

# School Matters

District School Board of Pasco County

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

November 1, 2013



You did it!  
*Congratulations*

## Outstanding School Volunteers Named

### Adult - Mrs. Diana Jerome, volunteer at Seven Springs Middle School

Diana has been a valued volunteer for the past seven years. She volunteered in excess of 750 hours during the 2012-2013 school year.

SSMS volunteer coordinator - Amanda McDermott

### Peer- Danielle Hu, Gulf High School student

Danielle volunteered 413 hours of community service during the 2012-2013 school year. Danielle is a senior at Gulf High School in the school's International Baccalaureate program.

GHS volunteer coordinator - Patty Joens

### Senior - Jean Ann Lewis, volunteer at Richey Elementary

Jean Ann has been a volunteer at Richey Elementary for two years. She has given more than 400 hours of her time at the school, where she is known as "Wonder Woman".

RES volunteer coordinator - Kim Stratman

## MTEC Re-Accreditation Visit

The Council on Occupational Education (COE) spent October 14-17 at Marchman Technical Education Center evaluating every aspect of the institution, including its programs; delivery of instruction; finances; human resources; facilities management; completion, placement, and licensure rates; and more. The Council is a national accrediting agency assuring quality and integrity in career and technical education.

I attended the welcome dinner, which was catered by MTEC Commercial Foods and Culinary Arts students, under the direction of 23-year veteran instructor Chef Peter Kern. To say I was impressed by the quality and presentation of the meal would be an understatement! They did a phenomenal job and the COE team was very complimentary.



**Don't forget to set your clocks to "fall back" one hour on Saturday night.**

## Teacher Town Hall Meetings

### 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.

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



*Just want to let you know that I truly adore and am impressed by the awesome job that the principal here at Anclote Elementary School has done.*

- Hazel (school volunteer)

## Open Enrollment Reminder

Open Enrollment ends on Friday, November 8. If you haven't made your benefits selections, or if you changed your mind about a selection you've made since open enrollment began, make sure to finalize selections next week.



**Superintendent Kurt Browning and Assistant Superintendent Ray Gadd prepare pancakes for a District fundraiser to benefit needy families this holiday season.**



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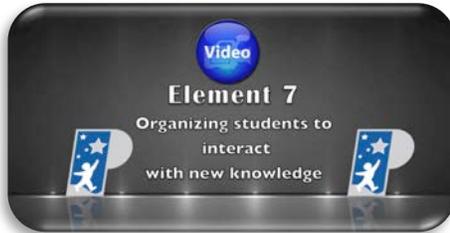
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@ameliadgvl  
@cobbelinda

# FRAMEWORK FOCUS



DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
OF PASCO COUNTY

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## VIDEO

“It is impossible to have students interact with new content without interacting with each other in collaborative groups.”

- Dave Huyck , Principal of  
Chasco Middle School

Click the button below to  
access Canvas for more  
information.



## Element 7 – Organizing Students to Interact with New Knowledge

*Desired Effect: Students are able to move to groups efficiently and group norms have been established and followed, which allow students to interact with new knowledge and deepen their understanding.*

### Why Organize Students?

Actively processing new information in groups is crucial to understanding new content. Students are exposed to the thinking of others and can clarify their own understanding by being asked to verbalize it to others. Cooperative learning and other small-group processes allow students to experience content from multiple perspectives. Group interaction not only facilitates knowledge development but also creates awareness that is difficult, if not impossible, to achieve without interaction. Collaborative settings provide students with multiple reference points, which fosters their own personal processing of new content.

### How do I

### Organize Students?

- ✓ Establish group routines, norms, and roles.
- ✓ Develop a task sheet that guides group work. (i.e. directions, procedures, roles)
- ✓ Rearrange groups as often as appropriate so students can work with a variety of peers.
- ✓ Consider the purpose of the lesson when deciding which kinds of groups to use.
- ✓ Teach students how to transition to and from their pairs or groups quickly.



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of our professional development  
videos!

# Evidence of Element 7

## Organizing Students to Interact with New Knowledge

### Teacher Evidence

- *Focus:* The teacher organizes students into small groups to facilitate the processing of new information.
- The teacher has established routines for student grouping and student interaction in groups.
- The teacher organizes students into groups for the lesson:
  - diads
  - triads
  - small groups of up to 5 students

### Student Evidence

- Students move to groups in an orderly fashion.
- Students appear to understand expectations about appropriate behavior in groups:
  - respect opinions of others
  - add their perspective to discussions
  - ask and answer questions

## Examples of Organizing Students



### Reciprocal Teaching

Students take turns serving as the discussion leader who raises and facilitates responses to questions regarding key sections of the text. Before moving to the next segment, a group member summarizes the content discussed.



### Job Cards

Students are assigned and taught specific roles to take within the groups. Roles can be rotated to equalize participation or be based on student strengths. *Sample roles: facilitator, summarizer, questioner, note-taker, reporter, materials manager.*



### Pre-Determined Buddies

Students are given a strategy to select partners, such as a clock or the seasons. Students find a partner for each blank and write his or her name on the document. The teacher can then easily move the students into pairs by instructing them to work with their "summer" or "6:00" buddy. *More examples are on Canvas.*



Click the [Canvas.Pasco](#) button to access more examples.

