A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year. The mission of Pasco County Schools is to provide a world-class education for all students. By working together, parents and the school community can reach this goal and prepare students for success in college, career, and life.

Parent involvement also is an essential element in ensuring student safety. Student academic achievement depends on students and staff feeling safe and secure in their schools. Parents play a crucial role in promoting safety on our school campuses by supporting the district’s *Student Code of Conduct*. By reviewing the Student Handbook with your child, you can help us reinforce the guidelines and rules students are expected to follow.

Preventing bullying and harassment is vital to establishing the safe, caring, respectful environment necessary for teachers to teach and students to learn. Please review with your student the definitions of bullying and the different types of harassment, as well as the consequences students could face if it is proven that they have engaged in such behavior. I want to eliminate uncivilized, disrespectful behavior in our schools, but I need your help to make sure students understand that the schools will not tolerate bullying, harassment or uncivilized behavior.

We also need your help reinforcing with your student the consequences they face if they make a threat against a school. This issue is an increasing problem with more students on social media. Threatening violence against a school is never a joke; it always is taken seriously and the consequences could include felony charges and expulsion from school. A new Florida law that went into effect on October 1, 2016, makes threatening violence with a firearm a 2nd degree felony.

Our dedicated teachers, administrators, and support staff strive for a safe, productive school year with you and your child. We welcome your active involvement in your child’s school and education.

Sincerely,

Kurt S. Browning Superintendent of Schools

**Student Code of Conduct Acknowledgement**

Yes No – My school has reviewed the Student Code of Conduct with me.

Yes No – I have been advised that I can review the Student Code of Conduct online

Yes No – I have received, read, understand and agree to abide by the 2018-19 Student Code of Conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I/we have read the Student Code of Conduct 2018-2019, discussed it with my/our child(ren), and will support the school's efforts to have a safe, well-disciplined learning environment.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please note that the Student Code of Conduct and other discipline materials may be viewed at: [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/ssps/conduct](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/ssps/conduct)

Please sign and return to Cotee River Elementary School.