



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

Fox Hollow Teacher Goes to Space Academy

Jeffrey DeSantis of Fox Hollow Elementary was selected to attend the Honeywell Educators @ Space Academy program this June. He is looking forward to an exciting week at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, where he will spend five days in intensive classroom and laboratory training focusing on space science and exploration. Educators learn through simulated astronaut training and activities designed to promote life-long learning in a classroom setting.

Kudos to R.B. Stewart Coach

While Coach Norman Scheuerman was on bus duty recently, another teacher began choking. Coach Scheuerman took immediate action and began performing the Heimlich on his colleague. He saved a life that day. He would not want a big deal made out of this, but I wanted to let everyone know about his heroic actions.

Lacoochee Elementary School

Advertisements for teaching and administrative positions at Lacoochee Elementary are now posted. Under state rules, the District must submit a Turnaround Plan for the school because our data indicate that it will not improve from a D grade this year.

This is not something we take any pleasure in doing. We know the staff at Lacoochee is dedicated to the students, their academic performance, and their overall well-being. We were given the choice of closing the school and assigning students to other district schools, turning Lacoochee into a charter school, turning it over to a management company to run, or the district-managed Turnaround Plan we chose.

We have to make sure that we have highly successful teachers in each classroom. We hope that pay supplements will help us retain and attract staff. What we are offering is an estimated **\$2,500 bonus the first year, \$2,500 the second year, and \$10,000** the third year. After that, we hope to continue to offer pay differentials for dedicated staff.

Hudson Elementary and Fivay High Schools

We are projecting that our other two double-D schools will improve this year. Because our data indicate that Hudson Elementary and Fivay High both will achieve C grades or better on the state report card, we do not anticipate that we will have to submit a Turnaround Plan for either of these schools.

Take Your Kids to Work Day

Next Thursday, May 2, is the day District employees can bring their children, ages 8 to 18, to work.

Congressional Art Contest Winner

Congratulations to Anna Austin, an 11th grade student at Wiregrass Ranch High School, for winning Congressman Gus Bilirakis' Congressional Art Competition. On Thursday, Anna's painting "Cirque" was selected to be displayed for one year in the Capitol in Washington, D.C. Anna also will be flown to D.C. to be recognized at the annual awards ceremony.



"Cirque" by Anna Austin

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