



## DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

### Zephyrhills High School Hero

On March 11, a student was eating lunch when a piece of fruit lodged in his throat. Tyler Wills, another student and JROTC cadet, quickly reacted and performed the Heimlich maneuver on the other student, dislodging the fruit. I want to thank Tyler for his quick thinking, and encourage everyone to learn basic life saving skills like the Heimlich.

### Congratulations to Sun Lake Teacher Ashley Landes

Ashley is one of 25 teachers in the state selected to participate in the Justice Teaching Institute April 7 through 11, sponsored by the Florida Supreme Court. She is a first-year government and economics teacher at Sun Lake High School.

Ashley will take part in a wide range of sessions with Supreme Court Justices and other judges, simulations, mock oral arguments, case studies, and visits to the trial and appellate courts in order to learn techniques and strategies for teaching legal concepts and processes to students in a meaningful way.

Look for pictures from Ashley at the Institute on our website, Facebook page, and Twitter.

### Autism Awareness Month – Elementary School Events

April is Autism Awareness month, which means that there is a lot going on in our community and in our schools. Longleaf Elementary School is hosting an Autism Awareness Walk on April 27, to raise money for a Sensory Integration room. New River Elementary School is hosting an Autism Awareness Walk fundraiser the same day to help purchase equipment and supplies for students with Autism. Other schools are holding events as well.



### River Ridge Watershed Ambassadors

Seventh grade students at River Ridge Middle School are learning about the Watershed Ambassadors Program, a comprehensive curriculum that integrates activities in math, science, language arts, and social studies in the classroom and then extends the learning out in the field at Cross Bar Ranch and Starkey Park, with instructor Jean Knight. The program gives the students an awareness and appreciation of wetland and upland habitats and their importance in our ecosystem.

### Future of the Region Award

On Monday, March 25, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council presented the District School Board of Pasco County and Pasco County the **Future of the Region Award** in the Public Education category for public outreach in the 2015 Penny for Pasco renewal campaign. The awards highlight projects and programs that exemplify regionalism, and recognize outstanding achievements and contributions that benefit the regional community.