JROTC
I’ve attended a couple of JROTC military balls over the last week, and have been blown away by the caliber of students who take part in these programs. The students are true leaders, and their parents are shining examples of supportive families. I have to thank the group leaders for the respect and discipline they instill in our high school students. They all are a great group of leaders.

Scholarship Dinner
I also spoke at the Take Stock in Children scholarship dinner the other night. All of our high schools had kids there, and a total of 130 students are receiving scholarships through the Pasco County Education Foundation this year.

These are competitive scholarships. Recipients are chosen by various selection committees and individual donors who have contributed for various reasons.

Their mentors and families were in attendance to support these scholars. The students may not have achieved this level of success without those supporters, but the kids deserve the bulk of the credit for pushing themselves and staying on the right path.

Take Stock in Children provides an invaluable service to lower income students who have the drive to attend college or technical school. The Education Foundation continues to be a great partner in promoting student achievement.

To volunteer as a mentor, click here.

Community Spirit Day
Gulfside Elementary School and community partners invite students and families to Community Spirit Day on the school campus from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 23. The school also will provide free lunches to students over Spring Break.

Spring Break
Tomorrow is the start of Pasco’s spring break. Everyone has worked hard so far this year and you all deserve this time off. I hope you take time to relax, maybe visit family, or go on an exciting trip. Whatever you do, please be safe. We still have a lot of work ahead of us to complete this school year on a positive note. Enjoy your week.