 2008 over 2,500 new instructional applications were submitted.

Targeted Selection was conducted to establish pools of highly qualified administrators. Currently we have candidates in all pools: High School Principal (7), High School Assistant Principal (11), Middle School Principal (4), Middle School Assistant Principal (18), Elementary Principal (5) and Elementary Assistant Principal (22).

The Department of Human Resources insured compliance with federal and state laws such as No Child Left Behind, Jessica Lunsford Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, and Veteran's Preference. We coordinated fingerprinting of new employees and refingerprinting of veteran employees to comply with state statutes.

The department provided substitutes for teachers and selected instructional support employees. Substitutes were recruited and trained throughout the year. Our automated substitute dialer system provided schools with assistance more efficiently. Currently there are 1,287 active substitutes. During the 2007-2008 school year, 809 new substitutes received orientation and training.

## **Information Services Department**

The Information Services Department has the responsibility to support both the Business Operations and Instructional Operations of the District School Board of Pasco County.

Listed below are functions assigned to this department.

**District Computer Services** - oversight of the district "mainframe" computers and the applications that run on these machines. These applications include the Student System, Finance System (including Maintenance work order, Payroll, Budget, and Telecommunications work order systems) and the Human Resources System.

**District Management Information System (MIS) and Forms Control** - oversight (by State Statute) of the district level reports and forms control management system, which include the addition, modification, and removal of MIS forms.

**District Network Services** - oversight of the district and school infrastructure for computer, TV, e-mail, and internet services including the design, purchase, maintenance and security of the entire district computer network systems.

**District Office Machines** - oversight of the copier and laser printer cost-per-copy programs.

**District Records Management and Archives Program** - oversight (by State Statute) of the procedures for scheduling and disposal of the districts public records.

**District Technology Services** - oversight of the repair and maintenance of computers and peripheral equipment.

**District Telecommunication Services** - oversight of the infrastructure for the district telephone system including the design and maintenance of that system.

**District Technology Support Services** - oversight of the software licenses for administrative functions within the district. This function also includes some development and maintenance of specialized microcomputer applications.

**District Hardware and Software Purchases** - oversight of the purchase of the district's main technology hardware, software and the purchase of administrative microcomputers.

**E-Rate** - E-rate is the Universal Service Fund established in the Telecommunications Act passed in 1996 by Congress. It was created to provide the nation's elementary and secondary schools and libraries with deep discounts for services such as basic telephone service, advanced telecommunications services, Internet services and internal connections. The department monitors and applies for these funds.

### **Student Membership Counts**

During May of the 2008 school year, Pasco County's student membership was reported to be 65,797. The May 2008 TERMS information showed that of the 65,797 students in Pasco Schools:

- 48,749 were White
- 8,941 were Hispanic
- 3,667 were Black
- 1,411 were Asian/Pacific Islander
- 192 were American Indian/Alaskan Native
- 2,837 were Multiracial
- The total minority population (17,048 students) represented approximately 26% of the district's total student body

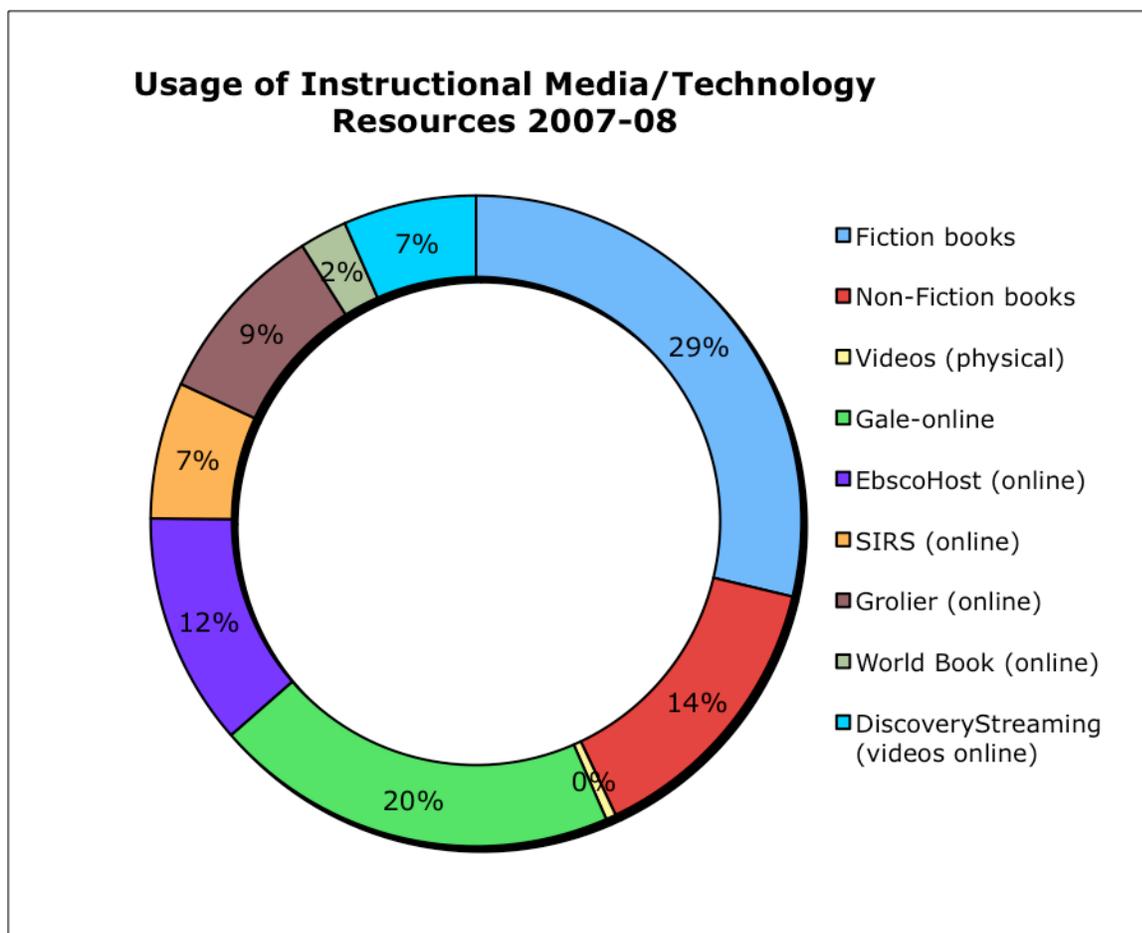
**Student Membership by Grade and by Race/Ethnic Category May 2008**

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>WHITE</b>	<b>BLACK</b>	<b>HISPANIC</b>	<b>ASIAN/ PACIFIC ISLAND</b>	<b>AM INDIAN/ ALASKAN NATIVE</b>	<b>MUTLI- RACIAL</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
PK	818	118	318	20	4	97	1,375
KG	3,462	251	685	127	13	283	4,821
1	3,666	269	694	120	7	284	5,040
2	3,848	276	710	134	9	284	5,261
3	3,955	312	782	112	15	273	5,449
4	3,647	288	634	110	12	239	4,930
5	3,797	267	696	113	16	220	5,109
6	3,899	258	720	125	15	204	5,221
7	3,981	257	707	83	22	197	5,247
8	3,619	272	599	92	19	196	4,797
9	4,258	363	787	113	17	182	5,720
10	3,665	273	612	104	15	159	4,828
11	3,289	270	582	98	16	130	4,385
12	2,845	193	415	60	12	89	3,614
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48,749</b>	<b>3,667</b>	<b>8,941</b>	<b>1,411</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>2,837</b>	<b>65,797</b>

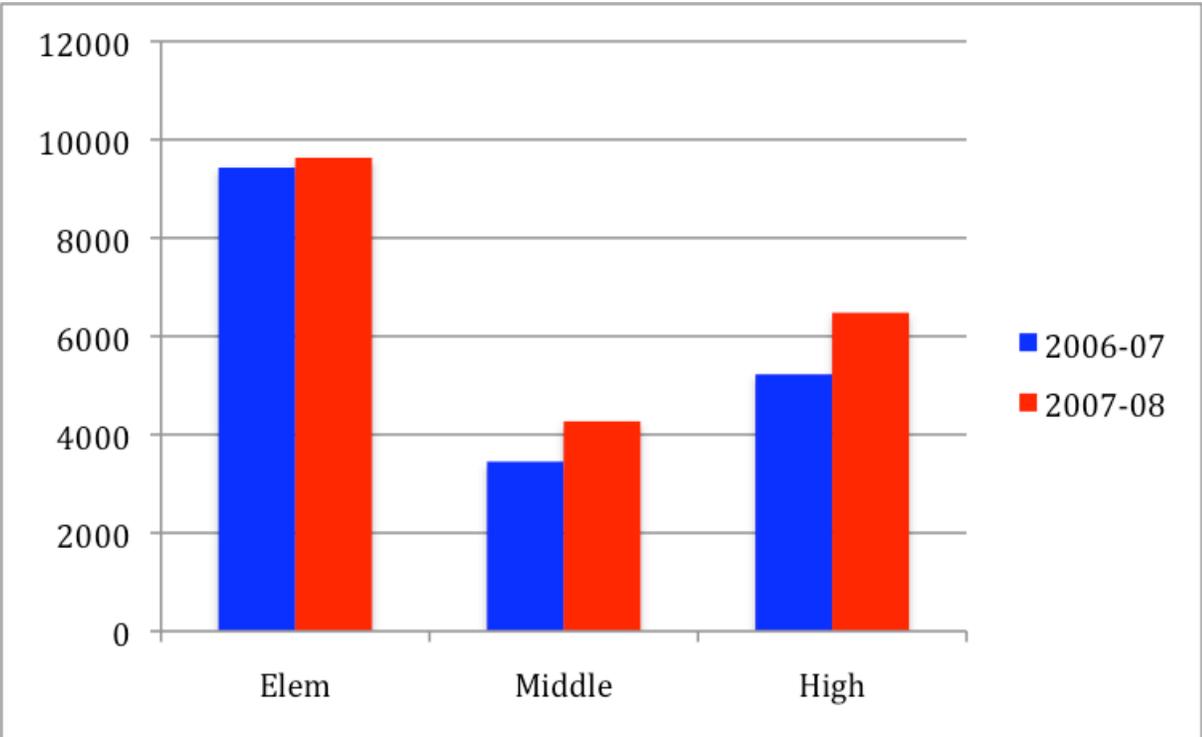
## **Instructional Media & Technology Services Department**

Instructional Media and Technology Services supports school-based Media Technology programs through consultation, training and the provision of resources to ensure that all Pasco students gain the information and technology skills needed for success in a digital world. Support for school-based literacy efforts is provided through sharing of best practices for reading motivation, promotional activities, and collection development, as well as the maintenance of the on-line catalog and automated circulation system. The department also sponsors annual student storytelling and speech contests. The "Communicating the Vision" video production project gives schools the opportunity to showcase their students and school activities through teacher and student produced digital video programs shown on the Pasco Educational Television station, PETV.

Information resources are available in all formats including print, video and digital. Subscription based on-line information resources are available to faculty and students at both school and home. Digital video is available to teachers through a subscription to Discovery Streaming and staff development is enhanced through a subscription to Atomic Learning, which provides video tutorials for the most widely used software applications and is available to faculty, students and their families.



The 2007-08 school year offered a unique opportunity to increase the access to technology for all students through a national class action suit settlement with Microsoft Corporation. Unclaimed funds were distributed to schools using a formula developed by the Florida Department of Education. The district was allocated \$2.8 million for instructional technology, based on a per student allocation, using enrollment data from 2004-05. Charter schools were allocated a portion of the district funds for instructional technology based on their current population. Instructional Media and Technology Services, in collaboration with Information Services, facilitated purchases of laptop computers for student use, and distributed them to schools based on their enrollment figures. This purchase brought the total student/computer ratio to 3.09 students per computer at the elementary level, 3.42 at the middle school level, and 2.83 at the high school level. The increase in the actual number of computers at each level is represented in the graph below.



## **Leadership Development Department**

In its third year of existence, the Leadership Development Department is actively engaged in supporting the District's vision of creating a community that works together so that all students reach their highest potential. Understanding the correlation between strong leadership and the development of a successful school, the department has spearheaded an intense effort to cultivate effective school leaders. The department provides a variety of high-quality leadership development opportunities for current and aspiring school leaders. Specifically, the department was proud to add the following enhancements to its offerings during the 2007-2008 school year:

<b>Program</b>	<b>Important Information</b>
Leading Change Training	This successful program was expanded to accommodate the participation of district administrators.
PNPP Technical Training	This new element of the Preparing New Principals Program provides aspiring school leaders with essential information regarding the functions and services offered by district departments.
Leading Sustainable School Development	This vital professional development opportunity was enhanced to provide even more useful and relevant information for school leaders. It was also expanded to enable greater participation by district administrators.
Interaction Management: Coaching Series	This widely acclaimed professional development program has been used across a wide spectrum of professions to promote positive management principles. This year, six Pasco administrators have become certified Interaction Management Trainers, enabling the district to offer this valuable resource to higher numbers of Pasco administrators in a more cost-efficient manner.
Eckerd Leadership Institute	For the first time, sixteen Pasco administrators participated in the Eckerd Leadership Institute. It is an impressive weeklong institute that leads administrators through intensive exploration of their own leadership skills.
Executive Leadership Institute, Train the Trainer Model:	Pasco administrators have become certified trainers for the Executive Leadership Institute offered through the University of South Florida. This will enable an expansion of this training in a cost-effective manner.
Administrative Mentoring Program:	The establishment of the administrative mentoring program offers new administrators the opportunity to receive ongoing and direct feedback from a seasoned professional. This is an extremely valuable addition to our professional development offerings.
Leadership Exploration Night	This year, over 200 aspiring school leaders received valuable information regarding flexible educational opportunities offered through our partnership with five universities. Information about career pathways available throughout the district is also presented to interested parties.

The Leadership Development Department will strive to continue its efforts to serve as a valuable resource to school leaders throughout the upcoming school year by providing a variety of relevant opportunities for professional development.

**Maintenance and Facilities Services Department**

**2008 Profile of the Department and District Facilities**

There are a total of 83 school and ancillary facilities with 42 located on the west side of the county, 20 in the center and 20 sites on the east side. The total square footage of facilities is approximately 10,223,000 including 575 portable classrooms, located on 2500 acres or 3.9 square miles of land.

**AGE OF SCHOOLS & ANCILLIARY FACILITIES**

5	Schools/Facilities built between	1925-1944
8	Schools/Facilities built between	1950-1969
21	Schools/Facilities built between	1970-1979
13	Schools/Facilities built between	1980-1989
14	Schools/Facilities built between	1990-1999
22	Schools/Facilities built between	2000-2008
83	TOTAL with 5 additional schools to be built	2009-2010

The Maintenance and Facilities Department is located on the west side of the county where most of the older schools are concentrated around the Gulf of Mexico and US 19. There are a total of 160 employees including 130 trades' people. There are three key leadership positions including the senior crew chief, the maintenance operations manager, and the facility operations and safety manager. In addition, our staff includes 14 crew chiefs, 3 warehouse, 2 accounting people, 3 secretaries, 7 facility specialists and the director. Our custodial coordinator acts as the staff leader for about 550 school based plant managers and custodians. Our large maintenance capital outlay projects are identified by stakeholders' from every level of the organization and by trades people who make good, fair or poor recommendations on items in their trade and assigned school zone. These recommendations are reviewed by their crew chief and then prioritized by the District Project Review Team (PRT). Large projects are assigned to the Construction Services Department to complete using Architects and Engineers and then use Construction Managers to obtain quality contractors at reasonable costs.

There are about 12,000 service work order requests submitted annually by school facilities, which are reviewed by the senior crew chief and then assigned to appropriate trade shops. Crew chiefs will determine if the in-house crews will do the work or outsource the work to contractors who have special equipment, tools, training or manpower to perform the work. Maintenance work orders that require permitting and Educational Facility Inspections (EFI) are routed through the Construction Services department's building inspection section. A large amount of preventive maintenance (PM) work is completed in every trade following established procedures, which is the best type of maintenance that you can perform – just before the item breaks! The maintenance warehouse stocks over 3,000 items used by both trade people and school orders. This represents a \$1,300,000 in items kept for immediate use. A new east side maintenance facility is being planned at the Old Pasco Road site just recently purchased.

The District's Strategic Directive includes two maintenance initiatives, the Annual Facility Survey (see table) and the Capital Outlay Project Plan.

**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY  
MAINTENANCE AND FACILITY SERVICES  
2007-08 Annual Facility Survey Results - A Strategic Direction**

FACILITY SURVEY TALLY 2007 - 2008	SECURITY SERVICES			HEALTH AND SAFETY			ENERGY MANAGEMENT			RESOURCE RECOVERY			CAPITAL PROJECTS			PLANT OPERATIONS CUSTODIAL			TOTALS	# OF WORK ORDERS REQUESTED PER SURVEY	# OF WORK ORDERS COMPLETED-12 MO	# WORK ORDERS OVER 90 DAYS OLD JULY '08	\$ COST OF WORK ORDERS - 12 MO
	Good	Fair	Poor	Good	Fair	Poor	Good	Fair	Poor														
RATING >																			MAINTENANCE DEPT. WORK ORDER REVIEW				
ELEMENTARY TOTALS	434	89	13	428	116	40	422	263	3	654	96	8	411	334	75	618	276	90	4370	137	4708		\$3,338,000
MIDDLE TOTALS	128	39	3	121	30	14	62	146	1	195	35	6	143	78	40	172	95	32	1340	20	1340		\$1,172,000
HIGH/ADULT/ALT TOTALS	153	69	13	122	75	17	104	155	7	170	67	16	75	171	25	175	91	41	1546	54	3023		\$2,673,000
DIST/MAINT/TRANSP TOTALS	27	12	5	37	14	30	37	81	0	71	25	6	47	63	10	63	48	33	609	17	596		\$516,000
<b>GRAND TOTALS &gt;</b>	742	209	34	708	235	101	625	645	11	1090	223	36	676	646	150	1028	510	196	7865	228	9667	181	\$7,699,000

Category Totals >	GOOD			FAIR			POOR		
2008-2009 YTD									
2007-2008 YTD	4869	61.9%		2468	31.4%		528	6.7%	
2006-2007 YTD	3797	55.3%		2485	36.2%		590	8.6%	

IMPROVEMENT % = 6.6%

GOAL = GOOD ~ 80% FAIR ~ 20% POOR ~ 0%

Revised June 30, 2008

## ***Maintenance and Facility Services***

### **2008 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

#### **SAFETY**

- 2007-08 Injury Statistics
- Unsafe acts cause injuries
- Safety Training Observation Program (STOP)
- OSHA Annual training updates
- Tail Gate Topics
- 9 Safety Steps for Every Job

#### **FAST RESPONSE**

- Routine work orders - Oldest first
- 90 Day old report
- Zones to improve communications and raport.
- East Side Facility 2008-2009
- Preventive maintenance work orders
- Complete paperwork quickly/accurately

#### **QUALITY WORK AND MATERIALS**

- Would your wife allow the job at your home?
- Attractive schools always
- Warehouse stock items - quality only
  - Shops responsible for what is stocked!
  - Standardize when ever possible
  - All tools to be provided by School Board

#### **SATISFIED EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS**

- Customer Survey results for 2008 by department and shop
- Employee Survey results fro 2008 by department and shop
  - Employee Handbook
  - Orientation for new employees
- School Facility Surveys
  - School survey results - Clean up work orders once per year, per school
  - SOP for most issues

#### **REASONABLE COST**

- Would you pay for this work at your home?
- CFO wants better records on each job; real time and real cost daily
- Goal: 6.5 Hour wrench time average per day; 1/2 hour break, 1 hour travel time
- Being on task - PM at end of day or check out new jobs

### **The Pasco Education Foundation, Inc.**

The Pasco Education Foundation, Inc. was established in 1991 as the direct support, non-profit corporation for the District School Board of Pasco County. The Foundation provides an avenue for individuals and the private sector to develop positive and supportive relationships with the Pasco County School District and to make philanthropic contributions to help accomplish the goals of Pasco County's public schools.

Each year the Pasco Education Foundation awards scholarships and grants to Pasco County students, educators and employees. During the 2007-2008 school year, the Foundation awarded:

- \$70,900 in scholarships to 68 graduating seniors.
- \$44,500 in classroom grants to than 143 teachers.
- 46 new Take Stock In Children Scholarships, valued at \$506,000.
- \$58,500 in scholarships to 115 District School Board of Pasco County employees.

The Pasco Education Foundation also recognizes and promotes student and employee excellence through a variety of recognition events including:

- Ticket to Broadway - A star-studded show featuring students performing in the areas of instrumental music, vocal performance, theater and dance.
- Education Celebration - A reception and awards ceremony honoring Pasco County Schools' top employees and announcing our Teacher-of-the-Year.
- Excellence in Academics Awards Ceremony - An awards ceremony honoring outstanding student achievement and awarding scholarships to graduating seniors.
- Welcome to Pasco - A welcome and orientation program for new teachers to Pasco County Schools.



## *Pasco Learning and Activity Centers of Enrichment*

The Pasco Learning and Activity Centers of Enrichment (PLACE) program provides an active and enriching environment for children needing to arrive at school early stay late and/or require supervised activities during holidays and summer.

The PLACE Program follows uniform standards for delivery of activities, curriculum and student behavior. Parent fees and subsidies provide funding for salaries, benefits, materials and program support in all areas.

The program provides a safe, supportive, structured learning environment while supporting the District's vision of helping every child reach their highest potential.

PLACE district office personnel monitor student enrollment and staffing issues to maintain a ratio of one employee for every twenty-five children. In May 2007, PLACE conducted a survey of all parent clients that indicated parents were very satisfied with the program and fee structure and the location of services.

There were thirty-eight PLACE Program sites during the 2007-2008 school year serving approximately 5,406 students, employing almost 280 staff and providing services to every elementary school. Over the years, PLACE has expanded the school age program to include ever increasing numbers of exceptional and pre-kindergarten Head Start children.

### **The 2007-2008 PLACE Locations Were:**

Anclote Elementary	Northwest Elementary
Calusa Elementary	Oakstead Elementary
Chasco Elementary	Pasco Elementary
Cotee River Elementary	Pine View Elementary
Cypress Elementary	Quail Hollow Elementary
Deer Park Elementary	Richey Elementary
Denham Oaks Elementary	Sanders Memorial Elementary
Double Branch Elementary	Sand Pine Elementary
Fox Hollow Elementary	Schrader Elementary
Mary Giella Elementary	Seven Springs Elementary
Gulf Highlands Elementary	Seven Oaks Elementary
Gulfside Elementary	Shady Hills Elementary
Hudson Elementary	Sunray Elementary
Lake Myrtle Elementary	Chester W. Taylor Jr. Elementary
Mitty P. Locke Elementary	Trinity Elementary
Longleaf Elementary	Trinity Oaks Elementary
James Marlowe Elementary	Veterans Elementary
Moon Lake Elementary	Wesley Chapel Elementary
New River Elementary	Woodland Elementary

## **Planning Department**

Based upon student population growth trends, the Planning Department plans for additional school facilities. The department works with county government, municipalities, developers and the real estate industry to acquire the necessary land for new schools and ancillary facilities. Once the facility is built it is added to the Florida Inventory of School Houses (F.I.S.H.) database. This department maintains the Pasco County portion of the database. Furthermore, the department oversees the process for revising the school attendance boundaries in order to incorporate the new schools. This process encourages input from various district departments, the schools affected by the boundary change as well as parents and members of the community to develop the best possible attendance boundaries.

The following table shows the planned schedule for new school openings and additions in 2008 and for the next three years.

<b>Opening Date and Project</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Permanent Capacity</b>
<b>August 2008</b>		
Veterans Elementary	Wesley Chapel Blvd	762
Crews Lake Middle	Shady Hills Road	1,306
Classroom Wing	San Antonio Elementary	144
Classroom Wing	Ridgewood High	200
<b>August 2009</b>		
Elementary School "R"	Connerton – Land O' Lakes	762
Elementary School "V"	Watergrass – Wesley Chapel	762
High School "FFF"	Sweetbriar Dr. – Holiday	1,814
Classroom Wing	Ridgewood High	+ 200
Classroom Wing	Zephyrhills High	+ 200
<b>August 2010</b>		
High School "EEE"	S.R. 52 & Chicago Ave. – Hudson	1,814
<b>August 2011</b>		
Sanders Elementary School Renovation	Land O' Lakes	762
Pasco Middle School Renovation	Dade City	+ 200
Pasco High School Renovation	Dade City	+ 200
Elementary School "Q"	Bexley Ranch – Land O' Lakes	762
Elementary School "S"	Odessa / Trinity	762

## **Prekindergarten Services**

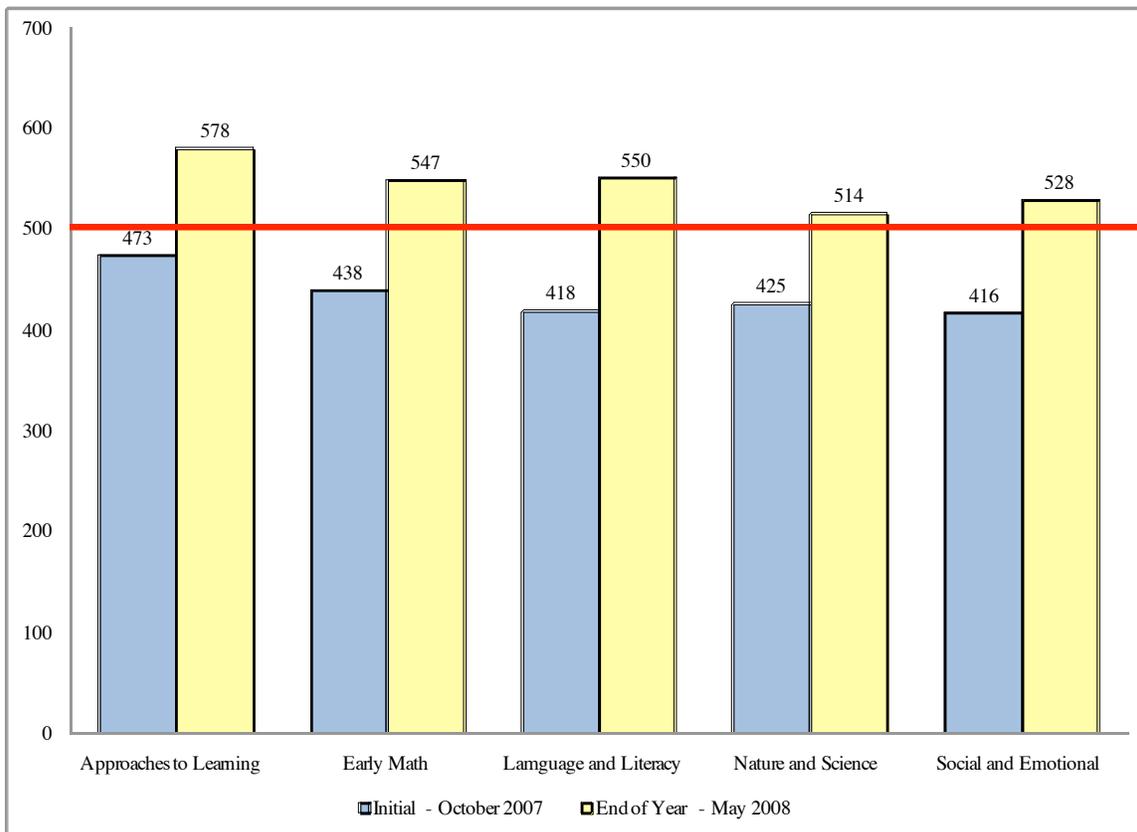
The Department of Prekindergarten Services administers the Head Start, Early Head Start and Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) programs. These programs are funded by federal (Head Start/Early Head Start) and state VPK funds to increase school readiness opportunities for preschoolers. The School Board is the grantee for Head Start/Early Head Start, while the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties govern VPK. The VPK program was initiated in Florida in 2005. The school district became a provider of VPK for the first time during the 2006 summer, with an enrollment of 170 four year olds. While the Head Start/Early Head Start services focus on children from low-income families, the VPK program is open to all four-year-olds who meet the age requirement. Children served by the Head Start/Early Head Start program represent the needy in the community and are provided comprehensive services that help promote school readiness.

### **2008 Prekindergarten Enrollment Demographics**

<b>Families Served</b>	<b>Head Start</b>	<b>Early Head Start</b>
Total Enrolled Throughout the Year	691	111
Single Parent Families	54%	49%
Families with Less than a High School Education	78%	59%
Families Enrolled on 100% Poverty Level Income	95%	97%
Families Enrolled Based on Receiving Public Assistance	3%	2%
Families that Required Emergency/Crisis Assistance (Food, Clothing, Shelter)	50%	65%

During 2007-2008, the program was funded to serve 643 Head Start three and four-year-olds, and 80 Early Head Start infants, toddlers and expectant women. Head Start classrooms are located at elementary school sites. Early Head Start services are delivered through Home-Based or Center-Based settings, located at two of the school district's Technical/Education Centers. Comprehensive services provided by these programs include a research-based curriculum, social services, health and mental health services and family support. The staff implements a curriculum approach that has been nationally recognized as developmentally appropriate for the age groups.

Additional emphasis is placed on literacy development, both through classroom instruction and parent trainings. End-of-year assessment results for the Head Start program indicated growth for all children that exceeded expected rates.



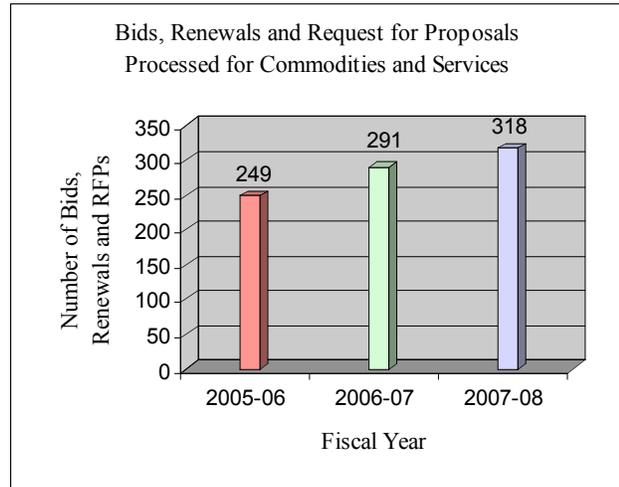
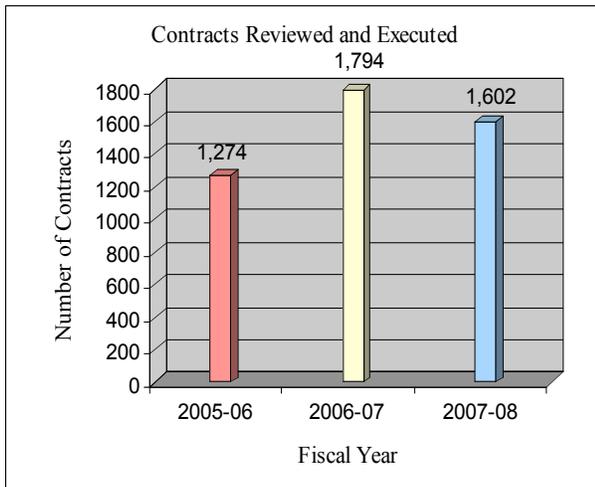
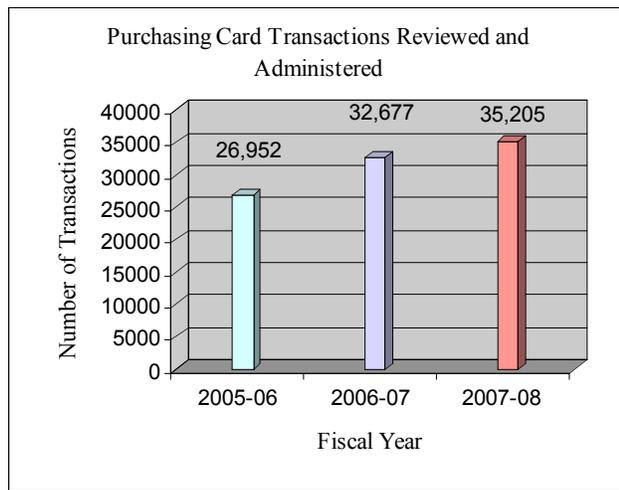
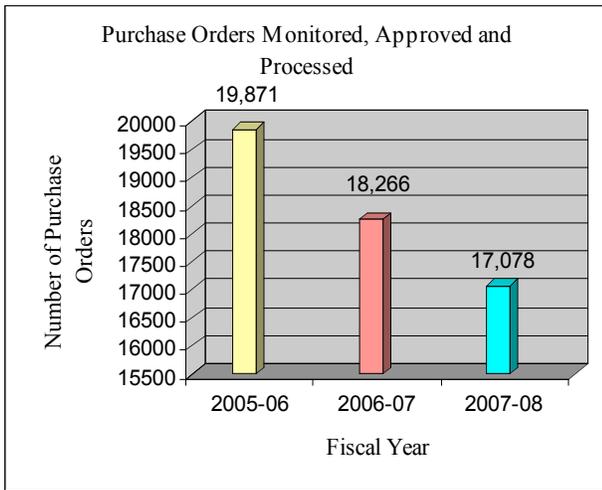
In addition, all children participated in speech and hearing, dental and developmental screenings at entry to the programs. Partnerships with community physicians and other professionals allowed the programs to access and deliver needed follow-up care. All children exited the programs having up-to-date immunizations and medical care. Of all the Head Start preschoolers screened, over 16% were identified as needing some form of follow-up medical care. Follow-up included treatment for conditions such as anemia, asthma, hearing difficulties, overweight, and vision problems. Although half of the children entered the programs having had previous dental care, approximately 25% were diagnosed as needing dental treatment. At the end of the year, referrals or treatment had been completed for all the children. Another successful outcome was the number of partnerships established with families. Teachers and other staff conducted home visits throughout the year. These home visits provided support to families and extended learning into the home. The Head Start program alone accrued 11,385 volunteer hours during the 2007-08 year. A survey of families served by the program in prior years asked, "Without Head Start, how do you think life would be different for your family?" Answers included:

- "Head Start has changed our life. I have an AS in Business Admin-Accounting. My children are honors students and class presidents. My mother went back for her GED."
- "Head Start taught us how to become better parents and a closer family with all of its resources."
- "I would not be a freshman in college holding down a 3.6 GPA."

**Purchasing Department**

The Purchasing Department’s major responsibilities are to assist the schools and departments with the economically and timely acquisition of quality materials and services to assure the efficient operation of the school system’s daily functions in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws associated with the procurement process. The Department is also one of the District’s primary points of interface for approximately 21,342 vendors conducting business with the District.

The Department’s volume of transactions and dollars is a reflection of the District’s exponential growth and its increased emphasis on contracts and purchasing card (p-card) transactions.



## **Research and Evaluation Services Department**

The Department of Research and Evaluation Services provides a variety of planning, data collection, interpretation, analysis, reporting, and presentation services to schools, departments, and public groups. Its primary function is to make available to schools and the community meaningful information about student and school performance.

The department oversees four main areas that will be addressed in this report: (1) standardized testing, (2) school improvement, (3) school accreditation and (4) grants. First, several assessments are administered during the school year representing different purposes for testing. State-mandated tests are administered for accountability purposes, while college entrance exams serve as selection tools for admission to postsecondary institutions. District-adopted measures are used for student planning and local decision making. Second, schools in Pasco County are required to have a system of planning, implementing, and monitoring of school improvement processes through data-based decision-making and cooperative school planning. Schools work with their School Advisory Councils to create an annual School Improvement Plan. As a part of this process, the department administers a District Parent Satisfaction Survey and results are shared with schools. The Promotion Retention Report is produced by the department to analyze trends from year to year in the number of students retained at each grade level. Third, accreditation is a critical element of the school district. In 2006, Pasco County was awarded District Accreditation through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). Finally, developing and writing grant proposals can secure the funds needed to equip, enhance and enrich the curriculum and instruction in classrooms; as well as to meet the dynamic needs of today's student populations.

**College Entrance Exams - American College Testing Program**

The American College Testing Program (ACT) assesses high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work. The ACT is comprised of the following skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science. It is scored on a scale from 1 to 36 with 36 being the highest possible score. Despite the growing number of students annually electing to take the ACT, Pasco's composite score has remained competitive with state and national averages.

**District, State, and National Results from the 2007-2008 ACT**

	<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Science Reasoning</b>	<b>Composite</b>
Pasco	1,566	19.2	19.9	20.8	19.8	20.0
Florida	93,884	19.0	20.0	20.3	19.3	19.8
Nation	1,421,941	20.6	21.0	21.4	20.8	21.1

## *College Entrance Exams - Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT)*

The Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) is required for admission to the undergraduate level in many American colleges. The SAT is a standardized test that measures verbal, mathematics, and writing skills on a scale of 200 to 800. Most students in our schools take the SAT in their junior or senior years. Looking at SAT scores over time, it is reasonable to expect fluctuations in performance. This is partially due to the greater number of students testing each year and the growing number of seniors represented in the data. At the state level, scores have remained pretty stable, though always below the national averages for all three areas. Pasco's scores have generally remained close to state averages.

### **SAT Score Results for the 5 - Year Period from 2004-2008**

<i>Verbal</i>					
<b>School</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Gulf High	480	514	478	468	467
Hudson High	489	486	480	478	479
Land O' Lakes High	515	521	510	521	520
Mitchell High	498	502	495	493	497
Pasco High	482	492	511	490	494
Ridgewood High	471	469	490	482	482
Sunlake High*					
River Ridge High	504	498	515	499	496
Wesley Chapel High	496	489	485	473	483
Wiregrass Ranch High*					
Zephyrhills High	515	526	493	502	502
District	496	499	497	492	496
Florida	498	499	496	497	496
Nation	507	508	503	502	502

\*Had less than 5 test takers which is the minimum requirement for reports

<b>Math</b>					
<b>School</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Gulf High	490	503	477	465	467
Hudson High	473	469	473	469	469
Land O' Lakes High	515	509	511	525	520
Mitchell High	495	496	497	503	504
Pasco High	494	487	491	502	484
Ridgewood High	480	475	492	473	489
River Ridge High	500	494	501	490	505
Sunlake High*					
Wesley Chapel High	492	486	472	475	484
Wiregrass Ranch High*					
Zephyrhills High	514	512	500	508	501
District	496	493	492	493	498
Florida	498	499	497	496	497
Nation	519	518	518	515	515

\* Had less than 5 test takers which is the minimum requirement for reports

<b>Writing</b>					
<b>School</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Gulf High	NA	NA	461	458	447
Hudson High	NA	NA	454	458	464
Land O' Lakes High	NA	NA	494	504	501
Mitchell High	NA	NA	476	474	480
Pasco High	NA	NA	506	463	478
Ridgewood High	NA	NA	463	472	457
River Ridge High	NA	NA	487	477	472
Sunlake High*					
Wesley Chapel High	NA	NA	471	454	459
Wiregrass Ranch High*					
Zephyrhills High	NA	NA	469	474	475
District	NA	NA	477	474	475
Florida	NA	NA	480	479	481
Nation	NA	NA	497	494	494

\* Had less than 5 test takers which is the minimum requirement for reports

## **Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test Graduation Requirements**

Beginning with the freshman class of 1999-2000, the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) replaced the High School Competency Test (HSCT) as a state graduation requirement. All students seeking a regular high school diploma must meet certain academic credit, grade point average, and test score requirements.

While the FCAT is administered at grades three through eleven, it is the scores on the tenth grade test that determine a student's graduation status. Students have multiple opportunities to take the test beginning with the spring of their tenth grade year and still graduate with their class. For tenth graders who first tested in March 2002, passing scores of 300 or higher in both reading and math are required for graduation.

The percent of tenth grade students passing the FCAT reading and math in Spring 2008 are reported in the table below.

**Percent of Students Passing the FCAT - Spring 2008**

School	% Passed Reading	% Passed Math
Gulf High	61%	81%
Hudson High	53%	82%
Land O' Lakes High	68%	90%
Mitchell High	62%	85%
Pasco High	56%	83%
Ridgewood High	54%	80%
River Ridge High	60%	82%
Sunlake High	63%	87%
Wesley Chapel High	50%	77%
Wiregrass Ranch High	59%	84%
Zephyrhills High	61%	83%
District	59%	82%

**Note: Table entries represent unduplicated counts**

### **Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test - Norm Referenced Test (NRT)**

As part of the statewide assessment program, Florida added a norm-referenced component to the FCAT to allow comparisons between our students and their peers across the nation. To distinguish the norm-referenced portion of the test from the criterion-referenced portion, the state used FCAT-NRT and FCAT-SSS, respectively. The FCAT - NRT is actually a secure version of the Stanford Achievement Test, Tenth Edition. Only the Reading Comprehension and Mathematics Problem Solving subtests are administered as part of the state accountability system.

#### **Median National Percentile Rank Scores by Grade FCAT - NRT Spring 2008**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Level of Reporting</b>	<b>Reading Comprehension</b>	<b>Math Problem Solving</b>
3	Pasco	59	59
	State	60	63
4	Pasco	69	69
	State	69	71
5	Pasco	73	74
	State	73	77
6	Pasco	65	70
	State	65	71
7	Pasco	70	71
	State	70	72
8	Pasco	67	72
	State	68	74
9	Pasco	63	70
	State	67	73
10	Pasco	69	60
	State	71	63

**Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test - Sunshine State Standards (SSS)**

Achievement levels describe the success a student has on the Florida Sunshine State Standards tested on the FCAT. Achievement levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest. The percentages of students scoring within Achievement Levels 1-5 are reported for the district and state in the following tables:

**FCAT SSS Reading Spring 2008  
Percentage of students in each Achievement Level**

Grade	Average Scale Score	1	2	3	4	5
Grade 3						
Pasco	311	17	11	35	31	6
State	313	16	12	34	31	7
Grade 4						
Pasco	318	16	13	33	31	7
State	316	18	14	33	27	8
Grade 5						
Pasco	305	15	17	36	27	5
State	305	17	16	34	26	7
Grade 6						
Pasco	311	17	19	35	23	7
State	310	18	18	33	23	8
Grade 7						
Pasco	317	13	20	38	23	6
State	313	17	19	35	22	7
Grade 8						
Pasco	311	15	31	36	16	2
State	310	18	29	34	16	3
Grade 9						
Pasco	313	23	31	29	12	5
State	313	25	29	26	13	6
Grade 10						
Pasco	308	32	29	18	8	12
State	306	35	27	17	8	13

**FCAT SSS Mathematics Spring 2008**  
**Percentage of Students in each Achievement Level**

Grade	Average Scale Score	1	2	3	4	5
Grade 3						
Pasco	318	14	17	35	26	8
State	333	10	13	33	29	14
Grade 4						
Pasco	310	15	23	38	18	6
State	324	12	18	36	24	10
Grade 5						
Pasco	326	17	32	29	21	5
State	333	15	24	27	26	9
Grade 6						
Pasco	308	27	24	29	15	6
State	313	26	21	28	17	8
Grade 7						
Pasco	311	19	23	34	18	6
State	315	18	21	33	19	8
Grade 8						
Pasco	324	13	19	37	20	11
State	324	14	19	35	19	13
Grade 9						
Pasco	306	15	22	34	22	8
State	313	25	29	26	13	7
Grade 10						
Pasco	327	11	19	31	34	5
State	327	12	19	28	33	8

## Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test Writing +

In 1999-2000, the state's writing assessment program, Florida Writes, was incorporated as part of the FCAT. Now referred to as FCAT Writing +, the test is designed to provide information regarding students' proficiency in writing responses to assigned topics within a designated period.

Two types of writing are assessed annually at each grade level. Writing to explain (expository writing) and writing to tell a story (narrative writing) are assessed at grade four. At grades eight and ten, expository and persuasive writing (writing to convince) are assessed. To minimize testing time and the impact on schools, the two types of writing are spiraled within each classroom. In other words, each student responds to only one topic/writing prompt, but two topics/writing prompts are used in every classroom.

Students are required to read, plan, and respond independently to their assigned topics within a 45-minute time frame. Trained readers, using well-established scoring criteria, score papers. In scoring each response, readers evaluate the work as a whole, while considering the elements of focus, organization, support and conventions. Each writing sample is read and assigned a score on a scale from 1 (low) to 6 (high).

The results are summarized in the table below and reported in terms of district and state averages for each type of writing.

### State and District FCAT Writing + Results 2008

<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Expository Writing<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>Narrative Writing<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>Combined Average</b>
Pasco	3.7	3.5	3.6
State	3.8	3.8	3.8
<b>Grade 8</b>	<b>Expository Writing<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>Persuasive Writing<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>Combined Average</b>
Pasco	4.1	4.1	4.1
State	4.2	4.2	4.2
<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Expository Writing<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>Persuasive Writing<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>Combined Average</b>
Pasco	Not tested	3.8	3.8
State	Not tested	3.9	3.9

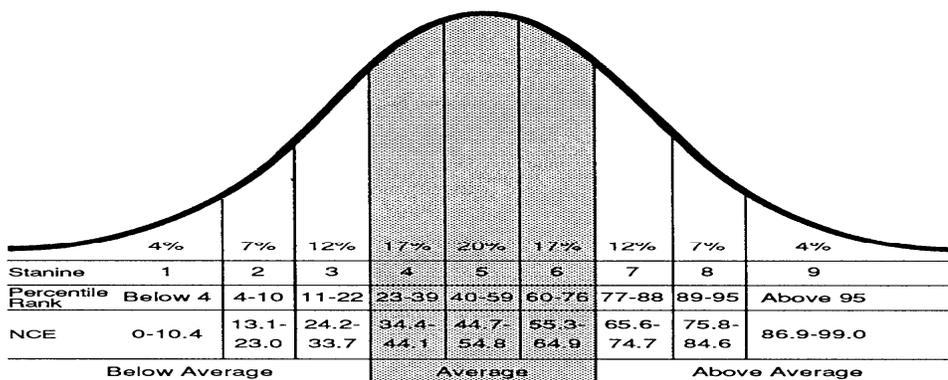
**Stanford Achievement Test Tenth Edition (SAT-10)**

The Stanford Achievement Test Tenth Edition is a standardized, norm-referenced achievement test used by the district for making decisions about program effectiveness and individual students. The Reading Comprehension and Mathematics Problem Solving subtests are administered to all students in grade two during the spring FCAT window. This parallels the state’s norm-referenced assessment for grades three through ten. The Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) score below is similar to a percentile rank with a range of scores from 1-99.

Normal Curve Equivalent (NCE) and Number of Second Grade Students Tested (SAT 10-Spring 2008).

Reading Comprehension		Problem Solving	
NCE	Number Tested	NCE	Number Tested
56.0	5,170	51.0	5,158

To put these test results in proper perspective, it is important to consider what the distribution of norm-referenced test scores looks like and what factors besides “schooling” impact test scores. Norm-referenced achievement tests were designed to differentiate among students using a set of items representing broad curriculum content. Scores from the test are interpreted with reference to where they fall along the normal distribution (hence the term norm-referenced). In a normal distribution, half the scores are above the midpoint (average) and half are below. When reviewing test scores, it is important to note that average performance includes a range of scores (see Figure 1).



**Figure 1. A Normal Distribution of Stanines, Percentile Ranks, Normal Curve Equivalents, and Performance Classifications**

## School Advisory Council

Each school in Pasco County has a School Advisory Council (SAC). The SAC is one means for parent and community involvement in and support of the schools. The SAC participates in identifying needs and developing plans for meeting those needs. The SAC assists in preparation and evaluation of the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) and determines how lottery funds will be used to support this plan.

**Membership:** There was no change in SAC membership rules during the 2007-2008 year.

**Composition of School Advisory Councils:** In Pasco County, a total of 1,207 people served on 72 School Advisory Councils. This membership included 546 parents, 151 business/community representatives and 62 students (secondary schools). The membership included 269 teachers, 107 educational support personnel, and 72 principals. The average size of the councils is shown for each school level in the table below.

**Table 1. Average size of school advisory councils by levels**

Level	Average
Elementary School	16
Middle School	17
High School	20
Education Center	11
<b>District-wide</b>	<b>17</b>

School Advisory Councils are comprised of the principal, teachers, education support employees, parents, business/community representatives and students (secondary schools). All School Advisory Councils must be comprised of at least fifty one percent (51%) membership from parent, business/community, and student groups. The overall percent of non-school members from each level is represented below.

**Table 2. Percent of non-school members by level**

Level	Percentage of Non-School Members
Elementary School	63%
Middle School	62%
High School	61%
Education Center	66%
<b>District-wide</b>	<b>63%</b>

Schools must also ensure SAC membership that is representative of the racial/ethnic and socioeconomic diversity within that school. One hundred percent (100%) of the schools have been able to secure minority representatives and representatives from all socioeconomic levels (Low, Middle, and High) to serve on their SACs.

**Parent Satisfaction Survey**

The Parent Satisfaction Survey is conducted annually and provides input from parents about issues related to the quality of Pasco County Schools. It is administered to the parents of all students at the elementary and secondary levels and includes items that relate to four areas of school effectiveness: Home-School Relations, Quality of Academic Programs, Communication with Parents and School Safety and Environment. The information gleaned from these reports is shared with schools and departments. The results are used as a starting point for discussions, and an examination of survey results in combination with other forms of data will support recommendations for improvement.

The administration of this year’s survey took place in February 2008. The survey was administered online and did not require any identifiable information from parents. Parents were notified of the survey window through media such as newsletters, flyers, Connect-Ed and school marquees. The link to the survey was posted on the district’s Web site. In addition, an identical scannable document was provided in both English and Spanish to any parent unable to access the survey online. The majority of responses were gathered online (5,563 online, 2,086) paper versions). The number of responses was similar to last year (representing 11.9% this year compared to 11.8% last year).

**Summary of Agreement by Item Categories**

<b>Category of Items</b>	<b>District Total</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Middle</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Ed. Centers</b>
Home-School Relations	83.1%	87.7%	80.4%	67.5%	85.0%
Academic Programs	76.0%	78.4%	78.4%	75.3%	65.0%
Communications	80.3%	85.0%	76.1%	66.4%	78.0%
School Environment	76.0%	78.0%	74.0%	63.0%	67.2%
Satisfaction with School	81.0 %	85.0%	79.2%	66.0%	82.3%

## **Promotion and Retention**

The policies of the district regarding promotion and retention of students are described in the district's Student Progression Plan. This plan states that Pasco "is dedicated to the total and continuous development of each student." The plan goes on to state, "The professional staff of the school system has the responsibility to develop administrative procedures to ensure the placement of each student in the programs and in the level best suited to meet the student's academic needs, with consideration given to the student's social, emotional, and physical development."

A student's promotion in grades K-8 is based upon each student's progress toward the accomplishment of high standards that are both challenging and achievable. A team of teachers and administrators makes the evaluation. The student's growth toward the accomplishment of district standards of performance in reading, writing, mathematics and science is the primary consideration in promotion and retention decisions.

Student promotion policies at the high school level place the emphasis on each student's accumulation of credits for graduation. High school students must accumulate 24 credits to graduate. To become a sophomore, students must have accumulated 5 credits; to become a junior, students must have accumulated 11 credits, and to become a senior, a student must have accumulated 17 credits. An accelerated graduation option allows students to graduate, under certain conditions, in three years with 18 credits and a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 GPA scale. In 2007-2008, Pasco County promoted 94.4% of the students in grades K-12 and retained 4.8%. The promotion rate is approximately 95.9% in elementary, 99.7% in middle school, and 87.3% in high school. The promotion with good cause rate (third grade only) is approximately 1.6% in elementary school. The retention rate is approximately 2.4% in elementary, 0.2% in middle school and 12.6% in high school.

## **Pasco STAR**

The web-based application, Pasco STAR (Student Testing & Assessment Reports), is a tool for managing many of the forms of data teachers and administrators need for classroom and school improvement planning. It was designed first and foremost with the goal of instructional planning for individuals and for groups of students. STAR is a work in progress and will continue to grow as more sources of information are identified and teachers and administrators who use the system request reports.

### **Planning As Decision-Making**

In Pasco STAR, we see planning for instruction and for school improvement as a process which requires the:

- collection and organization of relevant data
- application of suitable ways to explore the data
- choice of appropriate analyses to study patterns in the data
- reasonable and systematic interpretation of results

For teachers, this means assessing the status of student achievement for individuals and groups of students in relation to defined standards of performance. Levels of proficiency and differences in academic skill levels are examined across subject areas and in terms of content knowledge and skills.

For school administrators, this means assessing the school or district status in comparison to defined goals for all students, and identifying differences in performance that might exist by particular student subgroups as compared to the group as a whole.



## *Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI)*

School systems seeking district accreditation must tend to the three major responsibilities of accreditation. The school system must meet the Accreditation Standards for Quality Systems; identify and illustrate implementation of a continuous system improvement process; and demonstrate quality assurance. In order to achieve or maintain accreditation the school system must host a successful quality assurance review every five years conducted by professional peers representing SACS CASI. As such, the following guidelines apply:

### **Three major components of District Accreditation:**

**Engaging in Continuous Improvement:** The district articulates and implements a planning framework for district improvement that addresses four elements: a *Vision* describing the future direction and purpose for the school system and its schools; a *Profile* describing the current conditions of the school system and its schools focusing on student learning, a *Plan* describing the pursuit of goals designed specifically to address student learning needs and to build the capacity of the internal systems of the district to address such priorities; and the documentation of *Results* stemming from improvement efforts.

**Meeting Standards:** The district complies with and maintains adherence to the *District Accreditation Standards for Quality Systems*. Additionally, each school in the district is expected to meet accreditation standards specifically designed for schools.

**Demonstrating Quality Assurance:** The school system must demonstrate quality assurance through institutional integrity, peer review, and documentation of the results of its improvement efforts. Through institutional integrity the system strives to deliver on its promise and to be what it claims to be to both the school community and community at large; through peer review the efforts of the system and its schools to improve student learning are strengthened; and through documentation of the results of its efforts to improve, the system and its schools are able to determine its strengths and weaknesses and to plan for further improvement. Under the district accreditation framework the district is responsible for designing and implementing a quality assurance process for its schools and the district. Every five years the district will be expected to host a SACS CASI Quality Assurance Review Team, composed of professional peers from outside the district that are responsible for validating compliance with accreditation standards; assessing the efforts of the district and its schools in engaging continuous improvement; and evaluating the effectiveness of an established internal quality assurance process. The SACS CASI Quality Assurance Review Team will also make random visits to schools within the district to ensure alignment and coordination throughout the district.

## **Benefits of District Accreditation**

- It is based on effective schools' research derived from the work of the National Study of School Evaluation (NSSE) and the other regional accrediting bodies with whom SACS is allied. This research indicates that school improvement support by central office and system-wide structures can be more effective than improvement efforts without such support.
- It is based on effective leadership research findings that note that leaders of high performing school districts develop and maintain quality systems, which provide:

Direction by setting expectations and guidelines;

- \* Feedback and assistance (to monitor achievement of performance/expectations);
  - \* A culture that builds understanding and commitment;
  - \* For the use of data and research findings to guide decisions and actions; and
  - \* Resources including professional learning and training opportunities as well as time, human and fiscal support.
- Its foundation ensures continuity and collaboration in planning for improvement, anchored in a common vision for education among all its schools, because each school's improvement goals must complement that of the district.
  - It supports and enhances a common language of school improvement communication across content areas and grade levels, as well as across individual schools, feeder schools and district lines of responsibility.
  - It ensures an onsite Quality Assurance Review visit every five years by an external team of trained peer professionals.
  - It holds the promise of significantly reducing costs associated with hosting separate peer review teams for each school every five years.

District Accreditation is a process designed to recognize school systems that embrace improving student learning as a systemic process. As such, District Accreditation provides school systems with a process that supports, enhances and stimulates growth and improvement throughout the school system.

Source: SACS CASI Overview of District Accreditation received on May 10, 2007.

## Grants

During the 2007-2008 school year, the District School Board of Pasco County received \$46,310,929.16 in funds to supplement school programs. District-wide, Pasco County employees submitted 61 grants for implementation in the 2007-2008 school year. Of the 61 grants submitted, 51 (84%) were funded, 10 (16%) were not funded and none were pending. Grant applications totaled \$49,333,965.64 and \$46,310,929.16 (94%) in grant monies were awarded to the District School Board of Pasco County.

District-based personnel applied for 51 grants totaling \$49,089,087.64. Forty-four grant applications were awarded bringing \$46,126,567.16 into the district.

School-based personnel applied for 10 grants totaling \$244,878.00 during the 2007-2008 school year. Seven grant applications were awarded bringing an additional \$184,362.00 into the district.

This report includes \$3,480,453.00 awarded to selected schools as part of the School Recognition monies. This total is reflected in the district total and has been calculated as one grant.

### **2007-2008 Grants Summary**

	<b>Number Applied For</b>	<b>Applications Awarded</b>	<b>Number Awarded</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Number Not Funded</b>	<b>Amount Not Funded</b>	<b>Number Pending</b>
School Based	10	\$244,878.00	7	\$184,362.00	3	\$61,899.00	0
District Based	51	\$49,089,087.64	44	\$46,126,567.16	7	\$1,253,974.03	0
Total District	61	\$49,333,965.64	51	\$46,310,929.16	10	\$1,315,873.03	0

*(\*Grant applications are generally for the maximum dollars offered by the grant. Amounts "Awarded" and "Not Funded" do not total "Applications" applied for as a result of increases or decreases in the original grant award or rollover funds unspent from the previous year.)*

**School Locations**  
**2007-2008**

<b><u>School</u></b>	<b><u>Principal</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Telephone</u></b>	<b><u>Fax Telephone</u></b>
Anclote Elementary School	Carole Baird	3610 Madison Street P. O. Box 446 New Port Richey, FL 34652	(727) 774-3200	(727) 774-3291
Bayonet Point Middle School	Michael Asbell	11125 Little Road New Port Richey, FL 34654	(727) 774-7400	(813) 794-7491
Calusa Elementary School	Deanna DeCubellis	7520 Orchid Lake Road New Port Richey, FL 34653	(727) 774-3700	(813) 794-3791
Centennial Elementary School	Scott Mitchell	38501 Centennial Road Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-5000	(352) 524-5091
Centennial Middle School	Tom Rulison	38505 Centennial Road Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-9700	(352) 524-9791
Chasco Elementary School	Delores Gauvey	7906 Ridge Road Port Richey, FL 34668	(727) 774-1200	(727) 774-1291
Chasco Middle School	Christine Wolff	7702 Ridge Road Port Richey, FL 34668	(727) 774-1300	(727) 774-1391
Cotee River Elementary School	Barbara Kleinsorge	7515 Plathe Road New Port Richey, FL 34653	(727) 774-3000	(813) 794-3091
Crews Lake Middle School	Chris Christoff	15144 Shady Hills Road Spring Hill, Florida 34610	(727) 246-1600	(727) 246-1691
Cox, Rodney B. Elementary School	Leila Mizer	37615 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Dade City, FL 33523	(352) 524-5100	(352) 524-5191
Cypress Elementary School	Teresa Love	10055 Sweet Bay Court New Port Richey, FL 34654	(727) 774-4500	(813) 794-4591
Deer Park Elementary School	John Shafchuk	8636 Trouble Creek Road New Port Richey, FL 34653	(727) 774-8900	(813) 794-8991
Denham Oaks Elementary School	Mardee Kay Powers	1422 Oak Grove Boulevard Lutz, FL 33559	(813) 794-1600	(813) 794-1691
Double Branch Elementary School	Peggy Lewis	31500 Chancey Road Wesley Chapel, FL 33543	(813) 346-0400	(813) 346-0491

Fox Hollow Elementary School	Lisa Miller	8309 Fox Hollow Drive Port Richey, FL 34668	(813) 794-8991	(727) 774-7691
Giella, Dr. Mary Elementary School	Cara Allen	14710 Shady Hills Road Spring Hill, FL 34610	(813) 794-5800	(813) 794-5891
Gulf Middle School	Stan Trapp	6419 Louisiana Avenue New Port Richey, FL 34653	(727) 774-8000	(813) 794-8091
Gulf High School	Steve Knobl	5355 School Road New Port Richey, FL 34652	(727) 774-3300	(813) 794-3391
Gulf Highlands Elementary School	Margie Polen	8019 Gulf Highlands Drive Port Richey, FL 34668	(727) 774-7700	(727) 774-7791
Gulf Trace Elementary School	Hope Schooler	3303 Gulf Trace Boulevard Holiday, FL 33523	(727) 246-3600	(727) 246-3691
Gulfside Elementary School	Chris Clayton	2329 Anclote Boulevard Holiday, FL 34691	(727) 774-6000	(727) 774-6091
Hudson Elementary School	Linda McCarthy	7229 Hudson Avenue Hudson, FL 34667	(727) 774-4000	(813) 794-4091
Hudson Middle School	Steve Van Gorden	14540 Cobra Way Hudson, FL 34669	(727) 774-8200	(813) 794-8291
Hudson High School	Dr. David LaRoche	14410 Cobra Way Hudson, FL 34669	(727) 774-4200	(813) 794-4291
Irvin, James Education Center	Rick Saylor	35830 St. Rd. 52 Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-5700	(813) 794-5791
Lacoochee Elementary School	A. Karen Marler	38815 Cummer Road Dade City, FL 33523	(352) 524-5600	(352) 524-5691
Lake Myrtle Elementary School	Kara McComeskey	22844 Weeks Boulevard Land O' Lakes, FL 34639	(813) 794-1000	(813) 794-1091
Land O' Lakes High School	Monica Ilse	20325 Gator Lane Land O' Lakes, FL 34638	(813) 794-9400	(813) 794-9491
Locke, Mittye P. Elementary School	Tammy Berryhill	4439 Evans Avenue New Port Richey, FL 34652	(727) 774-3100	(727) 774-3191
Long, Dr. John Middle School	Beth Brown	2025 Mansfield Blvd. Wesley Chapel, FL 33543	(813) 346-6200	(813) 346-6291
Longleaf Elementary School	Arlene Bodden	3253 Town Avenue New Port Richey, FL 34655	(727) 774-0800	(727) 774-0891

Marchman, F. K. Technical Center	Sheila D. Bryan	7825 Campus Drive New Port Richey, FL 34653	(727) 774-1700	(727) 774-1791
Marlowe, James M. Elementary School	Terri Mutell	5642 Cecelia Drive New Port Richey, FL 34652	(727) 774-8600	(727) 774-8691
Mitchell, J. W. High School	Ric Mellin	2323 Little Road New Port Richey, FL 34655	(727) 774-9200	(727) 774-9291
Moon Lake Elementary School	Susan Barcellino	12019 Tree Breeze Drive New Port Richey, FL 34654	(727) 774-4600	(727) 774-4691
Moore Mickens Education Center	Steve Cox	38301 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-9000	(352) 524-9091
New River Elementary School	Lynn Pabst	4710 River Glen Boulevard Wesley Chapel, FL 33544	(813) 346-0500	(813) 346-0591
Northwest Elementary School	Tracy Graziaplene	14302 Cobra Way Hudson, FL 34669	(727) 774-4700	(727) 774-4791
Oakstead Elementary School	Tammy Kimpland	19925 Lake Patience Road Land O' Lakes, FL 34638	(813) 346-1500	(813) 346-1591
Pasco Elementary School	Barbara Munz	37350 Florida Avenue Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-5200	(352) 524-5291
Pasco Middle School	James Lane	13925 14th Street Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-8300	(352) 524-8491
Pasco High School	Patrick Reedy	36850 State Road 52 Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-5500	(352) 524-5591
Pine View Elementary School	Cortney Gantt	5333 Parkway Boulevard Land O' Lakes, FL 34639	(813) 794-0600	(813) 794-0691
Pine View Middle School	Kim Anderson	5334 Parkway Boulevard Land O' Lakes, FL 34639	(813) 794-4800	(813) 794-4891
Quail Hollow Elementary School	Michelle Berger	7050 Quail Hollow Boulevard Wesley Chapel, FL 33544	(813) 794-1100	(813) 794-1191
Richey Elementary School	Ken Miesner	6807 Madison Street New Port Richey, FL 34652	(727) 774-3500	(813) 794-3591
Ridgewood High School	Randy Koenigsfeld	7650 Orchid Lake Road New Port Richey, FL 34653	(727) 774-3900	(813) 794-3991
River Ridge Middle School	Jason Joens	11646 Town Center Road New Port Richey, FL 34654	(727) 774-7200	(727) 774-7291

River Ridge High School	Jim Michaels	11646 Town Center Road New Port Richey, FL 34654	(727) 774-7200	(727) 774-7291
Rushe, Charles S. Middle School	Dave Estabrook	18654 Mentmore Blvd Land O' Lakes, FL 34638	(813) 346-1200	(813) 346-1291
San Antonio Elementary School	Vanessa Hilton	3241 Darby Road Dade City, FL 33525	(352) 524-5300	(352) 524-5391
Sand Pine Elementary School	Ginny Yanson	29040 County Line Road Wesley Chapel, FL 33543	(813) 794-1900	(813) 794-1991
Sanders Memorial Elementary School	Jill Middleton	5126 School Road Land O' Lakes, FL 34638	(813) 704-1500	(813) 794-1591
Schrader Elementary School	Mary Stelnicki	11041 Little Road New Port Richey, FL 34654	(727) 774-5900	(813) 794-5991
Schwettman, Harry Education Center	Mimi Foster	5520 Grand Boulevard New Port Richey, FL 34662	(727) 774-0000	(727) 774-0091
Seven Oaks Elementary School	B. J. Smith	27633 Mystic Oak Blvd. Wesley Chapel, FL 33543	(813) 794-0700	(813) 794-0791
Seven Springs Elementary School	Vicki Garner	8025 Mitchell Ranch Road New Port Richey, FL 34655	(727) 774-9600	(727) 774-9691
Seven Springs Middle School	David Salerno	2441 Little Road New Port Richey, FL 34654	(727) 774-6700	(727) 774-6791
Shady Hills Elementary School	Tom Barker	18000 Shady Hills Road Spring Hill, FL 34610	(813) 794-4100	(813) 794-4191
Smith, Paul R. Middle School	Dr. Chris Dunning	1410 Sweetbriar Drive Holiday, FL 34691	(727) 246-3200	(727) 246-3291
Stewart, Raymond B. Middle School	Jackson Johnson	38505 Tenth Avenue Zephyrhills, FL 33542	(813) 794-6500	(813) 794-6591
Sunlake High School	Angie Stone	3023 Sunlake Blvd. Land O' Lakes, FL 34638	(813) 346-1000	(813) 346-1091
Sunray Elementary School	Yvonne Reins	4815 Sunray Drive Holiday, FL 34690	(727) 774-9900	(727) 774-9991
Taylor Jr., Chester W. Elementary School	Eva Hunsberger	3638 Morris Bridge Road Zephyrhills, FL 33543	(813) 794-6900	(813) 794-0991
Trinity Elementary School	Kathryn Rushe	2209 Duck Slough Boulevard New Port Richey, FL 34655	(727) 774-9900	(727) 774-9991

Trinity Oaks Elementary School	Allison Hoskins	1827 Trinity Oaks Blvd. New Port Richey, FL 34655	(727) 774-0900	(727) 774-0991
Veterans Elementary School	Donna Busby	26940 Progress Parkway Wesley Chapel, FL 33544	(813) 346-1400	(813) 346-1491
Weightman, Thomas E. Middle School	Shae Davis	30649 Wells Road Wesley Chapel, FL 33544	(813) 794-0200	(813) 794-0291
Wesley Chapel Elementary School	John Abernathy	30243 Wells Road Wesley Chapel, FL 33544	(813) 794-0100	(813) 794-0191
Wesley Chapel High School	Andrew Frelick	30651 Wells Road Wesley Chapel, FL 33544	(813) 794-8700	(813) 794-8791
West Zephyrhills Elementary School	Emily Keene	37900 14th Avenue Zephyrhills, Florida 33542	(813) 794-6300	(813) 794-6391
Wiregrass Ranch High School	Ray Bonti	2909 Mansfield Boulevard Wesley Chapel, FL 33543	(813) 346-6000	(813) 346-6091
Woodland Elementary School	Kim Poe	38203 Henry Drive Zephyrhills, FL 33542	(813) 794- 6400	(813) 794-6491
Zephyrhills High School	Gerri L. Painter	6335 12th Street Zephyrhills, FL 33542	(813) 794-6000	(813) 794-6091

**Staff Development Department**

The District School Board of Pasco County’s vision document, *Pasco’s Vision: A Community of Connected Schools*, supports a continuous, flexible Professional Development program that establishes lifelong learning as a valued expectation for all administrative, instructional and support staff. Participation in professional development results in the use of innovative, effective and efficient strategies focused on specific work requirements, successful teaching practices and/or leadership behaviors. This occurs in a wide variety of delivery systems such as coursework (college or adult education), interactive training, online or electronic media, job-embedded professional development, etc. Demonstration of skills, behaviors, and strategies learned positively impacts student performance and organizational growth.

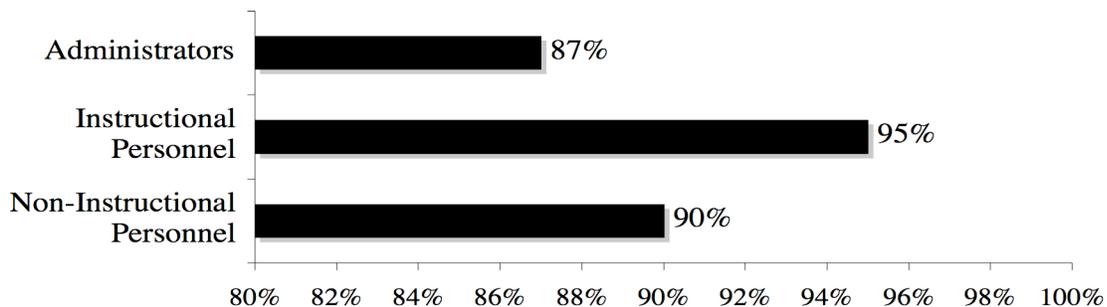
Professional Development promotes internal and external communication, provides for consistent and pervasive use of best practices, and develops a sense of district pride.

During the 2007-2008 school year, 8,837 Pasco County employees attended 365,164 hours of staff development.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT (SD) STATISTICS FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR**

<b>Employee Categories</b>	<b>Number of Employees</b>	<b>Number of Employees Attending SD</b>	<b>Percentage of Employees Attending SD</b>	<b>Number of In-service Points Earned</b>
Administrators	327	286	87%	11,954
Instructional Personnel	5,062	4,812	95%	299,462
Non-Instructional Personnel	4,148	3,739	90%	53,748
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9,537</b>	<b>8,837</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>365,164</b>

**PERCENT OF EMPLOYEES ATTENDING STAFF DEVELOPMENT DURING THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR**



## **Student Services Department**

The Student Services Department consists of school guidance counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and school nurses. Services are provided to all our elementary, middle, high, and alternative schools. We support the basic educational programs of our schools and provide guidance, social, and health functions. We help students and teachers with every day student problems, as well as with a crisis that may arise. We also assist parents in coordinating their Home Education Programs. Student Services also receives all the School Choice applications and processes them. Our department provides prevention and intervention programs and services to foster a safe and drug free school environment.

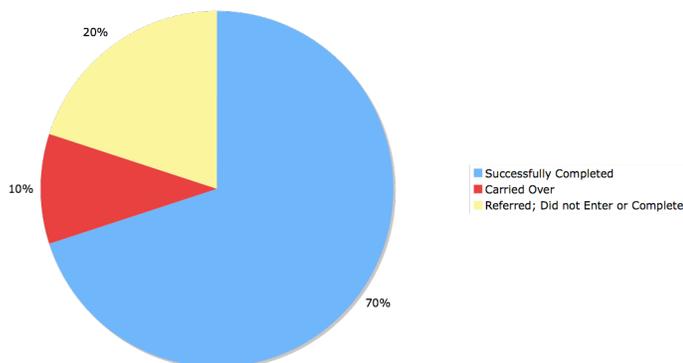
### **Student Services - TOOLS Program**

TOOLS is a psycho-educational program offered to qualifying secondary students who are involved in disciplinary action due to substance involvement at school. This program is not substance abuse treatment. The TOOLS program consists of 6, seventy-five minute sessions, plus brief intake and exit interviews. Parents are expected to participate in both interviews and one session designed for parent participation. Students and parents must attend the intake session prior to attending sessions. Attendance in the TOOLS program allows students the opportunity to return to school after a 5 day out-of-school suspension.

Session topics include: Active Listening/ Stereotyping, Chemical Dependency, Drug Education and Awareness, Stress, Health, Goals/Self Control/Myths and Denials, Positive Negative Thoughts and Behavior/Perspectives/ Decision Making and Commitment/ Parent Session (with Parent).

TOOLS groups are offered at four different locations in the county. Sessions are conducted by qualified, trained facilitators. In 2007-2008 the TOOLS program served 210 students from 23 schools.

**Tools Program Completion  
2007-2008  
Rates by Percent**



**Student Services – Crisis Intervention Program**

Crisis and death are an inevitable part of living. Death and the dying process are painful realities that affect all of us throughout our lives. When a death/crisis occurs, emotions are often strong and difficult to resolve and can be significantly disruptive and debilitating to the normal equilibrium of a school community.

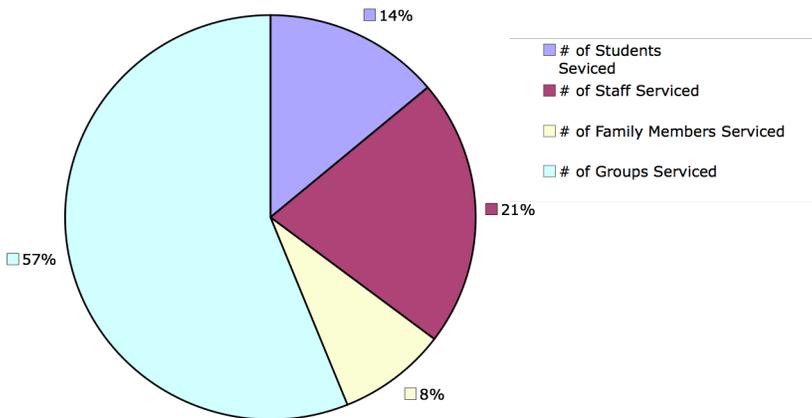
The Pasco County model for crisis intervention is proactive and systematic in its delivery of services to schools. School-based and itinerant Student Services (SS) staff--in consultation with district and school administrative staff--provide grief counseling, trauma intervention, and postvention (i.e., after a death/crisis has occurred) services to the schools.

The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) allows our school district to be sensitive and responsive to the impact of death/crisis on students, parents, staff, and community. Crisis intervention services help individuals and organizations to deal with and accept loss, work through grief and trauma responses, and restore a sense of safety and equilibrium.

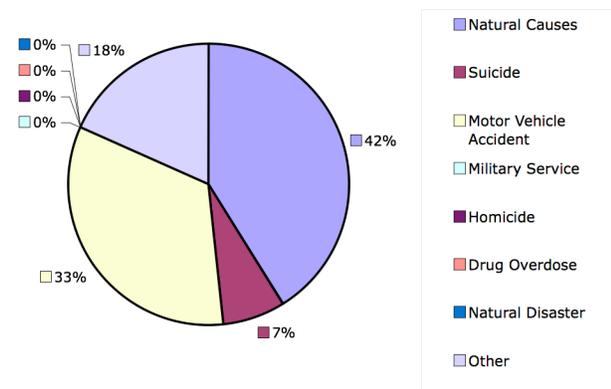
The Team is mobilized if the nature, intensity, scope, or impact of a crisis event or death(s) requires a broader level of crisis support services than can be provided by the school—based guidance department and itinerant SS team members that serve that school. The principal and the District CIT Coordinator determine the need for District CIT services as they consult and discuss the specifics of the crisis event.

During the 2007-2008 school year the CIT responded to 27 requests for assistance. These requests resulted in assistance to 80 students, 122 members of DSBPC staff; 48 individual family members; and 320.5 crisis intervention group sessions. Fifty two percent of the calls relate to the loss of students. Thirty three percent of all service provided were related to auto vehicle accidents; forty two percent to natural causes; seven percent due to suicide and zero percent were homicides. The remaining incidents were military services, drug overdose or unspecified.

**Number and Percent of People Receiving Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Services 07-08**



**CIT Response by Incident Type**

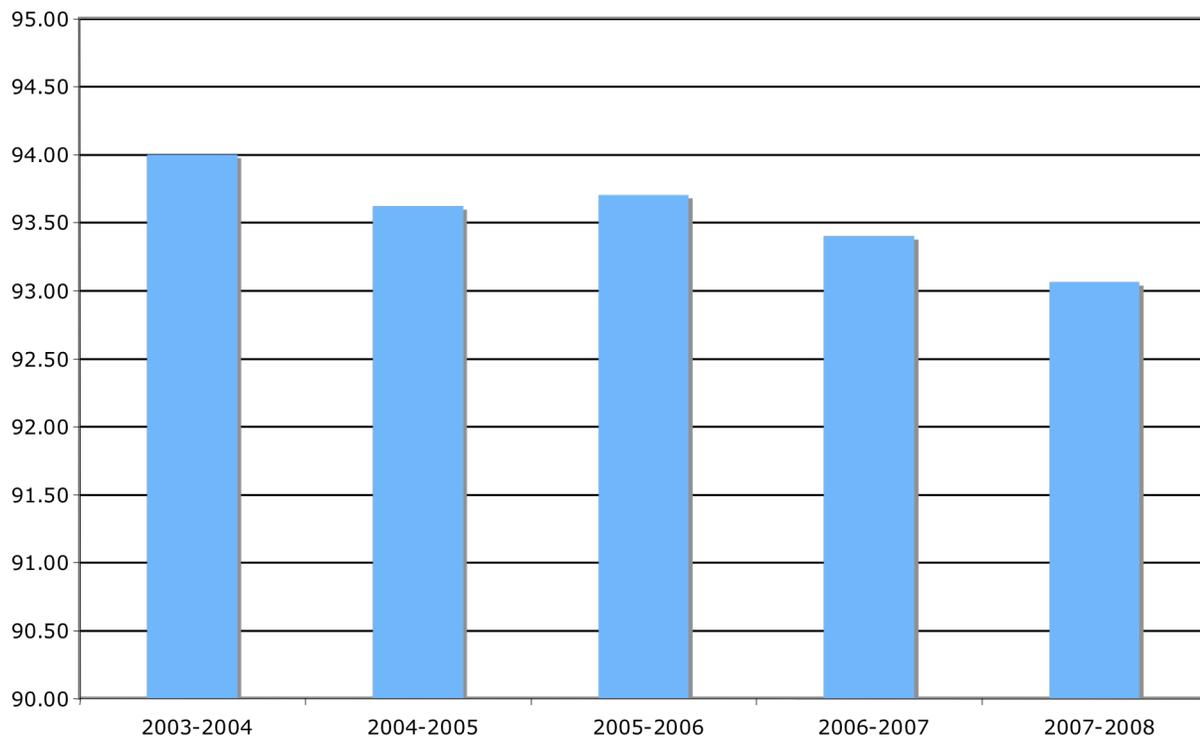


## *Student Services – Student Attendance*

Elementary, middle, and high school attendance rates continue to remain relatively stable over the past three years, averaging at around 93.25% average daily attendance.

The school district works closely with community agencies to address chronic non-attendance. A number of cooperative initiatives have been developed with community agencies to address the needs of students/families who are establishing patterns of non-attendance. In addition, at the school level, attendance committees continue to develop and implement school wide attendance programs and procedures to improve school attendance.

**District Attendance Data**



## **Transportation Department**

The Transportation Department is responsible for transporting to school all students who live more than two miles from their zoned schools. There is an exception for elementary students who live within 2 miles, if certain hazardous walking criteria are met.

The school district receives funding from the state based on the number of bus riders. The formula takes into account the Florida Price Level Index, the Rurality Index, and the average bus occupancy. There is also additional funding for Exceptional Students who require special equipment or additional assistance.

The Transportation Department is committed to providing safe, efficient transportation for all eligible students. The department is committed to completing this task within the reality of shrinking budget. To that end, we are working diligently to consolidate routes and reduce the number of buses on the road.