

Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee (ICROC)

2011-2012 Annual Report to the
Pinellas County School Board
and the Citizens of Pinellas County

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Executive Summary

Referendum funding has made it possible for Pinellas County Schools to increase teacher salaries and initiate or expand programs in reading, the arts, and technology.

Because of the support of Pinellas County taxpayers through approval of the referendum, the school system has been able to allocate \$24.3 million in the 2011-2012 school year to focus on retaining and recruiting great teachers.

Visual Arts Department: The visual arts plan focused on the enhancement of K-12 visual arts programs in the district by providing funds for supplies, materials, furniture, equipment, technology, field trips, training, and support. All elementary, middle, and high school art teachers received money to use according to their needs, plus a set amount per teacher to purchase books for an art classroom library. Over one hundred elementary, middle, and high school teachers received art magazines. Twenty schools received art equipment and/or furniture. Three high schools were refreshed with a new 33-station Visual Arts computer lab. One middle school received a new 30-station visual arts computer lab (older computers were transferred to another school.) One elementary school received a new visual arts computer lab. One elementary and two middle schools received iPad labs. Over 100 field trips to local art museums and galleries were funded. Twenty-three elementary schools were visited by the "Totally Mod" art mobile, co-sponsored by the Leepa Rattner Museum of Art and seven elementary schools were visited by the "Express Yourself" art mobile, co-sponsored by the Great Explorations Children's Museum. Ninety-four art teachers attended the Florida Art Education Association annual conference. Six high school art teachers attended a five day Advanced Placement Art Studio training. Fifteen art teachers completed training through Beginning ArtTIP; 38 elementary, middle, and high teachers completed Digital Arts Lab Study training; and 35 art teachers completed Photographing Artwork training. Additional trainings for Online Strategies in Art, Technology in Art K-12, Podcasting for Visual Art, Photographing Artwork, and Making Videos in Art were attended by teachers from more than 65 schools. Visual Arts also expanded the Digital Movie Making Camp to two locals. The two one week sessions were attended by 30 middle school students, four visual arts teachers, and two performing arts teachers.

Performing Arts Department: Seventy one elementary teachers received funding for instruments, equipment, and supplies based on specific needs and requests. These requests included basic general music instruments and supplies, Orff Instruments, World Drumming Instruments, sound equipment, and large purchases such as choral risers. Forty five elementary teachers attended Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) music education training. All elementary music teachers participated in training focused on highest student achievement in elementary music. Instrumental programs at all levels were reimbursed for rental fees waived for students on Free and Reduced Lunch. These funds are being used to repair and replace instruments. Two schools received new band uniforms. All high school band programs received a stipend for the cost of auxiliary staff members. Funds were allocated to 67 secondary teachers for music, supplies, equipment, accompanists, and other support based on specific needs and requests. Two schools began overhauls of their auditorium sound systems. Seventy secondary teachers attended trainings provided by the Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) and six attended training provided by Florida Association of Theatre Educators (FATE). The choral program at Palm Harbor University High continues to be a benchmark program in the district and state. The choral instructor is paid through referendum funds. The initiative to rebuild strings programs that were cut in the early 1990s continues with programs at 38 schools. Referendum funds were also used to support guitar programs in middle and high schools with extensive training for 13 teachers.

Enrollment has more than tripled in these programs and retention is improving dramatically due to the support and training. Performing arts funds used to support music technology have transformed music education in Pinellas County. Sixty-five percent of our performing arts teachers have been trained. Eighty four teachers have received Level I Technology Institute for Music Education Certification (TIME). Ten teachers have received Level II TIME certification. We have piloted very successful high school digital music curriculum. Teachers consistently participate in on-going professional development. We continue to partner with community arts organizations to bring artists into schools and to extend classroom learning by taking students to performing arts venues.

Academic Computing Technology Department: Two referendum projects were continued for the 2011-2012 school year district wide. Smart interactive whiteboards were purchased through the capital outlay budget of the referendum. These interactive boards provide teachers with the tools to create dynamic interactive activities and lessons that enhance the instruction in the classroom. Students can touch the boards and use the software to demonstrate learning. Teacher lessons were created using Smart Notebook 10 software and shared throughout the district and the nation through the Smart Exchange website. Two Hundred Sixty boards were purchased and installed for eighty three schools in the district. In addition, to the Smart Board Project referendum funds were utilized to purchase online curriculum resources that address student achievement and provide students with interactive curriculum that is accessible 24/7. These applications include Brain Pop which is animated, curricular content that engages students, supports educator's lesson plans, and bolsters achievement through multi-media videos. Visual Thesaurus, is an interactive dictionary and thesaurus which creates word maps that blossom with meanings and branch to related words that can be used on the computer, Smart Board or Apple iPad to increase vocabulary and other reading skills. Doceri turns a iPad into an interactive whiteboard and screencast recorder with sophisticated tools for hand-drawn graphics and built-in remote desktop control. Teachers can move around the classroom while presenting lessons right from the iPad using the Doceri software. Three Referendum Project Coordinators are responsible for the creation, and delivery of the online training requirement for all teachers in Smart Notebook software prior to installation. These teachers model and coach teachers with newly acquired interactive boards in the classroom as well as facilitate the online and face to face professional development for the entire district. The Referendum Project Coordinators also deliver training for Brain Pop, Visual Thesaurus and Doceri software applications.

Elementary Reading and Language Arts Department: The referendum funds enabled Pinellas County Schools to continue to develop print-rich environments in over 2,500 classrooms. Elementary Reading/Language Arts began its transition to the Common Core State Standards in first grade with the purchase of a variety of exemplar texts that teachers could use to support the higher order thinking skills these standards call for during both read aloud and reading workshop. An emphasis was placed on providing schools with necessary materials to support differentiated instruction at the primary grades. This was especially evident with the continuation of the Leveled Literacy Intervention Program and the purchase of small group materials for 2nd grade. Schools identified specific needs (i.e., technology, additional classroom library texts, intervention materials, software) and purchased materials to address these needs. Referendum funds were also used for literacy professional development. All elementary media centers received funds for circulation upgrades

Secondary Reading Department: Referendum dollars have allowed our secondary reading classrooms and many of our content area classrooms to become print-rich environments where students have access to a variety of relevant texts and reading software. In recent years, the number of secondary reading classrooms has expanded. Every secondary student not reading at grade level receives a reading intervention during his or her school day.

Because of referendum funds, these classes have additional instructional resources to enhance instruction. The continued focus has been to provide critical professional development for our reading and content area teachers. In addition, we have continued to focus on providing reading classrooms with materials that would not otherwise be available, including fiction and non-fiction texts, class sets of novels, classroom magazines, and newspapers. Schools received a fixed dollar amount from referendum funds based on school size and the number of reading classes. Schools addressed individual needs by purchasing items such as reading software or technology and updating, as needed, classroom libraries purchased in previous years. Secondary media centers all received funds for circulation upgrades. The referendum allowed literacy professional development opportunities for all secondary teachers, including support for teachers needing to complete the reading endorsement and one-time supplements for teachers completing this essential training.

It is the conclusion of the members of the Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee (ICROC) that referendum funds are being expended consistently with the intent of the referendum language, the implementing ordinance, and the voters of Pinellas County.

Background

On Nov. 2, 2004, the citizens of Pinellas County voted to increase the ad valorem millage one-half mill for necessary operating expenses including funds to recruit and retain quality teachers, preserve reading programs, supplement music and art classes, and provide up-to-date textbooks and technology covering the period from July 1, 2005-June 30, 2009. On January 29, 2008, the citizens of Pinellas County approved the continuation of the Ad Valorem Tax Referendum beginning July 1, 2009 and ending four fiscal years later on June 30, 2013. The school board established specific target areas for the expenditure of these funds and a process for allocating the referendum dollars, outlining clear parameters for both monitoring and reporting expenditures to the public.

An oversight committee of seven community members was formed to meet the requirements of the ballot language. The committee's purpose is to monitor the expenditure of referendum dollars over the implementation period. The committee known as The Independent Citizens Referendum Oversight Committee (ICROC) functions as an advisory body to the school board. The committee reviews quarterly expenditure reports that detail the items purchased by the specific program areas of teacher compensation, reading, visual arts, music, and technology. In addition, narratives are examined that further specify the use of the items in each of the program areas and the schools benefiting from the expenditure of these funds.

The additional funding provided by the referendum is intended to enhance program initiatives, update equipment, and update classroom materials that will enhance student learning. These funds will not be used as replacement dollars for existing department budgets.

Pinellas County Schools has expended the tax referendum money by increasing teacher pay, supplementing reading programs, enhancing music and art class materials, and by providing up-to-date instructional materials and technology services.

REFERENDUM
Overview of Revenues and Expenditures by Individual Object
07/01/11 thru 06/30/12

Revenues	Budgeted	Collected		
Tax Collections	\$29,220,613	\$29,220,613		
Interest from Tax Collections	193	193		
Total Revenue	\$29,220,806	\$29,220,806		
Carry Forwards & Encumbrances	5,192,423			
Total Available	\$34,413,229	\$29,220,806		

Expenditures	Budgeted	Expended	Committed/ Encumbered	Budget Balance
Salary Supplement (2660)				
Total Salary	\$22,190,934	\$21,568,871		\$622,063
Total Benefits	\$2,919,439	\$2,709,465		\$209,974
Total Salary Supplement (2660)	\$25,110,373	\$24,278,336		\$832,037

Expenditures	Budgeted	Expended	Committed/ Encumbered	Budget Balance
Visual Arts (2310)				
Total Salary	\$122,529	\$151,799		-\$29,270
Total Benefits	\$45,348	\$42,357	\$0	\$2,991
Total Purchased Services	\$215,100	\$194,075	\$13,091	\$7,934
Total Material & Supplies	\$408,746	\$256,560	\$197	\$151,989
Total Capital Outlay	\$574,222	\$563,661	\$5,444	\$5,117
Total Other Expenses	\$38,333	\$29,385	\$2,734	\$6,214
Total Visual Arts (2310)	\$1,404,278	\$1,237,837	\$21,466	\$144,975

Expenditures	Budgeted	Expended	Committed/ Encumbered	Budget Balance
Music (Performing Arts) (2320)				
Total Salary	\$362,796	\$334,494	\$0	\$28,302
Total Benefits	\$86,044	\$82,537	\$0	\$3,507
Total Purchased Services	\$635,229	\$401,857	\$40,752	\$192,620
Total Material & Supplies	\$404,725	\$147,790	\$35,433	\$221,502
Total Capital Outlay	\$501,190	\$457,916	\$6,757	\$36,517
Total Other Expenses	\$7,307	\$5,949	\$850	\$508
Total Performing Arts (2320)	\$1,997,290	\$1,430,543	\$83,791	\$482,956

	Budgeted	Expended	Committed/ Encumbered	Budget Balance
Expenditures				
Technology (2330)				
Total Salary	\$148,187	\$133,077		\$15,110
Total Benefits	\$35,920	\$32,381	\$0	\$3,540
Total Purchased Services	2,420	2,400		20
Total Material & Supplies	175,546			175,546
Total Capital Outlay	\$1,815,632	\$1,176,252	\$36,775	\$602,606
Total Technology (2330)	\$2,177,706	\$1,344,110	\$36,775	\$796,822
Expenditures				
Elementary Reading (2341)				
Total Salary	\$145,774	\$133,403	\$0	\$12,371
Total Benefits	\$37,707	\$35,730	\$0	\$1,976
Total Purchased Services	26,285	26,285	0	0
Total Material & Supplies	\$432,530	\$136,586	\$2,156	\$293,789
Total Capital Outlay	\$557,537	\$542,341	\$8,922	\$6,274
Total Elementary Reading (2341)	\$1,199,834	\$874,345	\$11,078	\$314,410
Expenditures				
Secondary Reading (2342)				
Total Salary	\$154,675	\$175,400	\$0	-\$20,725
Total Benefits	\$26,640	\$24,547	\$0	\$2,093
Total Purchased Services	\$56,684	\$28,408	\$10,000	\$18,276
Total Material & Supplies	\$129,503	\$115,931	\$7,570	\$6,002
Total Capital Outlay	\$821,713	\$591,968	\$127,623	\$102,122
Total Other Expenses	177	177		0
Total Secondary Reading (2342)	\$1,189,392	\$936,431	\$145,193	\$107,768
Expenditures				
Library Media (2343)				
Total Purchased Services	48,800		48,800	0
Total Supplies	8,881	9,880		-1,000
Total Capital Outlay	\$420,283	\$279,572	\$140,711	\$1
Total Library Media (2343)	\$477,964	\$289,452	\$189,511	-\$999
Total Reading	\$2,867,190	\$2,100,228	\$345,782	\$421,179
Total Programs	\$8,446,464	\$6,112,718	\$487,815	\$1,845,932
Unallocated (2350)	856,392			856,392
Total Programs and Unallocated (23XX)	\$9,302,856	\$6,112,718	\$487,815	\$2,702,324
Grand Total Salary Supplement, Programs & Unallocated	<u>\$34,413,229</u>	<u>\$30,391,054</u>	<u>\$487,815</u>	<u>\$3,534,361</u>

Visual Arts 2011-2012

All elementary, middle and high school art teachers received discretionary budget assistance.

- Elementary - \$2.25 per student based on the total elementary school population
- Middle - \$3.25 per student enrolled in art courses at the school
- High - \$5.25 per student enrolled in art courses at the school

Over 100 schools received art magazines-Scholastic Art. Elementary schools received 25 subscriptions, Middle and High schools received 40 subscriptions (six issues per year) per art teacher.

Anona Elem.	North Shore Elem.	Carwise Middle
Azalea Elem.	Northwest Elem.	Clearwater Fund. Middle
Bardmoor Elem.	Oakhurst Elem.	Clearwater Int.
Bauder Elem.	Oldsmar Elem.	Dunedin Middle
Bear Creek Elem.	Orange Grove Elem.	Fitzgerald Middle
Bay Point Elem.	Ozona Elem.	Hopkins Middle
Bay Vista Fund.	Pasadena Fund. Elem.	Largo Middle
Bear Creek Elem.	Perkins Elem.	Lealman Intermediate
Belcher Elem.	Pinellas Central Elem.	Madeira Beach Fund K-8
Belleair Elem.	Pinellas Park Elem.	Meadowlawn Middle
Blanton Elem.	Plumb Elem.	Oak Grove Middle
Brooker Creek Elem.	Ponce de Leon Elem.	Osceola Middle
Campbell Park Elem.	Rawlings Elem.	Palm Harbor Middle
Cross Bayou Elem.	Ridgecrest Elem.	Pinellas Park Middle
Curlew Creek Elem.	Safety Harbor Elem.	Safety Harbor Middle
Curtis Fund. Elem.	San Jose Elem.	Seminole Middle
Cypress Woods Elem.	Sanderlin Elem.	Tarpon Springs Middle
Davis Elem.	Sandy Lane Elem.	Thurgood Marshall Fund
Dunedin Elem.	Sawgrass Lake Elem.	Tyrone Middle
Eisenhower Elem.	Seminole Elem.	Bayside High
Fairmount Park Elem.	Seventy-fourth St. Elem.	Boca Ciega High
Forest Lakes Elem.	Sexton Elem.	Clearwater High
Frontier Elem.	Shore Acres Elem.	Countryside High
Fuguitt Elem.	Skycrest Elem.	Dixie Hollins High
Garrison Jones Elem.	Skyview Elem.	Dunedin High
Gulfport Elem.	Southern Oak Elem.	East Lake High
Highland Lakes Elem.	Starkey Elem.	Gibbs High
High Point Elem.	Sunset Hills Elem.	Lakewood High
Jamerson Elem.	Sutherland Elem.	Largo High
Lake St. George Elem.	Tarpon Springs Elem.	Northeast High
Lakeview Fund. Elem.	Tarpon Springs Fund.	Osceola High
Lakewood Elem.	Walsingham Elem.	Palm Harbor Univ. High
Lealman Avenue Elem.	Westgate Elem.	Pinellas Park High
Lynch Elem.	Woodlawn Elem.	Pinellas Secondary
Maximo Elem.	Hamilton Disston School	Seminole High
McMullen Booth Elem.	Paul B. Stephens Excep.	St. Petersburg High
Melrose Elem.	Calvin Hunsinger Excep.	Tarpon Springs High
Mt. Vernon Elem.	Azalea Middle	
Mildred Helms Elem.	Bay Point Middle	
New Heights Elem.		

All elementary, middle, and high school art teachers received \$300 for the purchase of books for an art classroom library.

20 schools received art equipment and/or furniture. The specific equipment and supplies is based on the district “Specifications for Art” guidelines and individual school needs.

Bauder Elem.	Largo Middle	Countryside High
Lealman Ave. Elem.	Meadowlawn MS	Dixie Hollins High
Mt. Vernon Elem.	Oak Grove MS	Lakewood High
Seminole Elem.	Tyrone MS	Largo High
Starkey Elem.	Bayside High	Osceola High
Clearwater Fund MS	Boca Ciega High	Seminole High
Clearwater Int.	Clearwater High	

Over 100 field trips to local art museums and galleries were funded to these 55 schools:

Azalea Elem.	Maximo Elem.	Woodlawn Elem.
Bay Point Elem	McMullen Booth Elem.	Azalea MS
Bear Creek Elem.	Melrose Elem.	Carwise MS
Brooker Creek Elem.	Mt. Vernon Elem.	Clearwater Fund MS
Cross Bayou Elem.	Nina Harris	Dunedin MS
Curlew Creek Elem.	North Shore Elem.	Largo MS
Cypress Woods Elem.	Pasadena Fund Elem.	Oak Grove MS
Dunedin Elem.	Perkins Elem.	Osceola MS
Eisenhower Elem.	Pinellas Central Elem.	Palm Harbor MS
Fairmount Park Elem.	Pinellas Park Elem.	Thurgood Marshall Fund.
Forest Lakes Elem.	Ponce de Leon Elem.	Clearwater HS
Garrison-Jones Elem.	San Jose Elem.	Countryside HS
Gulfport Elem.	Sanderlin Elem	Gibbs HS
High Point Elem.	Sandy Lane Elem.	Northeast HS
Highland Lakes Elem.	Sawgrass Lake Elem.	Osceola Fund HS
Jamerson Elem.	Sexton Elem.	Seminole HS
Lake St. George Elem.	Shore Acres Elem.	St. Pete HS
Lealman Ave. Elem.	Southern Oak Elem.	
Madeira Beach Fund K-8	Tarpon Springs Fund El	

23 elementary schools received the “Totally Mod Art Mobile” in partnership with the Leepa Rattner Museum of Art. This art mobile will travel to all elementary schools and ESE Centers over the next four years.

Brooker Creek Elem.	Highland Lakes Elem.	Skycrest Elem.
Curlew Creek Elem.	Lake St. George Elem.	Sunset Hills Elem.
Curtis Fundamental Elem.	McMullen-Booth Elem.	Sutherland Elem.
Cypress Woods Elem.	Oldsmar Elem.	Tarpon Springs Elem.
Leila G. Davis Elem.	Ozona Elem.	Tarpon Springs Fund.
Dunedin Elem.	Safety Harbor Elem.	Calvin Hunsinger
Forest Lakes Elem.	San Jose Elem.	Paul B. Stephens
Garrison Jones Elem.	Sandy Lane Elem.	

7 elementary schools received the “Express Yourself Art Mobile” in partnership with the Great Explorations Houghton Magman Children’s Museum. This art mobile will travel to all elementary schools and ESE Centers over the next four years.

Bauder Elem.	Mildred Helms	Anona Elem.
Belleair Elem.	Oakhurst Elem.	
Frontier Elem.	Ridgecrest Elem.	

6 high school teachers completed Advanced Placement Studio Art training in July 2012 from the following schools:

Boca Ciega HS	Osceola High	Tarpon Springs HS
Dixie Hollins High	St. Petersburg High	

94 teachers from the following schools attended the Florida Art Education Association annual conference in November 2011:

74th Street Elem	Mildred Helms Elem.	Clearwater Int.
Anona Elem.	Mt. Vernon Elem.	John Hopkins MS
Bardmoor Elem.	Orange Grove Elem.	Largo MS
Bauder Elem.	Paul B. Stephens	Madeira Beach K-8
Bay Vista Fund El.	Perkins Elem	Meadowlawn MS
Bear Creek Elem.	Plumb Elem.	OakGrove MS
Belleair Elem.	Ponce de Leon Elem.	Osceola MS
Blanton Elem.	Ridgecrest Elem	Pinellas Park MS
Campbell Park Elem.	San Jose Elem.	Pinellas Secondary
Cross Bayou Elem.	Sanderlin Elem.	Safety Harbor MS
Dunedin Elem.	Sandy Lane Elem.	Thurgood Marshall Fund
Fairmount Park Elem.	Sawgrass Lake Elem	Tarpon Springs MS
Frontier Elem.	Sexton Elem.	Tyrone MS
Fuguitt Elem.	Shore Acres Elem.	Boca Ciega HS
Garrison Jones Elem.	Skycrest Elem.	Clearwater HS
Gulfport Elem.	Southern Oak Elem.	Dixie Hollins HS
High Point Elem.	Starkey Elem.	East Lake HS
Highland Lakes Elem.	Sunset Hills Elem.	Gibbs HS
Jamerson Elem.	Tarpon Springs Elem.	Largo High
Lakewood Elem.	Tarpon Springs Fund El.	Northeast HS
Lealman Ave Elem.	Westgate Elem.	Osceola HS
Lynch Elem.	Woodlawn Elem.	Palm Harbor UH
Maximo Elem.	Azalea MS	Seminole HS
McMullen Booth Elem.	Carwise MS	St. Pete HS
Melrose Elem.	Clearwater Fund MS	Tarpon Springs HS

3 High Schools were refreshed with new Digital Arts Labs for Visual Arts

Boca Ciega High School	PCCA at Gibbs High School	Palm Harbor University High School
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1 Middle School was refreshed with a new Digital Arts lab for Visual arts - older computers were transferred to Clearwater Intermediate

3 iPad labs were delivered and setup to use with students

Skycrest Elementary	Morgan Fitzgerald MS	Pinellas Park MS
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1 Elementary School received a new Digital Arts Lab

Sawgrass Elementary

Visual Arts Expanded the Digital Movie Making Camp, June 2012 to two locations – John Hopkins Middle School and Dunedin Highland Middle School

30 Middle School students	4 Visual Arts Teachers	2 Performing Arts Teachers
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All Animation Movies posted on PCS Visual Arts YouTube Channel

Training for teachers 2011-2012

15 teachers completed the Beginning ArtTIP, followed by online training and assignments in the fall of 2011. Each teacher received a laptop, digital camera, and software.

Boca Ciega HS	Lealman Avenue ES	Pinellas Park ES
Campbell Park ES	Madeira Beach Fund. MS	Pinellas Secondary
Dixie Hollins HS	Melrose ES	Safety Harbor MS
East Lake HS	Mildred Helms	Seminole MS
Gibbs HS	PCCA at Gibbs HS	Tyrone MS

30 teachers completed the Online Strategies in Art

Bauder ES	Garrison Jones ES	Plato Academy
Bay Side HS	Northeast HS	Plumb Elementary ES
Baypoint MS	Orange Grove ES	Ridgecrest ES
Belcher ES	Osceola HS	Safety Harbor ES
Clearwater Fund. MS	Palm Harbor Univ. HS	Sexton ES
Dunedin HS	Pinellas Central ES	Tarpon Springs HS
Fairmount Park ES	Pinellas Park ES	Tyrone MS
Fuguitt ES	Pinellas Secondary	

35 teachers completed the Photographing ArtWork. They received a camera, SD card, tripod, and light kit.

Academy Prep	Dixie Hollins HS	Pinellas Secondary
Bardmoor ES	Dunedin HS	Rawlings ES
Bauder ES	Dunedin MS	Safety Harbor ES
Baypoint MS	Fairmount Park ES	Safety Harbor MS
Bear Creek ES	Highland Lakes ES	Sandy Lane ES
Blanton ES	Lakewood HS	Seminole MS
Boca Ciega HS	Largo HS	Southern Oak ES
Clearwater Fund. MS	Lealman Intermediate	St. Petersburg HS
Clearwater HS	Madeira Beach Fund. MS	Thurgood Marshall MS
Countryside HS	Mt. Vernon ES	Tyrone MS
Cross Bayou ES	Northeast HS	Woodlawn ES

13 teachers completed the Making Videos in Art. They received a video camera and a tripod.

Bauder ES	Dixie Hollins HA	Plato Academy
Baypoint ES	Lynch ES	St. Petersburg HS
Clearwater Fund. MS	Northeast HS	Tarpon Springs MS
Clearwater HS	Perkins Elem	Tyrone MS

47 teachers completed one or more Technology in Art K-12 trainings.

Anona ES	Cross Bayou	Maximo ES
Bauder ES	Dixie Hollins HS	Mt. Vernon ES
Baypoint MS	Dunedin MS	Northeast HS
Bear Creek ES	Fairmount Park ES	Oak Grove MS
Belcher ES	Frontier ES	Oldsmar ES
Blanton ES	Garrison Jones ES	Osceola MS
Clearwater Fund. MS	High Point ES	Palm Harbor University HS
Clearwater HS	Lakewood ES	Pasadena Fund. ES
Clearwater Intermediate	Lakewood HS	Pinellas Central ES
Curtis Fundamental ES	Lealman Intermediate	Pinellas Park Elementary

Pinellas Secondary
Ridgecrest ES
Safety Harbor ES
San Jose ES
Sexton ES
Shore Acres ES

Skyview ES
St. Petersburg HS
Starkey ES
Tarpon Springs ES
Tarpon Springs Fund. ES
Tarpon Springs HS

Tarpon Springs MS
Thurgood Marshall
Tyrone MS
Westgate ES
Woodlawn ES

11 Teachers complete the Digital Arts Curriculum Apps

Bardmoor ES
Bauder ES
Frontier ES
Garrison Jones ES

McMullen Booth ES
Perkins ES
Pinella Park ES
Ridgecrest ES

San Jose ES
Shore Acres ES
St. Petersburg HS

31 teachers completed one or more Digital Arts Lab Study for Elementary, Middle and High School teachers.

Baypoint MS
Bayside HS
Carwise MS
Curtis Fund. ES
Dunedien Highland MS
Dunedin HS
Eastlake HS
Frontier ES
Garrison Jones ES
John Hopkins MS
Lakewood HS

Maximo ES
McMullen Booth Elem
Mildred Helms ES
Northeast HS
Oldsmar Elem
Palm Harbor MS
Pasadena Fund. ES
PCCA at Gibbs HS
Pinellas Central ES
Pinellas Park ES
Ponce de Leon ES

Ridgecrest ES
Sandy Lane
Sawgrass ES
Shore Acres Elem
Skycrest ES
Tarpon Springs Fund. ES
Tarpon Springs HS
Thurgood Marshall MS
Tyrone MS

7 High School teachers completed Digital Arts Lab HS. to learn how to use Adobe CS5 in their classes.

Bayside HS
Clearwater HS

Dunedin HS
Lakewood HS

Northeast HS
St. Petersburg HS

Jack Tovey, teacher on special assignment, worked in all high schools and middle schools with a Digital Arts Lab and has performed the following services:

- Conducted the Digital Arts Professional Learning Community to share ideas, processes, and lessons so all Art teachers involved had support in teaching Art with the digital labs
- Recruited 2 Middle School teachers to pilot an iPad lab
- Worked with the Art Teacher at Clearwater Intermediate in preparation for Digital Arts Lab
- Expanded the summer movie camp to two locations with 30 students to create stop motion animations
- Taught how to make videos
- Taught how to create animations
- Helped plan lessons
- Co taught lessons
- Solved printer problems
- Connected wireless
- Installed software
- Updated software
- Taught students how to photograph Art Work

Developed and conducted trainings for all teachers to integrate existing technology into their curriculum

Jonathan Ogle, teacher on special assignment, worked in all elementary schools with a Digital Arts Lab and has performed the following services:

- Conducted Digital Arts Professional Learning Community trainings to share ideas, processes, and lessons so all art teachers involved had support in teaching art with the digital labs
- Recruited one elementary school art teacher to pilot an iPad lab
- Recruited one elementary school art teacher for mobile Mac Lab
- Expanded the summer movie camp to two locations with 30 students to create stop motion animations
- Reimaged existing labs to update operating systems and software
- Remoted into teacher laptops to assist
- Taught teachers how to create animations
- Coached teachers to better use existing technology
- Maintained & improved Art Database for teachers
- Taught teachers how to make videos
- Helped plan lessons
- Co-taught lessons
- Solved printer problems
- Connected wireless internet
- Taught teachers how to photograph artwork
- Taught teachers how to photograph art
- Bound computers to PCS domain
- Installed software
- Updated software
- Helped set up iPad Art Labs

Developed and conducted trainings for all teachers to integrate existing technology into their curriculum, as well as worked with them in their classrooms at their schools

Performing Arts

Elementary Support

Equipment

The following schools received funding for instruments, equipment, and supplies based on specific needs and requests of each school. This included basic general music instruments and supplies, Orff Instruments, World Drumming Instruments, sound equipment, and large purchases such as choral risers. Without referendum support, there would be **no** budget for these items.

Anona Elementary
Azalea Elementary
Bardmoor Elementary
Bauder Elementary
Bay Point Elementary
Bay Vista Fundamental Elementary
Bear Creek Elementary
Belcher Elementary
Belleair Elementary
Blanton Elementary
Brooker Creek Elementary
Cross Bayou Elementary
Curlew Creek Elementary
Curtis Fundamental Elementary
Cypress Woods Elementary

Dunedin Elementary
Eisenhower Elementary
Fairmount Park Elementary
Forest Lakes Elementary
Frontier Elementary
Fuguitt Elementary
Garrison Jones Elementary
Gulfport Elementary
High Point Elementary
Highland Lakes Elementary
Jamerson Elementary
Lake St. George Elementary
Lakewood Elementary
Lealman Avenue Elementary
Leila Davis Elementary

Lynch Elementary
 Maximo Elementary
 McMullen Booth Elementary
 Mt. Vernon Elementary
 New Heights Elementary
 North Shore Elementary
 Oakhurst Elementary
 Oldsmar Elementary
 Pasadena Fundamental Elementary
 Perkins Elementary
 Pinellas Park Elementary
 Plumb Elementary
 Ponce de Leon Elementary
 Rawlings Elementary
 Ridgecrest Elementary
 Safety Harbor Elementary

Sanderlin Elementary
 Sandy Lane Elementary
 Sawgrass Lake Elementary
 Seminole Elementary
 Seventy Fourth St. Elementary
 Sexton Elementary
 Skyview Elementary
 Southern Oak Elementary
 Sunset Hills Elementary
 Sutherland Elementary
 Tarpon Springs Elementary
 Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary
 Walsingham Elementary
 Westgate Elementary
 Woodlawn Elementary

Training

- Funds were provided to support elementary district-wide training focused on Next Generation Sunshine State Standards.
- Funds were used to begin revision on Pinellas County Elementary Key Learnings to align to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and Common Core State Standards
- Funds were provided for 45 teachers to attend the Florida Music Educators (FMEA) clinic training conference focused on fostering highest student achievement in music.

Secondary Equity Support

Instrument Rental Fee Reimbursement

Instrumental programs were reimbursed (schools listed below) for rental fees that are waived for students on free and reduced lunch. This helps level the playing field among schools of various socioeconomic levels. Funds are being used to repair and replace instruments.

Bauder Elementary
 Dixie Hollins High
 Dunedin High
 Dunedin Highland Middle
 East Lake High
 Fitzgerald Middle
 Hopkins Middle
 Largo High
 Largo Middle
 Madeira Beach Fundamental
 Meadowlawn Middle
 Northeast High

Oak Grove Middle
 Osceola Middle
 Perkins Elementary
 Pinellas Park High
 Pinellas Park Middle
 Safety Harbor Middle
 Seminole High
 Seminole Middle
 Tarpon Springs Middle
 Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle
 Tyrone Middle

Band Uniforms

Prior to the referendum, the district did not fund high school band uniforms. Funds are used to purchase uniforms or add uniforms. During the 2011-2012 school year:

- Largo High and East Lake High purchased new uniforms.

Auxiliary Marching Band Support

All high school band programs received a stipend to offset the cost of auxiliary staff members, such as percussion instructors and guard instructors.

Supplies and Equipment

Funds were put in school accounts (schools listed below) for the purchase of music, supplies, equipment, accompanists, choreographers and other needed support based on specific needs and requests of each school.

Azalea Middle	Madeira Beach Fundamental (K-8)
Bay Point Middle	Meadowlawn Middle
Boca Ciega High	Northeast High
Carwise Middle	Oak Grove Middle
Clearwater Fundamental Middle	Osceola Fundamental High
Clearwater High	Osceola Middle
Countryside High	Palm Harbor Middle
Dixie Hollins High	Palm Harbor University High
Dunedin High	Pinellas Park High
Dunedin Highland Middle	Pinellas Park Middle
East Lake High	Safety Harbor Middle
Fitzgerald Middle	Seminole High
Gibbs High	Seminole Middle
Hopkins Middle	St. Petersburg High
Lakewood High	Tarpon Springs High
Largo High	Tarpon Springs Middle
Largo Middle	

Training

- Funds were provided for 70 teachers to attend the Florida Music Educators (FMEA) clinic training conference focused on fostering highest student achievement through music.
- Funds were provided for 6 teachers to attend the Florida Association of Theatre Educators (FATE) conference focused on literacy.
- Funds were provided to train secondary teachers on Next Generation Sunshine State Standards
- Funds supported mentoring of new secondary teachers.

Choral Support

- The choral program at Palm Harbor University High (teacher hired and supported with referendum dollars) continues to be a benchmark program in the district and state.
- This program will be self-sustaining for the 2012-2013 year. In other words, referendum funds will no longer be needed to support the program.

Auditorium Upgrades

Initial review and evaluation performed at Palm Harbor and Dixie Hollins High School. The upgrade includes a complete overhaul of the sound system. The overhaul includes a new 32 channel soundboard, 12 wireless state-of-the-art microphones, new speaker installation, CD player, and a stage communication system. The auditorium upgrades also include extensive training for performing arts staff and technical theatre students. Dixie Hollins was completed in fall 2012 and Palm Harbor will be completed in June 2013.

Performing Arts Technology

The performing arts technology teacher hired with referendum funds continues to support schools very effectively despite a very large workload. He manages all the Performing Arts Technology programs, the auditorium upgrade project, all sound equipment related projects, and website design and maintenance. Most importantly, he supports teachers in classrooms through training, mentoring, lesson planning, and maintaining the lesson plan database and he also provides on-going music technology support (addressing hardware and software issues). With his leadership we have been able to accomplish the following:

- Fourteen teachers were trained for Music Technology Integration Project (MusicTIP) Level 1 in June 2012. This equipment and training have transformed music education in Pinellas County Schools. Approximately 148 (Note: this includes teachers who have retired and or moved from the district) teachers have participated in this program to date. See reverse for a list of schools that have been impacted.
- More than twenty teachers participated in MusicTIP refresher classes. These classes were designed to support on-going professional development and to ensure all teachers are effectively using equipment. The instruction was individualized for each teacher.
- Twelve teachers participated in year 3 of MusicTIP training. These teachers earned Level 1 Technology Institute for Music Education (TI:ME) certification.
- Twenty six teachers participated in year 4 of MusicTip training including Digital Audio and Advanced Notation. These teachers are working toward their Level 2 TI:ME certification.
- Dixie Hollins High School completed year two of innovative digital music curriculum involving more than 100 students. The instructor at Dixie Hollins is now training other teachers throughout the district on digital music curriculum.
- SmartMusic subscriptions were purchased for all secondary instrumental music programs. SmartMusic is an award-winning interactive music software that provides tools for practicing. SmartMusic is a powerful teaching tool. Music achievement has been boosted in classrooms that use the software consistently.
- iPads were purchased for all performing arts teachers to be rolled out in the 2012-2013 school year.

Over the course of the referendum, the following schools have teachers who have been MusicTIP trained:

Anona Elementary	Meadowlawn Middle
Azalea Middle	Mt. Vernon Elementary
Bardmoor Elementary	New Heights Elementary
Bauder Elementary	Northeast High
Bay Point Elementary	Northwest Elementary
Bay Point Middle	Oak Grove Middle
Bay Vista Fundamental Elementary	Oakhurst Elementary
Bear Creek Elementary	Osceola Fundamental High
Belcher Elementary	Osceola Middle
Blanton Elementary	Ozona Elementary
Boca Ciega High	Palm Harbor University High
Brooker Creek Elementary	Pasadena Fundamental Elementary
Calvin Hunsinger	Perkins Elementary
Campbell Park Elementary	Pinellas Central Elementary
Carwise Middle	Pinellas Park High
Countryside High	Pinellas Park Middle
Cross Bayou Elementary	Plumb Elementary
Curlew Creek Elementary	Ponce de Leon Elementary
Curtis Fundamental Elementary	Rawlings Elementary
Cypress Woods Elementary	Richard L. Sanders
Dixie Hollins High	Ridgecrest Elementary
Dunedin Elementary	Safety Harbor Elementary
Dunedin High	Safety Harbor Middle
Dunedin Highland Middle	San Jose Elementary
East Lake High	Sanderlin Elementary
Eisenhower Elementary	Sandy Lane Elementary
Fairmount Park Elementary	Seminole Elementary
Fitzgerald Middle	Seminole High
Forest Lakes Elementary	Seminole Middle
Fuguitt Elementary	Sexton Elementary
Garrison Jones Elementary	Skycrest Elementary
Gibbs High	Skyview Elementary
Hamilton Disston	Southern Oak Elementary
High Point Elementary	St. Petersburg High
Highland Lakes Elementary	Starkey Elementary
Hopkins Middle	Sunset Hills Elementary
Jamerson Elementary	Sutherland Elementary
Lake St. George Elementary	Tarpon Springs Elementary
Lakewood Elementary	Tarpon Springs Fundamental Elementary
Lakewood High	Tarpon Springs High
Largo High	Tarpon Springs Middle
Largo Middle	Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle
Leila Davis Elementary	Walsingham Elementary
Madeira Beach Fundamental (K-8)	Westgate Elementary
Maximo Elementary	Woodlawn Elementary
McMullen Booth Elementary	

String Orchestra Program

This initiative is to rebuild string (orchestra) programs that were cut in the early 1990s. Referendum funding provides 4 designated string teachers and also funds string programs taught by band or choral teachers. Without referendum funds, there would be NO funding for string instruments, supplies, 4 string teachers, string coaches and the all county string program. For the 2011-2012 school year, programs were offered at the following schools:

Bauder Elementary	Oak Grove Middle
Blanton Elementary	Osceola Middle
Carwise Middle	Osceola High
Clearwater Fundamental Middle	Perkins Elementary
Dixie Hollins High	Palm Harbor Middle
Dunedin High	Palm Harbor University High
Dunedin Highland Middle	Pinellas Park High
East Lake High	Plumb Elementary
Fitzgerald Middle	Sanderlin Elementary
Garrison Jones	Seminole High
Gibbs High - PCCA	Seminole Middle
Hopkins Middle	Sexton Elementary
Jamerson Elementary	Shore Acres Elementary
Lakewood Elementary	Skycrest Elementary
Largo High	St. Petersburg High
Largo Middle	Tarpon Springs Fundamental
Lynch Elementary	Tarpon Springs High
Maximo Elementary	Tarpon Springs Middle
Meadowlawn Middle	Thurgood Marshall

Gitarr Program

- Referendum funds continued to be used to support guitar programs in middle and high schools.
- These guitar programs continue to reach students who would not ordinarily choose traditional band, chorus and orchestra classes. The classes are engaging and often provide an incentive for many students to remain in school.
- Extensive and on-going professional development was provided to 13 teachers throughout the year. Special efforts are made to ensure that new teachers to the district receive the same guitar training as those who have been trained previously.
- The guitar program has grown from 903 enrolled in guitar in 2004 to 1975 students enrolled in 2011-2012.

Secondary schools with guitar programs are as below:

Boca Ciega High	Fitzgerald Middle
Clearwater Fundamental Middle	Gibbs High
Clearwater High	Lakewood High
Countryside High	Hopkins Middle
Dixie Hollins High	Largo High
Dunedin High	Largo Middle
East Lake High	Lealman Intermediate

Madeira Beach Fundamental (K-8)
Northeast High
Oak Grove Middle
Osceola Fundamental High
Osceola Middle
Palm Harbor University High
Pinellas Park High

Pinellas Park Middle
Safety Harbor Middle
Seminole High
Seminole Middle
St. Petersburg High
Tarpon Springs Middle

School and Community Support

Coaching and Mentoring

- Funding provided to support coaching and mentoring of instrumental teachers by master teacher educators.
- Master teachers worked with Pinellas County teachers in their own classrooms.

Florida Orchestra

- Provided transportation to Florida Orchestra day time coffee concerts for 3 secondary schools

Jazz All County Event

- Provided funding for jazz clinicians for inaugural all county “stand alone” concert.

Ruth Eckerd Hall – Community Partnerships

- Partnered with Marcia P. Hoffman Institute at Ruth Eckerd Hall to bring the traveling Eckerd Theatre Company show “The One Hundred Dresses” performance to nine elementary schools. This piece focused on connections among theatre, reading and social studies.
- Provided funding for 50 students to attend Itzak Perlman concert.
- Supported Ruth Eckerd Hall’s nationally recognized arts infusion training for general education teachers.
- Supported Ruth Eckerd Hall’s award winning Passport Program for the Arts housed at Skycrest Elementary and Lealman Elementary.

Additional Information/Return on Investment

The performing arts referendum database tracks all spending of referendum funds. This continues to be an invaluable tool for evaluating the effectiveness and equity of funding as well as being a good tool for budgeting purposes. During the 2012-2013 year, we will continue to work to expand the use of the database to capture the correlations between referendum funding and performing arts and other academic achievement.

There are some continuing positive performing arts trends suggesting that the referendum is yielding a strong return on investment. For example, many string programs are self-sustaining. Additionally, several of our south county music programs are beginning to show healthy growth in the number of students enrolled and the quality of music achievement.

Technology

During the 2011-2012 school year, there were two key initiatives supported by the technology referendum.

Smart Board Project

This referendum project was continued district-wide for the 2011-2012 school year. Smart Interactive whiteboards were purchased through the capital outlay budget of the referendum. An interactive whiteboard is a large touch-sensitive screen connected to a computer and a digital projector. The computer's display is projected onto the board and is controlled by touching the board directly or with a pen-like electronic tool through the Smart Notebook interactive software. These boards provide teachers with tools and interactive activities to enhance the instruction in the classroom. Students can touch the boards and use the software to demonstrate learning. Lessons were created and shared throughout the district and across the country through the Smart Exchange website. During the 2011-2012 school year 260 boards were purchased for 83 schools in the district. These boards were purchased for classrooms in grades kindergarten through twelve. Teachers participating in the Smart Board project applied through an application process to receive a board for their classroom. All teachers receiving their Smart boards were required to take 18 hours of online professional development prior to receiving the board in their classrooms. The three referendum project coordinators monitored the online training and tracked each teacher's progress. The impact of this new technology in the classrooms reinforces the opportunity for individualized instruction and allows students to become responsible for their own learning.

This what teachers are saying about this new technology in their classroom:

"After seeing the excitement in my student's eyes, after using my Smart board with my lesson, I would highly encourage teachers at my school to do the same. I think if other teachers used a Smart board for just one lesson, they would see the big difference in their students too!"

Carrie Jefferis, Bay Point Elementary

"I would invite teachers into my classroom to either do a collaboration lesson or have their students participate in my lesson. Once you see the level of active engagement while using a Smart Notebook lesson you will want to change the way you teach."

Allison Schellenbach, Oakhurst Elementary

Blended Instruction Curriculum Development

This initiative was continued from the previous year referendum. *Through the technology referendum, online curriculum resources have been purchased to give teachers additional interactive activities for their lesson plans. These include Brain Pop Video and Visual Thesaurus and Doceri software. These are software applications* are available to students and teachers student across the district for 24/7 access. These resources are engaging and the interactive thesaurus increases vocabulary skills for improvement in FCAT Writing. By providing these experiences in the classroom, we can bridge the digital divide in an economy that increasingly requires technological skills for all Pinellas County Students.

In summary, \$1,380,885.00 from the 2010-2011 referendum was expended for installation of both interactive whiteboard hardware and curriculum software for teachers and students throughout the district. Funds for personnel were used to train and support teachers on how to use these new technologies in their classroom. A roll forward balance of \$796,822.00 will be carried over to the 2012-2013 school year to purchase additional boards for teachers who have earned a board but were moved from a classroom or school with a board to a classroom or school without a board. Also, roll forward money will be set aside to replace projector bulbs as the warranties on the projectors enter their fifth and final year.

Elementary Reading

The Elementary Reading Referendum funds have been used to improve and enhance the literacy instruction students receive at all 74 of Pinellas County's elementary schools plus ESE centers. These funds not only are used to support district literacy initiatives, but allow schools to purchase their own materials to support differentiated instruction based on their individual student needs. The Elementary Reading Referendum Committee identified the goals listed below for the use of referendum funds for the 2011-2012 school year.

- Continue to provide Reading Enhancement funds to address specific needs.
- Continue to provide personnel to support reading projects.
- Continue to provide professional development opportunities.
- Purchase small group Instructional Materials to support Grade 2 guided reading initiative
- Purchase instructional materials to support the Grade 1 and 2 Read Aloud Project and Grade 1 Reading Workshop aligned to the Common Core
- Purchase the Leveled Literacy Intervention program for every elementary school (2011-2012, year two of a three year plan).
- Continue to provide funds for elementary media centers.

Reading Enhancement Funds

Each elementary school received referendum funds to purchase materials based on the varied literacy needs of their school. Funds were allocated to schools based on student enrollment. The Literacy Leadership Team at each school determined how their allocation would be spent.

Personnel to Support Reading Projects

Two district reading coaches worked with classroom teachers and coaches. They directly worked with the lowest performing schools facilitating the implementation of the Florida Continuous Improvement Model (FCIM) as well as worked side by side with the literacy coaches to ensure the implementation of district initiatives was in place. They also taught components, demonstrated lessons in classrooms, and created curriculum materials.

Professional Development Opportunities

Extensive trainings occurred. Over 1800 teachers received literacy Professional Development during the school year.

Small Group Instructional Materials for Grade 2

Jan Richardson Guided Reading books and supplementary materials were purchased for each 2nd grade classroom. These books were used to help teachers implement small group instruction in their classrooms as a part of the district's 3-year literacy plan. Additional books and material have been added and training for this initiative continues to be ongoing.

Grade 1 and 2 Read Aloud Project and Grade 1 Reading Workshop

First grade teachers received new units aligned to the common core that could be used during their reading workshop. These materials included various literature sets that teachers could use during the read aloud and for explicit instruction. Training and lesson materials were also provided. Initial 2nd grade materials were also purchased with these funds in accordance with the district's 3 year plan.

Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)

The Leveled Literacy Intervention program was purchased for 22 elementary schools as part of a three year plan to offer LLI to every elementary school. LLI is a comprehensive intervention program designed to be used with students in grades K-2.

Elementary Media Centers

Referendum funds were transferred to the Library/Media Services Department. All 79 elementary schools and ESE centers were allocated funds to be used to enhance the quality and quantity of resources available in school media centers.

Return on Investment

As a result of the referendum funding, our second grade teachers were equipped to begin their professional development this year in the area of guided reading using Jan Richardson's research based routines. This program will help to accelerate student progress to ensure that more students end the year reading at grade level. Our LLI program showed positive results with our first and second grade students last year and it is being introduced into the remaining 30 elementary schools this year. Our Professional Development opportunities continue to grow and we are able to support the implementation of the Common Core standards in our primary grades. In addition, individual schools reported that they were able to purchase literacy materials that were school-specific which they would not have had funds to purchase otherwise.

Secondary Reading

Secondary Reading Department: Referendum dollars have allowed our secondary reading classrooms and many of our content area classrooms to become print-rich environments where students have access to a variety of relevant texts and reading software. In recent years, the number of secondary reading classrooms has expanded. Every secondary student not reading at grade level receives a reading intervention during his or her school day. Because of referendum funds, these classes have additional instructional resources to enhance instruction. The continued focus has been to provide critical professional development for our reading and content area teachers. In addition, we have continued to focus on providing reading classrooms with materials that would not otherwise be available, including fiction and non-fiction texts, class sets of novels, classroom magazines, and newspapers. Schools received a fixed dollar amount from referendum funds based on school size and the number of reading classes. Schools addressed individual needs by purchasing items such as reading software or technology and updating, as needed, classroom libraries purchased in previous years. Secondary media centers all received funds for circulation upgrades. The referendum allowed literacy professional development opportunities for all

secondary teachers, including support for teachers needing to complete the reading endorsement and one-time supplements for teachers completing this essential training.

Secondary Reading

Pinellas County Referendum dollars have enabled secondary school reading classrooms to become print-rich environments where students have access to a variety of relevant texts and reading software. Every secondary student not currently reading at grade level receives a reading intervention during his or her school day. The referendum funds have allowed the district to make these classes more effective than they could otherwise have been. The focus has been to continue to provide:

- interesting, relevant, complex non-fiction texts for content area classes.
- needed materials not available through other resources for reading classrooms.
- support for school library and information centers.
- literacy professional development opportunities for all secondary teachers, including support for teachers needing to complete the reading endorsement, Next Generation Content Area Reading- Professional Development, Common Core State Standards, and support for reading teachers in the adopted reading curriculum.

School-wide/Content Area Reading Support

At the secondary level all teachers support literacy for students at every grade and ability level in preparation for full implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for Literacy in Science, Social Studies, and Technical Subjects—along with CCSS for English Language Arts in grades 6 and 9 in 2012-2013. Referendum funds supported school-wide literacy proficiency by providing professional development, materials, and resources to support implementation of literacy standards—in addition to embedded professional development through three full time content area staff developers, one each for social studies, and Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID). The social studies staff developer worked in the four high-needs high schools with tenth grade World History teachers, assisting teachers to write and deliver lessons that include literacy support. The AVID staff developer coordinated the AVID program in 23 middle and high schools. AVID provides academic support to students who might not otherwise be adequately prepared for college. Referendum funds also provided Next Generation Content Area Reading Professional Development (NGCAR-PD) for teachers by paying for course materials, facilitators, and for teacher supplements. In addition, through a partnership with the National Literacy Project (NLP), the Helios Foundation, and the Office of Secondary Reading, all middle and high schools received extensive support in establishing vibrant Literacy Leadership Teams. Referendum funds provided stipends for planning and substitute days for literacy strategy demonstration classrooms to support the Pinellas Literacy Leadership Project. In addition, referendum funds support school-wide literacy in high schools by providing subscriptions for *turnitin.com* (a resource to help guard against plagiarism) Cengage Literature Resource Center which provides teachers with access to literary and informational nonfiction texts to accompany currently adopted curriculum for increasing students practice with more complex texts, and AVID Weekly, an online source of non-fiction articles and lesson plans supporting science and social studies.

Reading Class Materials

Referendum funds were used to supplement the adopted reading curriculum where doing so assisted with program implementation with fidelity. Most of the adopted programs utilize a consumable student text that must be purchased from year to year. Using these materials as they were designed is an enhancement that increases the effectiveness of the program. Funds were reserved to support the replacement of these consumable student texts each year. Additionally, Scholastic magazines such as *Up Front*, *Choices* and *Action* were

provided for middle and high school reading classes.

Literacy Leadership Team Selection Menu

Again during the 2011-2012 school year, Literacy Leadership Teams at each school were given a portion of the referendum funds with which to make site-based decisions on the literacy needs of the schools. This option remains highly popular and effective in allowing schools to determine how best to use the funds. Of critical concern is the need to ensure that materials purchased meet the needs of schools allowing staff to make good use of the resources. Each school received a fixed dollar amount based on the size of the school and the number of reading classes. Literacy Leadership Teams at each school met to determine the best use of the funds and submitted a brief action plan outlining the need for and planned use of the selected materials.

Library Media

Funds were distributed to the department of library and media services for circulation upgrades of secondary school media centers and kindles. In addition, a subscription of *Britannica Online* was purchased for all schools, and subscriptions for *teachingbooks.net* licenses were renewed.

Professional Development

Pinellas County Schools needs approximately 500 reading endorsed or certified secondary reading teachers in order to meet the “highly qualified” designation mandated by No Child Left Behind (NCLB). More than 3,652 have taken reading endorsement classes, and 552 teachers are Reading Endorsed; however, there is still a need to continue to provide both face-to-face and online classes along with incentives to move quickly through the endorsement process since highly qualified reading teachers are still a critical need. Each secondary teacher who completed the endorsement and is currently teaching classes that require the endorsement received a one-time \$500 supplement using referendum funds. In addition, materials and course facilitator salaries were funded. Students who are slightly below grade level in reading have the option to receive a reading intervention in a content class through a teacher who is working on the reading endorsement or has taken Next Generation Content Area Reading Professional Development (NGCAR-PD). Content teachers who completed this program received a \$250 one-time supplement. This option allowed more students to participate in a wider selection of elective classes. In addition to the reading endorsement and NGCAR-PD courses, teachers were paid stipends to participate in monthly reading curriculum cadres. At these training sessions, reading teachers who work with specific intervention programs had the opportunity to learn about best instructional practices and connect with other teachers across the district, sharing similar challenges and triumphs. This building of community provides both emotional and professional support for teachers.

Summary

Reading FCAT scores at the secondary level have shown an upward trend over the past several years. Reading referendum funds have permitted the district to continue to improve the quality of instruction provided for our students. Certainly, this resource has supported this positive trend.