



# PGCPS *Express*

For PGCPS Employees

## 2nd Annual Legislative Day



The district and the Board of Education hosted the **second annual Legislative Day** to present the district's [2025 Legislative Platform](#), which advocates for policies to benefit students, educators, and families. Check out the [2025 Legislative Toolkit](#) to view advocacy strategies, position templates and more!

## Trailblazing Astronaut Visits PGCPS!

# DR. ELLEN OCHOA RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY SPEECH



Dr. Ellen Ochoa, the first Latina woman to go to space, attended the official ribbon-cutting for our middle school named in her honor! **Hear what she had to say** about her journey, and what it takes to reach the stars!

## Spotlight on New School Construction



Did you know PGCPS is tackling a 30-year construction backlog by using both its traditional capital improvement program and public-private partnerships (P3)?

This unique approach is transforming school infrastructure across the district, delivering modern, high-quality learning environments more efficiently.

## Announcements and Professional Development

### How Will You Celebrate American Education Week?

Share your school's celebrations to showcase the pride, creativity, and dedication across our community!

### Field Trips at Howard B. Owens Science Center

Teachers can now register for hands-on, immersive field trips at the new and improved [Howard B. Owens Science Center](#)! This year's field trip offerings: **Computer Science & Robotics** for elementary students; **Newton's Rocket Launchers** for middle schoolers; and **Forensic Science** for high school students.

[Learn More/Register](#)

### Art Contest for Students: "Climate Heroes"



Inspire your students to showcase their creativity and commitment to environmental stewardship through the [EcoAction Art Contest](#)! Students are challenged to create original 2D artwork (up to 18x24 inches) that answers the question: *What actions can I take to protect our planet?* **Deadline:** Friday, December 20

### Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in TESOL

The TESOL Post-Baccalaureate Certificate program (July 2025 - July 2026) enhances ELD skills for PGCPs teachers and admins. No second language is required, and ELD roles are encouraged but optional. Participants pay 20% of tuition and fees. **Info session: Nov. 19.**

[Learn More](#)

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