



# St. Petersburg Collegiate High School

## Collegiate Connection

A Charter School at  
St. Petersburg College

## November 2011

### Dates to Remember

Nov. 23-25 Thanksgiving Break  
School closed for all students

Dec. 16-Jan. 4 Winter Break  
School closed for all students

### 2012

Jan. 4 Sophomores Return from Winter  
Break

Jan. 5 Textbook Pick-Up Day

Jan. 9 Juniors and Seniors Return from  
Winter Break

January 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
School closed for all students

January 18-20 Exams for Sophomores  
Early Release for Sophomores  
End of first semester

Jan. 19 SPCHS Collegiate Application  
Process Meeting for current Juniors  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the Music Center

Jan. 23 Second semester begins for  
Sophomores

### The Season for Giving

Each year around the holiday times, the SPCHS student organizations—National Honor Society, Student Government, and Interact—combine their efforts to support local organizations that serve community members in need. This year, we ask collegiate students and their families to help us support the following causes:

#### *Food Drive*

Many people in our community make the difficult choice between paying for rent and medical bills and having enough food to eat every day. During this holiday season, we are asking our school community to help support the local food bank. We can help the food bank make sure that these children, families, individuals and senior citizens get the nutritious food they need to live, work and grow.



We will be hosting a Food Drive this holiday season to help collect food for the people in our community who are suffering from hunger. We ask each of our students to bring a donation of non-perishable food to CARL (SS215) and drop your donation off in the labeled food collection boxes. The food bank will distribute the food you donate to community households.

Let's show our appreciation for what we have and to give to those in need. Together, we can make a difference! Thank you for your help!

### ***Toy Drive / CASA Collection***

CASA in St. Petersburg is an organization that provides hope and resources to families that have flee their homes due to domestic violence. SPCHS is collecting the following ***new and unwrapped*** items for CASA's wish list this holiday season:

- Toys for all ages, to include everything from infant items to games and electronics
- Clothing for men and women in all sizes, plus accessories, pajamas, shoes, etc.
- Health and beauty products, such as make-up, soap, diapers, etc.,
- Linens, dishcloths, towels, and batteries

Please visit CASA St. Petersburg for a more complete wish list: <http://www.casa-stpete.org/>

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## Happy Thanksgiving



Gratitude is at the heart of Thanksgiving and at this special time, the SPCHS staff would like to extend their appreciation to the parents of SPCHS for their continued support. We hope you take time to enjoy family and friends before the rush of the Holiday Season begin. Best wishes to our families for a very Happy Thanksgiving!

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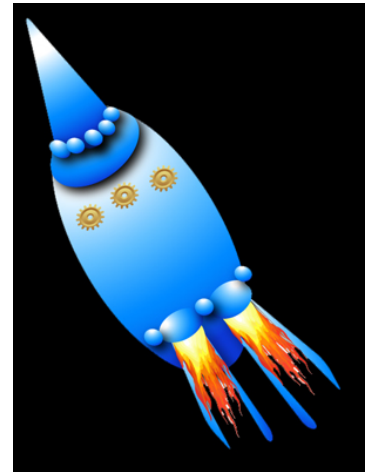
## High Performing Charter School Status

SPCHS has been designated as a High Performing Charter School by the Florida Department of Education. This status is based on outstanding academic excellence by our students and sound fiscal management. Congratulations to our students and staff for earning this prestigious honor!

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## Cosmic Dance: What a Blast!

Thank you to our Student Government Association and PTSA Board for an out of this world dance on October 28. Under the direction of Fall Dance Chair, Heather Teal, the SPC Commons area was transformed into a celestial vision with constellations, planets, a rocket, and neon accents. Students embraced the theme, many wearing galactic outfits. A flashing neon necklace was given to all students as a memento of the evening. The students had great fun dancing and munching on the delicious treats provided by SPCHS parents.



Special thanks to Mrs. Teal, the Turgeon family, our chaperones, our generous parents, and all of our students who served on the dance committee:

- Jessica Barthle
- Ariel Teal
- Mari Cao
- Ashley Bauder
- Jana Herndon
- Donisha Pate
- Danielle Hermann
- Jessica Turgeon

Working together, you made our fall dance a cosmic success!

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## PTSA Thank You

Thank you to all the family members who joined us on 22 September for the PTSA-sponsored ice cream social. The faculty and staff enjoyed meeting the parents of the sophomores and new juniors, and we were happy to see so many familiar faces in attendance. Also, thank you to all the family members who have joined the SPCHS Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) and/ or made a donation to the PTSA. Your support is greatly appreciated.

***PTSA provides financial and volunteer support*** for a wide variety of school based activities, which helps to build a strong school community, promote student achievement, and support academic programs.

***If you have not joined the PTSA, please do***—we encourage all of our family members to join. The cost is only \$6.50 per person. Parents, grandparents and students may join. Please help us reach our goal of 100% membership and our fundraising goal of \$6,500 to provide all of our student events.

### ***Reflections Program***

In its more than 40-year history, the PTSA Reflections program has encouraged millions of students across the nation and in American schools overseas to explore their artistic talents. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition.

"Diversity Means..." is the theme for this year's PTSA Reflections Program. Now is the time to submit your new, original piece of artwork in one of the following areas:

- Dance choreography
- Film production
- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts



Please see Ms. Dessipe in the front office for a student entry form and detailed guidelines. Submissions are due Monday, November 28, 2011.

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## Interact

***Wear your favorite hats the week of November 28!*** Monday and Friday are for everyone! Tuesday is Junior hat day, Wednesday is Sophomore hat day, and Thursday is Senior hat day.

Join Interact for this fundraising event. For each day you want to wear a hat in class, CARL, or Junior or Senior Meeting, it will cost you \$1.00. (Unless you want to wear it on another class's day, then it costs you \$1.50).

In addition to the fundraiser, Interact has put two programs into place that we will carry on through the entire school year:

***Recycle your writing utensils.*** Instead of throwing your writing utensils away when they are finished, bring them to Interact's collection site in CARL!

We can recycle the following items:

- Pens and pen caps,
- Markers (permanent and non-permanent) and marker caps,
- Highlighters and highlighter caps, and
- Mechanical pencils

Next time you clean out your desk or kitchen drawer, please collect the writing utensils that no longer work and bring them to Ms. H in CARL. By recycling them, we can do some good for the environment and raise some money for Interact projects.

***Support CASA.*** The needs of the victims of domestic abuse who are served by CASA do not end when the holidays are over; CASA does important work year-round. In recognition of that fact, Interact will continue to support CASA's needs throughout the year. Some ideas for what to donate include:

- Items that go on sale 2 for 1
- Gently used clothing you no longer need or use
- Gift cards with a small balance left, or gift cards to a store where you don't shop

Any small thing you are able to do helps, and when we work together, we get big results.

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## Guidance News

1. *All students should now be registered for their Spring Classes.* Students should review their schedules online through their MYSPC account to make sure they are enrolled in the proper classes, taking note of the campus as well as the days and times.
2. Also, Dr. Call says, “don’t forget to complete your textbook form.”
3. Juniors, the annual junior/parent meeting is coming up on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Music Center. This is a mandatory meeting regarding the entire college selection process.
4. Seniors, please tell your parents to set aside Wednesday evening at 6:30 in the SS Building for Collegiate FAFSA night. Assistance will be available for everyone trying to complete that form which is required this year for Bright Futures.
5. Speaking of Bright Futures it is important for all seniors to be working on their community service hours. The minimum needed for any scholarship is 75 hours.
6. All students in college classes, please be aware that exams may not be administered at the same time and place as your college class. Remember to consult your professor for the exact date, time and location of your exam.



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## Florida All-State Band Competition

Congratulations to two SPCHS students, each of whom has won a place in the prestigious 2011 Florida All-State Band: **Andrew Harrison on French horn** and **Josh Troutner on trumpet**. Both have auditioned to earn the honor, and both are returning for the second time to the highly competitive All-State level.

The PTSA is proud to assist their efforts and underwrite the registration expenses. We also are very grateful to Mr. John Bannon, principal timpanist with the Florida Orchestra, band and orchestra director at St. Petersburg College. Mr. Bannon has helped the students reach this point.

In addition to their involvement in the SPC music program, Andrew and Josh play their instruments with the well-respected Pinellas Youth Symphony. Good luck and best wishes to Joshua, Andrew, and their families as they head soon into All-State rehearsals and performance.

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## Leadership Guest Speakers

Thank you to Patricia Rossi and Barbara Grano for offering two relevant and interactive presentations for SPCHS juniors and seniors this month.

**Patricia Rossi** is a nationally recognized etiquette coach and a bestselling author. Topics covered in her presentation included table etiquette, introductions, networking, dress for success, and thank you notes, and **Barbara Grano**, *SPC Ethics Academic Chair*, facilitated an activity that helped students identify their teamwork style. After understanding their style and how each style contributes to the teams’ success, the students used their knowledge of teams to collaboratively plan an event.

Thank you to Ms. Rossi and Mrs. Grano for teaching these critical skills in a fun and interactive manner. We are certain these skills will serve our students well as they continue their education and enter the workforce.

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## Bullying and Teen Violence Prevention



**In response to the state law, the Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up for all Students Act, the School Board adopted a policy that prohibits bullying and harassment. The policy ensures that all students, employees, and volunteers learn and work in an environment that is safe, secure, and free from harassment and bullying of any kind. Florida is now one of 47 states with a law regarding bullying in schools.**

The Policy defines Bullying as *systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees and may involve but is not limited to: teasing, social exclusion, threat, intimidation, stalking, including cyberstalking, physical violence, theft, sexual, religious, or racial harassment, public humiliation, and destruction of property.*

The policy defines harassment as *any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of data or computer software, or written, verbal or physical conduct directed against a student or employee that: Places a student or employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property, has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits, has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school.*

**The School Board strictly prohibits any act of Teen Dating Violence and Abuse committed by**

**one student against another on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation.**

*“Teen Dating Violence and Abuse” is a pattern of emotional, verbal, sexual, or physical violence and/or abuse by one person in a current or past relationship of a romantic nature to exert power and control over another when one or both of the partners is a teenager. Abuse may include insults, coercion, social sabotage, sexual harassment, threats and/or acts of physical or sexual abuse. The abusive partner uses this pattern of violent and coercive behavior to gain power and maintain control over the dating partner. To be subject to this Policy, Teen Dating Violence and Abuse committed by one student against another must occur on school property, during a school-sponsored activity, or during school-sponsored transportation.*

We are committed to providing a safe learning environment and will not tolerate Bullying/Harassment or Teen Dating Violence and Abuse of any kind. Incidents can be reported to the principal or any staff member or reported online at one of the below links:

<http://bullying.pcsb.org>

<http://harassment.pcsb.org>

<http://teendatingviolence.pcsb.org>

Anonymous reports can also be made using the District Electronic Reporting Form, or by calling the Campus Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-873-8477, or by texting keyword TIP144 plus your message to CRIMES (274637).

For more information about either the Policy against Bullying and Harassment or the Teen Dating Violence and Abuse Policy, please visit the Prevention Office by going to [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org), then go to Parents and Students, then to Programs and Resources.

To learn more about Bullying/Harassment and find out what adults can do to help prevent it, visit the Stop Bullying website at [www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov). For more information on Teen Dating Violence and Abuse go to [www.cdc.gov/chooserespect](http://www.cdc.gov/chooserespect).

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## Enrichment at the Palladium



**Join the St. Petersburg Opera Orchestra, Chorus, & Children's Chorus for a FREE Educational Program for Middle & High School Students and Parents!**

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 8, 2011 – 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm**

As a prelude to its holiday production, Seasonal Sparkle, scheduled for Monday, December 19th at 7:30 pm at the Palladium, the St. Petersburg Opera will present a free 90-minute preparatory program for middle and high school students. Maestro Mark Sforzini will explain both the basics of opera and the story and characters of La Boheme. Members of the opera company will illustrate concepts that include:

- What is opera?
- What are the different elements of an opera?
- What is an aria?
- What is a recitative?
- Who are the people necessary to make an opera happen?
- Who are the characters in La Boheme and what is their story all about?
- Who is Puccini and why is he considered one of the greatest composers of opera?
- What should I listen for at the opera?
- What should I look for at the opera?

In addition to holiday favorites such as excerpts from the Messiah and The Nutcracker, the highlight of this educational program will be the second act of Puccini's La Boheme, set in Paris on Christmas Eve. The student program is co-sponsored by the Palladium Theater at St. Petersburg College and the Florida Suncoast Opera Guild.

Free Admission for middle and high school students and parents on December 8, 2011. No reserved seating.

Please share this information with your friends and families!

Contact Cory Adler-Leidersdorff at (727)341-7918 for more information. No reservations needed!

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## Parent Liaison

According to Florida State Statute, each charter school's governing board must appoint a representative to facilitate parental involvement, provide access to information, assist parents and others with questions and concerns, and resolve disputes. For St. Petersburg Collegiate High School, the governing board has appointed Ian Call as this representative. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Dr. Call at (727) 341-3521 or at [call.ian@spcollege.edu](mailto:call.ian@spcollege.edu).

If you have any questions about the School Improvement Plan or the School Advisory Council, you can also contact the Co-Chair of our School Advisory Council and parent, Elizabeth Rickerman. Mrs. Rickerman can be contacted at [rickerman.elizabeth@spcollege.edu](mailto:rickerman.elizabeth@spcollege.edu).

If you have any questions about getting involved in PTSA, please feel free to contact the president of SPCHS PTSA, Tracy Elliott at [elliott@scf.edu](mailto:elliott@scf.edu).