



This section is designed to look like a page from a notebook. On the left, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Polk County logo is followed by the text "BACK TO SCHOOL. BACK TO GREAT FUTURES." in blue and green, and "HELP EVERY CLUB KID START THE YEAR STRONG." in purple and orange. To the right of the text are two photos of children playing on a playground, held together by a blue paperclip. Below the notebook page graphic is a blue banner with the text "GIVE BEFORE THE FIRST BELL!" in white, followed by a yellow bell icon.

Help Club Kids Start the School Year Strong

Back-to-school season is filled with excitement, but success requires more than new notebooks and pencils. Children across Polk County need a safe, supportive place to go after the school day ends—one where caring mentors help with homework, nutritious meals are provided, friendships grow, and new opportunities are always within reach.

Your gift supports our back-to-school initiatives and helps sustain high-quality afterschool programming throughout the school year. By giving today, you can help ensure every Club member has the resources, encouragement, and guidance they need to thrive in the classroom and beyond.

Give before the first bell and help build a great future for every Club kid.

GIVE NOW

FORE The Kids

Presented By:

20



26



Monday, October 26th

Registration is now open for the 2026 Fore The Kids Golf Tournament, presented by Always Fresh Farms! Join us Monday, October 26, at The Country Club of Winter Haven or The Club at Eaglebrooke for a day of friendly competition, exciting contests, and meaningful support for Polk County youth.

Your registration, sponsorship, and additional gifts help provide Club members with the teachers, tutors, mentors, and opportunities they need to reach their full potential. This year, we are challenging every returning participant to make an even greater impact: register your team, explore our sponsorship and underwriting opportunities, and consider increasing your contribution beyond last year's gift.

Together, we can make this our most successful tournament yet—and create even more Great Futures for the children who need us most.

REGISTER TODAY

Register today, give generously, and help us go further for Polk County kids.

Questions about sponsorships or special requests? Contact Ben Deardorff.

CONTACT BEN



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF POLK COUNTY



IDEA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EXPANDING GREAT FUTURES

NEW SCHOOL-BASED CLUB SITE COMING TO LAKELAND
OPENING AUGUST 2026 • SERVING 100+ ADDITIONAL YOUTH

We are excited to announce plans to open a new school-based Club site in partnership with IDEA Public Schools. Scheduled to open in August 2026, this new Lakeland location will allow us to serve more than 100 additional youth with safe, supportive afterschool programming.

This expansion represents an important step forward in our mission to reach more young people and families who need us most. With support from IDEA Public Schools, our team is

moving quickly to prepare the site, develop programming, and ensure students receive the academic support, caring mentorship, and enriching opportunities they need to thrive.

We look forward to sharing more details as we prepare to welcome our newest Club members and expand Great Futures throughout Polk County.

You can help bring this new Club to life. Your gift will support the resources, supplies, programs, and caring professionals needed to welcome students and build a strong foundation for the site's success.

GIVE NOW

Donate today and help us open the doors to more Great Futures in Lakeland.



Congratulations to our 2025 Youth of the Year, Llerli Isidro-Lucas, on receiving the Coca Cola Refreshing Minds Scholarship! In addition to the scholarship, Llerli received a Coca-Cola backpack and a new laptop to support her as she continues her studies.

This well-deserved recognition celebrates Llerli's hard work, leadership, and commitment to building a bright future. We are incredibly proud of all she has accomplished and grateful to Coca Cola for investing in her continued success.

What's Up At The Club?



Fort Meade Club

Let's take a look back at what our members got up to in the last month:

- **James J. Musso Club** members recently volunteered to help Miss Shirley, a longtime local educator in her 80s, restore her overgrown yard. The students mowed, weeded, and raked while spending meaningful time listening to her stories and enjoying her company. The experience was so rewarding that the girls asked if they could make the visits a weekly tradition. Their service demonstrated how compassion, teamwork, and a willingness to help can make a lasting difference in someone's life.
- **North Ridge Club** members enjoyed an exciting visit from the Haines City Fire Department. Firefighters shared important safety tips, demonstrated their protective gear, answered questions, and gave members an up-close tour of a fire truck. From trying on helmets to exploring the fire engine, the visit combined hands-on learning with unforgettable fun. We are grateful to the Haines City Fire Department for educating and inspiring our youth while demonstrating the importance of community service.
- **John L. Sanders Club** members were already excited to visit ZooTampa, but discovering a tiger statue made the experience even more memorable. After learning about tigers and their natural habitats, the children eagerly gathered around the statue for a photo with their new favorite animal. The moment perfectly captured the learning, laughter, and joy of an unforgettable field trip.
- **George Jenkins Memorial Club** members were selected by staff to represent their Club in the Battle of the Clubs competition. Their dedication, teamwork, and positive attitudes were evident as they gave their best effort in every challenge. Through hard work and determination, the team earned an impressive third-place finish while demonstrating pride and sportsmanship. Their accomplishment serves as an inspiration to fellow Club members.