



School Matters

District School Board of Pasco County

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

January 10, 2014

Wishing You a Happy New Year!



Give Yourself the Gift of Good Health in 2014! **Get On Board!**

The District School Board of Pasco County, in partnership with Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel (FHWC), Florida Hospital Zephyrhills (FHZ), and HealthFair, is offering FREE confidential heart health screenings to reduce heart disease and stroke as part of the Pasco Go Healthy Wellness Program.

Dates, Times and Locations:

- January 14 – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wiregrass Ranch High School
- January 15 – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bayonet Point Middle School
- January 17 – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pasco High School
- January 21 – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Zephyrhills High School
- January 22 – 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hudson High School
- January 24 – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wiregrass Ranch High School

More dates and locations will be added soon.

[Click Here](#) for more information.



Common Core community meetings start next week. Each meeting will last from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and will consist of a presentation followed by a question and answer period. The first meeting is Tuesday, January 14, at Anclote High School. The next meeting is Thursday, January 16, at Pasco High School. These meetings are for parents, staff, and community members to learn more about the state's more rigorous academic standards, and we have set them up by feeder pattern. You may attend any of the meetings, regardless of where you work.

Our daughter is a Wiregrass Ranch High School Senior and has attended Pasco Schools since kindergarten. On December 14th, she was notified by The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) that out of 6,820 early applicants she was one of the 612 students offered admission to their Class of 2018. We are very proud of her as she has worked very hard for many years. An opportunity to study at a world class university has always been her goal. She has been accepted by many other colleges but MIT is near the top of her list (rightfully so). Whether she attends MIT or any of the other schools on her list we will be proud of her and support her choice.

The purpose of this note is to provide a huge THANK YOU to Pasco County Schools. It has always been the belief of our family that schools provide an opportunity for education...

- Michael & Dyan Chitty

Letter from former student to Katie Chefero:

I've been wanting to tell you for awhile how much having you as a teacher at MTEC means to me. You and your class really prepared me for my field experiences as well as for my current courses. I learned more in a year at MTEC than I did in two years at Barry University and the first year at University of Phoenix. Your class helped prepare me for designing and implementing integrated units, working with students of mixed abilities and ages, and showed me that teachers need to work with other teachers, even if our teaching styles varied. Thank you for all that you did for me. I hope your students appreciate you as much as I do. Happy new year to you and your family!

- Laura



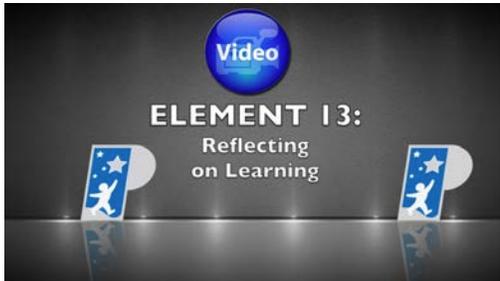
@kurtsbrowning
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@cobbelinda

FRAMEWORK FOCUS



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
OF PASCO COUNTY

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“We do not learn from experience...we learn from reflecting on experience.”

-John Dewey

Click the button below to access Canvas.Pasco for more information.



Element 13 – Reflecting on Learning

Desired Effect: Students can self-assess their understanding and effort.

Why have Students Reflect on their Learning?

The final step to be accomplished when students interact with new knowledge is self-reflection. Students need to reflect on their learning process and the experiences they had during the learning journey. Example questions teachers might use to simulate reflection are:

- What were you right or wrong about?
- How confident are you about what you learned?
- What did you do well today?
- What could you have done better?
- What aspects did you have difficulty with?
- Describe a part of today’s learning that surprised you. Why?

Utilizing questions such as these allow the learner to self-monitor their learning and assess their individual progress during the learning experience.



What Can I Do to Help Students Reflect on their Learning?

- Model reflection by reflecting and sharing your reflections with the class.
- Use both oral and written strategies for reflection.
- Ask students to reflect often.
- Give students time for reflection right after a learning event.

Please watch these videos if you missed them in last week’s newsletter. The post-conference video has been revised.



Evidence of Element 13 – Reflecting on Learning

Teacher Evidence

Focus: The teacher engages students in activities that help them reflect on their learning and the learning process.

The teacher:

- asks students to state or record what they are clear about and what they are confused about
- asks students to state or record how hard they tried
- asks students to state or record what they might have done to enhance their learning

Student Evidence

Students:

- can explain what they are clear about and what they are confused about
- can describe how hard they tried
- can explain what they could have done to enhance their learning



Strategies for Reflecting on Learning

Think Logs

Think logs are a form of journaling. Each entry asks students to reflect on their understanding of a skill or concept. The focus is determined by the teacher based on the current lesson. The teacher might ask students to share thoughts from their think logs so they can compare their responses with other students in class. This can validate thinking and often brings misconceptions to light so they can be discussed or clarified.

- How could you explain classification to a friend?
- How comfortable are you with drawing inferences?
- What aspects of the decision making process we used in class did you feel the most comfortable with?

Two-Column Notes

Two-column notes can be used as a reflection activity at the end of a lesson. In one column, students record facts, main ideas or other information from the lesson. The second column is used to record reactions, questions, and other reflections related to the information.



Click the Canvas.Pasco button to access more examples.



Exit Slips

Teachers can ask students to respond to reflective questions at the end of a lesson. Possible questions could be:

- What do you consider the main ideas of today's lesson? Why?
- As we are learning this unit, what do you feel most or least sure about?
- What suggestions could you make for helping us to get the most out of this unit?
- Three things I learned today...
Two things I found interesting...
One question I still have is...