



Vision:
100% Student Success

Mission:
"Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life."

May 13, 2019

Dear City of St. Petersburg,

I am writing on behalf of the Principal's Multicultural Advisory Committee (PMAC), a school board mandated diversity leadership program for students. The mission of the program is to ensure that all students of all cultural backgrounds and ethnicities have the right to attend a school that makes them feel welcomed and respected.

One of the responsibilities for the high school and middle school members of the multicultural committee is promoting multicultural activities school-wide. Elementary committee members are also charged with learning about different cultures, participating in multicultural activities and programs, and initiating at least one school-wide multicultural activity per year.

For all our students, the St. Petersburg International Folk Festival (SPIFFS) provides a fun and educational opportunity for them to address those responsibilities of the mandate. As a result, SPIFFS has been an invaluable partner to the PMAC program and Pinellas County Schools for almost thirty years. Not only does SPIFFS foster a greater understanding and appreciation of diversity for both our students and staff, but it also encourages students to return to their schools and share the knowledge they have gained with their classmates.

Inspired by the SPIFFS experience, many of our schools throughout the school year conduct Multicultural Fairs, Multicultural Family Nights, Multicultural Holiday Celebrations, and what many of them call a "mini-SPIFFS." Students, parents, and community members often contribute to these events by sharing their cultures and heritages as a way of affirming the diversity of their schools and building bridges of understanding. Often these events are open to the public.

The PMAC program fully supports SPIFFS and welcomes and encourages any additional support from the community.

Thank you,

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