

Early Readers. Future Leaders. Newsletter



HELLO, EARLY READERS FUTURE LEADERS WORK GROUP:

Happy August! Find the latest Campaign updates and resources below.

Summer Book Bus

In July, the Book Bus traveled throughout Pinellas County, bringing books directly to children in our community and helping foster a love of reading and prevent summer learning loss. Thanks to the collective efforts of our staff, volunteers, and community partners, this year's Book Bus was an incredible success.

We visited **85** locations, welcomed **5,730** children aboard the Book Bus, and distributed **11,460** free books. We also partnered with JWB’s Childhood Hunger Initiative and the St. Pete Free Clinic to provide food at **9** Book Bus stops, helping support families beyond literacy resources. The myON Street Team also participated and showed off their platform while doing fun, literacy activities.

Thank you to our wonderful community partners for allowing us to visit your sites and spread the love of reading. See you next year!



UPCOMING MEETINGS

WORK GROUP

The next quarterly Work Group meeting is **Thursday, August 20 from 9:00 - 10:30 AM**. The meeting is hybrid and can be attended online or at JWB.

[MEETING LINK](#)

LITERACY IN ACTION

The next Literacy in Action Committee meeting is **Thursday, August 20 from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**. Attendees can attend online or at JWB.

[MEETING LINK](#)

Grade-Level Reading Week 2026

Recently, the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading hosted their annual GLR Week. The week was “focused on the urgent issues shaping children’s learning, family well-being, and community progress”. There were eight plenary sessions that explored topics on chronic absenteeism, AI, supporting ALICE families, and more.

Visit the GLR YouTube page to view the recorded webinars:
<https://www.youtube.com/@GradeLevelReading>

The Campaign for
GRADE-LEVEL
READING

Upcoming Opportunities + Events

Turbo Babies
On Track From Birth To Three

Racetrack Read - Along
Saturday, August 29 | 10:00 - 11:30 am

Interactive Story Time + Free Books for Baby!

Plus Activities & Giveaways

Light Refreshments

Turbo Babies Library Read-Along for Infants & Toddlers
Join us at one of these locations:

Dunedin Public Library
223 Douglas Ave, Dunedin 34698

Largo Public Library
120 Central Park Drive, Largo 33771

Clearwater East Community Library
2405 Drew Street, Clearwater 33765

Barbara S. Ponce Public Library
7770 52nd St N, Pinellas Park 33781

President Barack Obama Main Library
3745 9th Ave N, St. Petersburg 33713

RSVP at [TurboBabies.com/Read](https://www.TurboBabies.com/Read)

Reading Rocks Bus

READING ROCKS BUS

BOOK US FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT!

Our primary focus is helping elementary students strengthen reading skills and connect with caring mentors until they reach or exceed grade level — but we’re happy to work with students of all ages!

REGISTER TO BOOK AN EVENT AT WWW.READINGROCKSBUS.COM

NOTE: Not all requests can be granted due to availability — book early!

WANT TO VOLUNTEER?
Join us as a reading tutor, mentor, driver, or storyteller — no Rotary membership required! Email: ReadingRocksBus@gmail.com to get started!

READ MORE. ★ DREAM BIG. ★ ROCK YOUR FUTURE!

Racetrack Read-Along
Saturday, August 29
10:00 - 11:30 AM

Early Readers.
Future Leaders.
Pinellas Campaign for
Grade-Level Reading

JWB
Juvenile Welfare Board

JWBPinellas.org/READ

Congrats PCS!

Pinellas County Schools was named an “A” school district for the third year in a row! 3rd grade reading proficiency also improved from last year! View state and district results [HERE](#).

FGLRC Updates

Click [HERE](#) for the August newsletter from the Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign.