



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS IN TAMPA BAY

1926-2016

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Boys & Girls Clubs to Transition Programs into Pasco County Schools

Services and programs will be implemented at Paul R. Smith and Chasco Middle Schools

JULY 2016, TAMPA, FL: In partnership with Paul R. Smith and Chasco Middle Schools, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay will transition Club services from the Port Richey Youth Center effective August 15, 2016.

Chasco Middle School, which is where the majority of Port Richey Club Members attend, and Paul R. Smith Middle School will offer mentoring, academic enrichment and support during and after school hours.

“This partnership is vital to the community and to the youth we currently serve and want to serve,” said Janine Valentin, Director of School Operations for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay. “This model of service is transforming how we change lives; from the capacity to the influence.”

The shift is a component of the organization’s five-year strategic plan, which includes a focus on deepening youth impact. The Port Richey Youth Center, which has over 250 registered Club Members, has experienced a decline in attendance over the past several years. Located in a business district, the facility is not easily accessible to youth via school bus routes nor walking. The Club was one of three sites that have seen major socioeconomic shifts, which have drastically affected the number of youth served.

“As a former Club Member of the Port Richey Youth Center, this was a decision that hit close to home for me,” said Letsos. “As we recognize that our scope of service will change as our communities change, the challenge will always be in finding solutions for the families most affected by these decisions. Our goal is to not only serve more youth, more often, but also remain committed to providing a world-class Club experience to the families that have relied on us for years.”

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay leadership team and Club staff have been keeping the families at the Port Richey Youth Center informed of these upcoming changes and will continue efforts to keep them engaged.

Paul R. Smith Middle School will host an Open House on August 9th for current and potential Club Members and their families. Chasco Middle School will host an Open House on August 11th and August 18th.

Please contact Chris Letsos at 813-769-7528 or cletsos@bgctampa.org for more information.

About the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay

For 90 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay has been a positive force in the community; enabling young people to become productive, responsible and caring citizens through structured programming, safe learning environments and dedicated staff. With a focus on three core priority outcomes – Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, and Improving Character & Leadership, Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay provides opportunities to build new skills that raise a Club Member’s belief that he or she can succeed and receive recognition for personal, social and academic accomplishments. With 18 Clubs throughout Hillsborough and Pasco counties and five school sites, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay makes futures great for more than 15,000 young people each year.