

Academy News

December 2025

Pedro Menendez High School

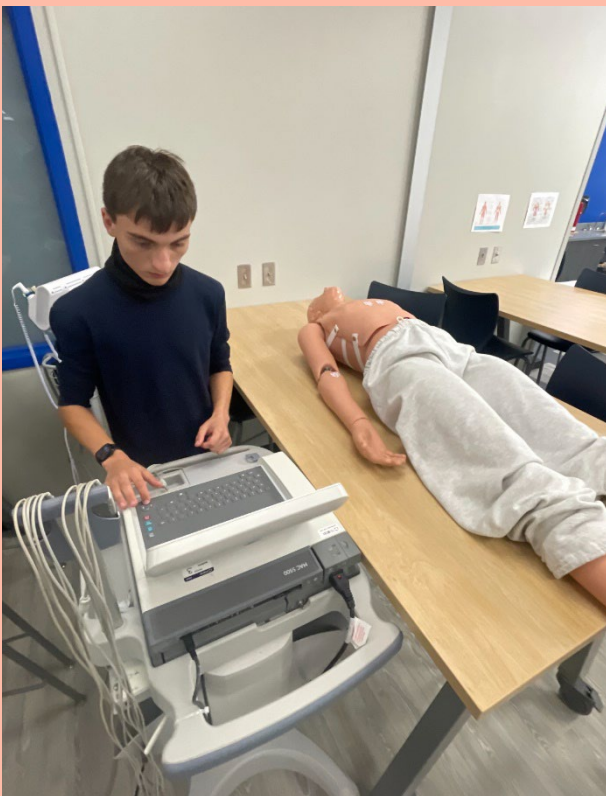
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Health Science One students recently brought learning to life by presenting exciting projects on nervous system diseases. Their presentations showcased creativity, strong medical knowledge, and clear communication skills. Students explored how these conditions affect the body while using engaging visuals and interactive elements. This hands-on project highlighted their enthusiasm for healthcare and growing interest in medical careers.



Health Science Two students are currently learning about medical billing and its important role in the healthcare system. Through classroom instruction and real-world examples, students are gaining an understanding of coding, insurance claims, and proper documentation. This knowledge helps them see how accurate billing supports patient care and hospital operations. The lesson highlights valuable career skills used every day in healthcare setting.

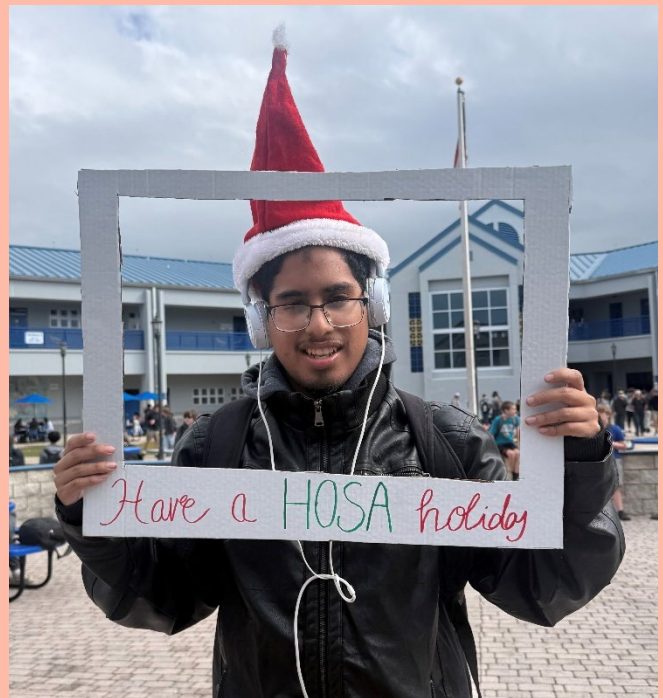


EKG students recently showcased their skills by creating engaging videos centered around electrocardiograms. The videos highlighted student creativity, teamwork, and growing confidence within the clinical setting. This activity allowed students to demonstrate their understanding of cardiac monitoring in an exciting and hands-on way. Experiences like this help prepare students for future healthcare careers while keeping learning interactive and fun.

Allied Health students are wrapping up their hospital rounds shadowing experience after weeks of hands-on exposure to real healthcare environments. Throughout their time on site, students observed patient care, teamwork, and the daily responsibilities of medical professionals. The experience provided valuable insight into a variety of healthcare roles and settings. As the program concludes, students leave with a deeper understanding of the medical field and increased confidence in their future career paths.



The HOSA club spread holiday cheer by participating in festive activities that brought students together in the spirit of service and teamwork. Members enjoyed celebrating the season while strengthening leadership and collaboration skills. These activities created a positive and welcoming environment for everyone involved. HOSA continues to support both personal growth and community connection throughout the year.





VyStar | Academy of Business

Pedro Menendez High School



Thank you to the many volunteers whose time and energy made our Reality Fair an unforgettable success for our students. Throughout the event, students stepped into the world of adulthood as they were randomly assigned a career and family scenario, challenging them to navigate the realities of personal budgeting.

From everyday utilities to car insurance, childcare costs, transportation, and more, students experienced firsthand what it truly takes to balance responsibilities and make smart financial decisions. The day was eye-opening, engaging, and filled with valuable lessons that will stay with them long after the fair ended.



Our Business Academy Students Present

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ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY PEDRO MENENDEZ HIGH SCHOOL

Spreading holiday cheer was in full swing as our ACE mentors kicked off the morning by serving a warm, festive breakfast to our hardworking ACE students. Their enthusiasm set the tone for a memorable celebration of community and support. A heartfelt thank-you to all our mentors for making moments like these possible.



The excitement didn't stop there. Four ACE alumni returned to share their journeys, offering inspiring stories about how the program shaped their paths after graduation. Their encouragement and real-world insight gave our current students a motivating glimpse into what their own futures could hold.

2025 Academy Industry Certifications

Course	Certification
Business and Entrepreneurial Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entrepreneurship and Small Business
Management and Human Recourses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Management Ready
Business Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Management Ready
Drafting 1 Drafting 2 Drafting 3 Drafting 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Autodesk Certified User: AutoCAD• Autodesk Certified User: Revit for Architecture• Autodesk Certified user: Inventor
Health Science Foundations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certified Medical Administrative Assistant-CMAA
EKG-Electrocardio Tech	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certified EKG Technician-CET
Allied Health/Medical Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certified Patient Care Technician Assistant-CPCT-A
Sports Recreation and Entertainment Essentials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Media Strategist

All students have the opportunity to earn Florida Ready to Work Soft Skill credentials.

Industry certification exams not only help our students be career ready they may count as college credits! Make sure your future college or university knows about the certifications you have earned. Click here to learn more: [Earning College Credits](#)

Pedro Partners

Thank you for your partnership with our students. These businesses provide industry mentors, guest speakers, job shadowing, internships, and supply donations to our students.

If you or a business you know would like the rewarding experience of helping our students, who will be the future industry leaders, please reach out to our career specialist: Kristina Bransford at Kristina.Bransford@stjohns.k12.fl.us or call at 904-547-8681.

