



# EXTRA YARD FOR TEACHERS

THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER OF THE TAMPA BAY SPORTS COMMISSION



## COLLEGE READY TAMPA BAY HIGHLIGHTS

The game may be over, but the impact of the 2017 College Football Playoff National Championship has left a lasting impression on Tampa Bay. One of the most notable elements was College Ready Tampa Bay, an initiative that partnered the College Football Playoff Foundation's Extra Yard for Teachers, Helios Education Foundation and the Florida College Access Network (FCAN). The three-pronged program aimed to create grant opportunities for both counselors and teachers to help first-generation and low-income public school students in Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco counties continue their education beyond high school.

Grant opportunities were open to schools in Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco counties, and FCAN developed a number of tools to educate teachers and counselors on hosting events. 58 Bay area high schools participated in College Application Week and received a \$500 micro-grant to host application events at their school. Approximately 8,103 students participated in activities resulting in 5,751 college applications being submitted.

Additionally, 59 Tampa Bay high schools signed up to participate in the Tampa Bay FAFSA Challenge, a program supported and promoted by LEAP college access network. As of March 10, 38 of the participating high schools have met its goal and increased FAFSA completions by at least 5% compared to the previous school year. Schools in the Tampa Bay area are up 7.3% as a whole. The top three schools from each county, called Tampa Bay Trailblazers, were recognized on-stage at the Extra Yard 5K, held at Amalie Arena on January 8.

The final component of College Ready Tampa Bay, a College Culture Classroom Grant program, invited teachers to upload projects that fostered college-going classroom environments on DonorsChoose.org. Over 150 projects were posted with needs ranging from books and figurines to computer monitors and iPads. Approximately 81 projects were fully-funded thanks to the Helios investment, as well as donations from over 110 private donors. The remaining 70 projects were fully-funded by Extra Yard for Teachers and the Tampa Bay Sports Commission, resulting in a total contribution of \$230,752 to Tampa Bay area schools.

### EXTRA YARD FOR TEACHERS SUMMIT



On January 7, 1,000 teachers from Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas came together at the Tampa Convention Center for a game-changing experience. Speakers such as Sirius Sportscaster Rachel Baribeau, 2016 Teacher of the Year Jahana Hayes and more joined emcee Joaquin Zihuatanejo on stage to honor, inspire, celebrate and empower teachers. Relive the excitement by watching some of the videos from this year's Extra Yard for Teachers Summit.

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### TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN



We all know that teachers go the "extra yard." They educate, mentor and inspire students and develop life-long, passionate learners. Through a series of videos, we've highlighted Tampa Bay teachers that have gone the extra yard by volunteering their time as mentors with Take Stock in Children. TSIC is a non-profit organization that provides deserving low-income youth/students, many from minority families, an opportunity to escape the cycle of poverty through education. Click the link below to learn about the impact St. Pete High School's Ms. B has had on her mentee, Briana.

[VIEW VIDEO](#)

### TASTE OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP AND EXTRA YARD 5K



In an incredible testament of support to Tampa Bay teachers, two key championship events hosted record attendance crowds on Sunday, January 8. Over 1,450 participants signed up to race down Bayshore Boulevard that morning in the Extra Yard 5K held at Amalie Arena. Later that evening, over 1,200 locals and visitors ate, drank and danced the night away at Taste of the Championship held at the Florida Aquarium. Both events supported Extra Yard for Teachers, the primary philanthropic initiative of the College Football Playoff.

## Teachers of the Year take over Tampa Bay

The College Football Playoff Foundation hosted 56 National Teachers of the Year at the 2017 College Football Playoff National Championship. These educators were celebrated at a number of events throughout the weekend including being honored during the national championship game at Raymond James Stadium.



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