



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

Congratulations, JWM OM Team!

The JW Mitchell High School Pet Project team is going to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI, from May 22-25! They are shown here with their mascot, OMER.



Employees Ratify Contract

District employees have ratified the 2012/2013 collective bargaining agreements. The next step is to prepare this item for School Board approval/ratification. The breakdown of the vote was:

- SRP: 89% for and 11% against
- Instructional: 84% for and 16% against

Thanks to all of you who cast votes. We are anxious to get to work negotiating the 2013/2014 agreements, with the goal of offering raises to all eligible employees.

Legislative Update

The Florida Senate passed their budget earlier this week and the House is voting on theirs today. At this time, the Senate budget includes a \$1.2 billion increase in K-12 education funding and the House budget includes a \$1 billion increase. The Senate budget reportedly increases per pupil funding by \$372 and the House increases per pupil funding by \$395. After each chamber approves its budget, a conference committee made up of both Senate and House members will begin meeting to hammer out a compromise budget. Passing a budget is the only thing the Legislature is constitutionally required to do in each legislative session. This regular session is scheduled to end on May 3.

Safety Patrols Help Animals, Too

The students at New River, Quail Hollow, Oakstead, Veterans, and Wesley Chapel elementary schools collected more than 10,000 cans of cat food for The Labor of Love Animal Rescue during March Meowness. Safety Patrol coordinator and physical education teacher Chris Gorman organized the collaboration between the five Pasco elementary schools. The safety patrols created the program as their community service project for the year.

ESE Parent Survey

The Florida Department of Education showcases Pasco County as the district with the 3rd highest number of respondents in the state so far this month. March data identifies Pasco as having the 7th highest number of parent survey respondents in the state. Great job sharing the survey link with parents! Please continue your efforts to have parents of students with an IEP complete the survey. The survey can be accessed at <http://www.esesurvey.com/Login.php>. Thank you again for all your assistance with parent involvement in our district.

Upcoming Events

April 15

Tax Day (midnight deadline...don't miss it!)

April 15 – 26

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test

April 16

School Board Executive Session (3 p.m.),
Board Workshop (4 p.m.), Meeting (6 p.m.)

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