



# SCHOOL BOARD OF POLK COUNTY

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Superintendent of Schools

As the Holiday Season approaches, so does the timing for two performance reports.

It is time for the second Interim Report of our four grading periods. These reports are important indicators in a student's academic success and an indicator of how well our instructional delivery is being received.

To parents, I ask that you carefully review the report and discuss it with your child. Now is the time to commend a student for a job well-done while encouraging these positive actions to continue. It is also the time to take corrective action if the student performance needs adjusting. It is a fact that the level of parental involvement is closely linked to the level of a child's success. I urge parents to stay in touch with their child's teachers in order to collaborate for the total education of each child.

To teachers, I ask that you continue to implement proven, effective instructional methods and practices in your classroom. Your passion to teach and your ability to reach each child is critical to their education. The expectations for each student begin with you. You provide the ultimate learning experience that lasts a lifetime.

To other staff members, I ask that you continue to provide a much-needed supporting role to our teachers, students and parents. It takes all of us working together to provide a safe, nurturing school environment where our students can receive the highest level of instruction our teachers can give.

Thank you to all for helping our students achieve their highest potential.

This time of year also brings the second noteworthy report: an update of the district's Strategic Plan. Check out the latest report on our plan at [www.polk-fl.net](http://www.polk-fl.net). You'll see there *are* great things happening in our classrooms every day. We still have much to do, but we are seeing academic growth. Data supports that our trends are heading in the right direction. We are seeing greater learning gains and offering additional academic opportunities for our students each year.

Additional places to find information about good news happening in our schools can be found through the communication channels of PCSBtv, Twitter, Facebook and through a RSS feed. Click on our Community Relations page under News on our website. You might also be seeing and hearing some Public Service Announcements on billboards and on radio stations. We are proud of our collective successes and we love sharing the Good News!

Together, we are making a positive difference in the lives of our students. Let's continue to work, hand-in-hand, in order to see that our students succeed.

Happy Holidays to all!

Sincerely,

Gail F. McKinzie, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

*Polk County Schools-  
an equal opportunity  
institution for education  
and employment*

*The mission of Polk County Public Schools is to ensure rigorous, relevant learning experiences for our students that result in high achievement.*