



# School Matters

District School Board of Pasco County

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

November 8, 2013



**The students listed below will represent Pasco at the Florida Music Educators Association Clinic/Conference in January, where top individual performers from across the state come together to perform.**

**Shane Falco** – Trumpet, All-State Middle School Band  
Hudson Middle School  
Band Director, John Keon

**Troy Moeller** – Euphonium, 9-10 All-State Concert Band  
Sunlake High School  
Band Director, Tonya O'Malley

**Colin Gayonn** - Bb Clarinet, 11-12 All-State Symphonic Band  
J. W. Mitchell High School  
Band Director, Joel Quina

**Kaitlin Greenough** - Bb Clarinet, 11-12 All-State Symphonic Band  
Zephyrhills High School  
Band Director, Russell Schmidt

**Jeffrey Fittipaldi** – Percussion, 11-12 All-State Symphonic Band  
Land O' Lakes High School  
Band Director, Lauren Yacht

**Anandpall Rehsi** – Percussion, 11-12 All-State Symphonic Band  
Land O' Lakes High School  
Band Director, Lauren Yacht

**Shane Gillen** – Bassoon, 11-12 All-State Symphonic Orchestra  
Gulf High School  
Band Director, Bill Rutherford

**Rachel Gartland** - Percussion, Middle School Honors Band  
River Ridge Middle School  
Band Director, Travis Henry

**November is  
Parent Involvement Month.**

## Pssst! If you know a teacher, pass this on...

Florida Humanities Council workshops for teachers begin in January. These professional development workshops, designed to bring the study of Florida into the classrooms, explore Colonial St. Augustine, Historical Pensacola, Florida Civics, the Seminole Tribe, Florida Agriculture, and so much more! Inservice certificates are issued. The deadline to apply is November 30th. Open to K-20 teachers and museum and park educators. Here is the link:

[http://www.flahum.org/Teachers/TF\\_PD#.Un0AxvntyU](http://www.flahum.org/Teachers/TF_PD#.Un0AxvntyU).



## Protest by Common Core Opponents is Bad for Kids

I recently heard about a group that is urging parents not to send their kids to school on November 18<sup>th</sup> in protest of Common Core. I must admit that, if true, this action would be irresponsible. There are certainly better ways for parents to share their concerns about Common Core than to have their student miss valuable instructional time. The Pasco School District is a strong supporter of the Common Core State Standards, and the Pasco School Board passed a resolution on Tuesday memorializing this support. My hope is that anyone who hears that a parent is considering keeping their student home in protest would urge that parent to use a more responsible way to make their feelings known. We are planning a series of community meetings starting in January to explain the new standards and to answer questions that parents may have. Details of these community meetings will be announced soon. We need to encourage our students to be in class every day to take advantage of quality instruction. Our goal is to provide our students with opportunities for college, career and life readiness.



**Monday is a  
non-work day  
in honor of  
Veterans Day!**



@kurtsbrowning  
@ameliadgvl  
@cobbelinda

# FRAMEWORK FOCUS



"Previewing content stimulates cognitive thinking. It also activates prior knowledge and sparks student interest."

Susan Seibert  
Asst. Principal, Paul R. Smith

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



## Element 8 – Previewing New Content

*Desired Effect: Students can link prior knowledge to new content.*

### Why Preview New Content?

Providing an opportunity for students to preview the content in some way allows students to begin thinking about the new content, activate prior knowledge, and make linkages between the two. Research has shown that previewing techniques, such as advanced organizers and cues, create direct links between previous learning and new content and are associated with a 32-percentile gain in student achievement. Previewing is especially important for students who have limited background knowledge about the topic.

### Examples of Previewing

- ✓ Before watching a video on Pythagoras, a math teacher might ask students to watch for the many different math discoveries credited to Pythagoras. A discussion can follow the video on the different contributions made by Pythagoras before introducing the critical-input activity on the Pythagorean Theorem.
- ✓ A music teacher might ask the following preview questions when introducing a lesson on jazz or blues. *What do you already know about jazz or blues music? What is a jazz or blues artist's role in society?*



Visit our YouTube channel to see all of our Professional Development videos.

# Evidence of Element 8 - Previewing New Content

## Teacher Evidence

*Focus: The teacher engages students in activities that help them link what they already know to the new content about to be addressed and facilitates these linkages.*

### The teacher:

- uses preview questions before reading;
- uses the KWL strategy or a variation of it;
- asks or reminds students what they already know about a topic;
- provides an advanced organizer;
- has students brainstorm;
- uses an anticipation guide;
- uses motivational hook/launching activities like anecdotes or short selection from video;
- uses word splash activities to connect vocabulary to upcoming content.

## Student Evidence

### Students:

- can explain linkages with prior knowledge;
- make predictions about upcoming content;
- provide a purpose for what they are about to learn;
- actively engage in previewing.

## Previewing Strategies

	BEFORE		AFTER	
	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
1. In this scene in the Freedom Writers movie?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are the students genuine in their responses?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are the students the focus of this scene?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. In Ms. Gravel the focus of this scene?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Does the scene identify what successions state of these students are?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Does this activity make the students better readers and writers?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. In Ms. Gravel teaching the students to be better readers and writers?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Are the students learning during this activity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. In Ms. Gravel setting high standards for her students by using this activity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will this type of activity encourage students to stop learning?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Anticipation Guide

Create a series of statements that are related to new content you are preparing to teach. Students respond to the statements with T/F or Agree/Disagree feedback and facilitate class discussions to activate prior knowledge or consider new ideas.

Word Splash

plantation      rare coin  
 crop              quarters  
 emancipation      free bins  
 slave trade

### Word Splash

Use this strategy to effectively preview vocabulary and concepts linked to the new content. Present a list of words and short phrases for students to sort into categories that make sense to them. Facilitate groups sharing their sorting strategies to spark discussions.



### Skimming

Students can skim any written content for the upcoming lesson to preview and make linkages to what they already know. Skimming can be most valuable when structured to include:

- Major headings and sub-headings
- Main ideas
- Picture descriptions
- Predictions of what students think they will learn



Click the Canvas.Pasco button to access more examples.

Instructional Framework  
 Resources Course  
**CANVAS PASCO**