**RC of West Pasco Sunset Charters Pepin Academies Interact Club**

The Rotary Club of West Pasco Sunset has adopted Pepin Academies Pasco as their Interact Club. Pepin Academies which is a not-for-profit and tuition-free public charter school for students with learning and learning-related disabilities may be the first in Rotary. The official announcement for the Pepin Pasco club was held at the November 20th meeting of the Rotary Club of West Pasco Sunset. Pepin Academies Pasco teacher Belinda Delaney, who will be the school’s Interact Coordinator, said getting Rotary to authorize a club at Pepin has been a year-long process.

Esther Gatlan will be the Coordinator for the West Pasco Sunset Rotary Club. Esther has been a Rotarian for several years and is very excited about Rotary chartering Pepin and has committed her time in the growth of this Interact Club.

The Rotary Club of West Pasco Sunset not only came through with the Interact Chartering but also has funded 18 classrooms at the school, said Kelly Mothershead Pepin’s marketing director who is also a Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Holiday.

Pepin students have already participated in the Coastal Cleanup and now, as an official club, has plans to be even more active in community events.

“I am so proud of our students for having this first-time opportunity afforded to them by the Rotary Club of West Pasco Sunset,” said Pepin Pasco Principal Celeste Kellar. “A big part of who we are as a school is being able to be a part of our community, which has always supported our efforts.

“Now, these students have a special Interact Club designation and will proudly wear and honor that designation going forward.”

(Parts of this article are from Suncoast News)