

# School Matters

District School Board of Pasco County

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

October 11, 2013

You did it!  
*Congratulations*



## 2013 Science Teacher of the Year

**Christina Page**, a science teacher at Pasco High School, has been selected as the 2013 Science Teacher of the Year by the Florida Association of Science Teachers. She will receive her award at the Florida Association of Science Teachers conference in Miami on Oct. 24–26.

## Kudos From a Double Branch Elementary Parent to Mrs. Chandler

I wanted to send you a quick email regarding the communication at DBES. IT IS FABULOUS!!!!

I personally feel like you and your staff do a fantastic job at communicating to us parents! ... I feel that I am given multiple reminders which is extremely helpful. I love that there are multiple methods of communication as well, i.e., phone messages, emails, newsletters, notes in the planner, Thursday folders, etc.

... I want to particularly point out that the direct communication from the teachers is incredible! ...**Mrs. Ogden** and **Mrs. Lee** were fantastic at it last year, and **Mrs. Hodros** and **Mrs. Sibbit** are just as outstanding.... way beyond my expectations!

You have a great team and I just wanted to sing their praises this morning. :) Thank you for all you do to love on our children. We are incredibly grateful for your leadership!!!!

Alissa

## Digital Citizen Week October 21-25

Digital Citizenship Week is an effort to engage students, teachers and families in thinking critically, behaving safely, and participating responsibly online. For more information go to <http://www.common sense media.org/digitalcitizenshipweek>.

## Red Ribbon Week October 21-31

Please join us in observing Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 21-31). Red Ribbon Week is a national substance abuse prevention campaign aimed at promoting healthy choices.

[Click here](#) for some helpful ideas.



## Town Hall Meetings

One of our three priority areas that guide our work is the further development of a Professional Growth System. This system begins with building a common language and allowing all stakeholders to both deepen knowledge and ask questions. To facilitate these efforts, the District School Board of Pasco County has partnered with an expert from the Marzano Institute to conduct two Town Hall meetings. All Pasco employees are encouraged to attend these important events. Please see below for details.

### Eastside Town Hall Meeting

Location: Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel High School  
Date: November 6, 2013 Time: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

### Westside Town Hall Meeting

Location: Center for the Arts at River Ridge High School  
Date: November 7, 2013 Time: 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

\*Employees are invited to attend the session that is most convenient.

## ING Unsung Heroes Award

ING Unsung Heroes® is a special program that recognizes and rewards innovative classroom projects by selecting 100 outstanding educators from across the country each year to receive grants of \$2,000 each from ING, a leading financial services organization. Of those finalists, three top winners are chosen to receive additional financial awards of \$25,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000.

Each check goes directly to the winning educator and his or her school. That means he or she can spend the award any way they see fit to further the project. What's more, the application is simple to complete, so our educators won't have to take time away from their already busy schedules. Completed applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2014.

To learn more about the ING Unsung Heroes awards, visit [www.unsungheroes.com](http://www.unsungheroes.com).

## Yard Sale & BBQ

James Irvin Education Center is hosting a Yard Sale and Barbecue (featuring the rib master, Hercules Hicks) beginning at 7 a.m. on Saturday, October 26. School clubs or boosters are welcome to participate. Once the spot fee is paid, they keep their own earnings.

**Yard Sale:** JIEC will have a table of crafts made by students, garden reflection balls, and a variety of miscellaneous items. If you do have a club or if you want to sponsor a table, please email Nancy Guss ([nguss@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:nguss@pasco.k12.fl.us)) the information.

**Barbecue:** The school will be accepting pre-orders, guaranteeing all who pre-order a Hercules Hicks rib and/or chicken dinner box. You can purchase them at the event, too; however, it is first come first served, and when they're gone, they're gone. Call the school or email [dhowton@pasco.k21.fl.us](mailto:dhowton@pasco.k21.fl.us) to pre-order.



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# FRAMEWORK FOCUS



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
OF PASCO COUNTY  
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**Scales boost my confidence.**



Two students are discussing the benefits of having a student-friendly scale. (Click on the picture for the [VIDEO](#).)

**Jordan:** "Scales give me a sense of pride and it is truly a confidence booster."

**Lana:** "I know what I am good at and what I need to improve on."

**What other benefits can scales provide students and teachers?**

Click the button below to access Canvas for more information!



## Element 2 - Tracking Student Progress

*Desired Effect: Students know where their level of performance is in relation to the scale and can describe their progress.*

### What is Tracking Student Progress?

Tracking student progress is a systematic way to track students daily, weekly, quarterly, and annually.

- ✓ It allows both teacher and student to examine increases in knowledge toward the learning goal.
- ✓ It helps students and teachers determine the next steps to learning.

### Why Track Student Progress?

Tracking student progress allows students and teachers to see progress made and how it relates to academic success.

- ✓ Students are able to set personal learning goals so learning becomes more the responsibility of the student.
- ✓ Students are able to see that assessments are not just isolated occurrences, but are connected to the learning goal, and learning progress is being made.
- ✓ Teachers are able to quickly assess progress and are able to adjust their instruction.

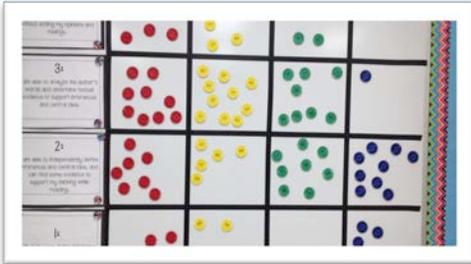


Click on the picture to the left to watch a **video** of how Ms. Pickett and students from TEWMS track student progress!

# Evidence of Element 2 – Tracking Student Progress

## Teacher Evidence

- *Focus:* The teacher facilitates tracking of student progress on one or more learning goals using a formative approach to assessments.
- The teacher helps students track their individual progress on the learning goal.
- The teacher uses formal and informal means to assign scores to students on the scale.
- The teacher charts the progress of the entire class on the learning goal.



Mrs. Wadel – Reading Teacher – CLK8

## Student Evidence

- Students can describe their status relative to the learning goal using the scale.
- Students update their status on the learning goal.



Student – LES

## Ways to Track Student Progress

- Daily/weekly reflection on learning scale;
- Pre-test/post-test reflection;
- Reflection using the learning scale through **\*formative assessments\***;
- Quizzes;
- Journaling;
- Portfolios;
- Graphing Growth/Data Charts;
- Student Response Systems.



Click the button to access resources and routines for tracking progress.

## \*Formative Assessments

- Allow students to observe their own progress;
- Used while students are learning new content;
- Used from the beginning to the end of a unit of instruction;
- Ensure that assessment contains items or tasks that apply to levels 2.0, 3.0, and 4.0 (*Use your scales*);
- Not generally used for assigning a grade.

## Tracking Progress & Formative Assessments

Formative assessments are designed to provide a view of students' learning over time. Students' charting their own progress on each learning goal allows meaningful reflection on their learning.