

CLASS NOTES

NEWS FROM PASCO'S CONNECTED LEADERSHIP GROUP

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July 22, tentatively at 5pm, join us **IN-PERSON** for a kickoff to start the year. We will send details later in the summer, but we promise a fun time for socializing and networking!

PRESIDENT'S POST



I know that it has been said probably more times than you would have liked to hear that this has been an unprecedented school year. However, when you stop to think about what Pasco Schools has accomplished, we really have just finished an incredibly productive school year. Take

satisfaction in knowing that we should be through one of the worst health crises of our lifetime. As the President of CLASS, I cannot thank everyone enough for all the extra time and effort that you have put into our school system. Whether it was managing the traditional and MSOL learning platforms, or providing top-notch support to our schools, members went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that our staff and students had whatever was necessary to provide rich learning experiences. You are a real CLASS act!

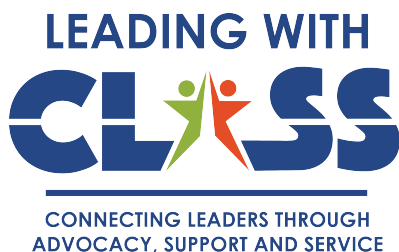
CLASS was able to accomplish many of our goals during our first full year. The first of which was selecting our Executive Director, Tammy Rabon-Noyce. For those that know Tammy, her astute insights and amazing leadership talents will certainly only make our organization stronger. CLASS also organized a core group of district and school leaders

to serve on the Advisory and Executive Boards. Each month the boards meet to discuss how to accomplish the organization's goals. Superintendent Browning was also gracious to provide time to the boards throughout the year. Additionally, CLASS leaders have been active with tracking important legislation and reaching out to local representatives to ensure that our voice is heard.

Great things are on the horizon for CLASS. It starts with a very active summer. We are looking forward to the FASA Discover '21 Conference in Orlando with close to 200 Pasco participants attending in person and virtually. CLASS elections will be held soon and will have new board members take office in July. Also, you can count on CLASS being a big part of the kick-off to the upcoming school year.

Thank you for continuing to be a member. I hope that you are satisfied with the direction of the organization. Please contact me to discuss ideas, comment on current topics, or to express concerns. I am ready to serve because there is more CLASS work to be done!

Yours truly,
Ric Mellin



Our Vision and Mission
is to enhance CLASS' stature as a professional organization both locally and statewide.

Our Goal is to strengthen relationships with all key stakeholders and develop an organizational environment that will attract, develop and retain talented leaders who fulfill the district's mission of preparing students for college, career and life.

CLASS BOARD ELECTIONS

It's election time for CLASS Pasco. The links are included below if you would like to take a few minutes now to participate in the elections. Please choose the link that best represents your role as a leader in Pasco County. All votes are anonymous, only identifiable by IP address. All members will also receive an email during the first week of June with a link for you to vote for the Executive and Advisory Board positions that are open.



This year on the Executive Board, we have nominations for President Elect and Treasurer. ALL members vote for these roles. We also have nominations in the Advisory Board for District Leader from Instructional Departments, Middle School Principal, Elementary Assistant Principal, and High School Assistant Principal. You will be asked to vote for the role that you are a part of as a Pasco Leader. If you are not in the categories for Advisory groups, then you will pick the link that says "ALL MEMBERSHIP."

We thank all of those members who were nominated by peers to fulfill these positions. The ballot includes only those who accepted the nomination.

[Our Goal is to strengthen relationships with all key stakeholders and develop an organizational environment that will attract, develop and retain talented leaders who fulfill the district's mission of preparing students for college, career and life.](#)

You only need to choose ONE hotlink below. If you are part of the specific subgroups of District Leader from Instructional Departments, Middle School Principal, Elementary Assistant Principal, and High School Assistant Principal, then choose the correct group. All other CLASS members will choose the last option for ALL Membership. Thank you for your time to take an active role in our organization.

- [District Leaders in Instructional Departments](#)
- [Middle School Principals](#)
- [High School Assistant Principals](#)
- [Elementary Assistant Principals](#)
- [ALL Membership](#)



LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

The annual 2021 Florida Legislative session ended April 30th and saw a bevy of bills passed. Many have already been sent to the Governor and we await his action on the budget. Wayne Bertsch, Communications & Government Relations Liaison, spent the Session in Tallahassee, advocating on behalf of the district and coordinating with other districts, as well as our executive director, Tammy, to highlight key positions that would benefit Pasco's students and employees. Tammy and Mardee Powers also virtually attended several key committee meetings and communicated with legislators throughout the session.

Overall, there was a focus on teacher conduct, additional curriculum requirements, and sweeping changes combining the McKay/Gardiner and Family Empowerment/HOPE Scholarships, that includes family income requirements and removal of the requirement that student come from a public school. As the Governor signs bills into law, additional updates will be provided.

A [summary](#) was made available online on May 12, and regularly updated via [Pasco eNews](#). Wayne Bertsch also just made available a [dropbox link](#) including analyses of bills that passed during the 2021 Session. The document titled [2021 Summary of Bills Passed](#) contains ALL analyses of the education and appropriation bills prepared by the Senate. The rest of the documents (majority are Word Docs) are independent analyses prepared by members of the Florida Legislative Liaisons and their district staffs. Please feel free to share with others who might find this information useful. Wayne says to expect a spreadsheet identifying the responsibilities of DOE, District, etc., along with due dates of the bills that passed. As always, contact him if you have questions or concerns related to legislative issues.



LEADING AND LEARNING AT FASA DISCOVER 2021

On June 21-23, FASA is offering a virtual/hybrid/in-person conference at the Championsgate Omni. Over 200 Pasco administrators have registered to attend. CLASS Pasco is excited to announce we will be hosting a Happy Hour event with music, desserts, and a free drink to the first 100 Pasco Leaders. Be sure to join us for an opportunity to learn more about CLASS and for time to mingle and network IN-PERSON at the Championsgate Omni on Monday, June 21st from 5:30-7:00 in the Heritage Park Room.

END-OF-YEAR WRAPUP

Even during the Pandemic, and what was arguably the most tense and demanding year ever, CLASS celebrates that YOU MADE IT! We started the year with an inspiring message from Gerry Brooks on August 21, 2020. Gerry acknowledged the difficulties we face everyday and encouraged us to embrace our roles as leaders as we established our personal climate and culture. Check out our [website](https://www.classpasco.com) (classpasco.com) for a fantastic sketchnote visual by our own Pam Willoughby.

Even though we could not safely meet in person, we held two general membership meetings this year and approved revisions to our by-laws. In March, we had the pleasure of hearing virtually from Mawi Asgedom about how we can find our sunlight and use it to recharge ourselves as we continue serving others.

As the school year comes to a close, we encourage you to find ways to renew yourself, to rest, and to celebrate survival. You were not perfect this past year, but you gave your all and kept our students, staff and community safer than anyone could have dreamed. Our CLASS Advisory and Executive Boards salute you!!

As you consider vacations and ways to rest and renew, remember there are a bevy of discounts available. Please visit the educator discounts (it may say teacher, but as long as you have a valid teaching certificate, it almost always includes admins, too) the [FLDOE gathers for some great rates and opportunities](#).



While teachers and students are taking time to unwind, regroup, relax and reconnect, it's important that administrators do the same! Here are a few "summer bucket list" items you may want to check off during YOUR vacation!

- Read books that have ZERO to do with leading and teaching.
- Trade in that giant computer briefcase for a beach bag - and use it!
- Indulge in a glorious nap (or two) and don't feel guilty about it!
- Clean, organize, and otherwise get that personal space FINALLY squared away.
- Totally lose track of what day of the week it is (and not care).
- Make complete, actual meals and then sit down at the dinner table for more than twenty minutes to ENJOY them.
- Run errands when other people are working.
- Actually socialize with grown-ups on Friday nights.
- Swim, play, eat, sleep, repeat.
- Fire your alarm clock.

- Inspired by [weareteachers.com](https://www.wereareteachers.com)

MEET OUR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

CLASS is excited to announce that River Ridge High School's Miss Raynee Meek was chosen to receive the Adam Kennedy Future Educator Scholarship for the Class of 2021!

She represents the academic excellence and community service standards that our friend Adam was known for.

Raynee is a member of the RRHS New Teacher Academy. She is ranked in the top ten of her graduating class. She is a member of the varsity volleyball team and participated in Youth Leadership Pasco. Raynee has also received the Anne Frank Humanitarian Award and the High School Heisman.

She has completed 699 hours of community service hours, including developing and implementing "Books by the Beach", her own philanthropic project that provided over 3,000 summer reading books for 115 students at Hudson Elementary School.

A dual-enrolled student, Raynee will graduate PHSC with her AA degree this month. She will major in Elementary Education at the University of Central Florida and plans to earn a master's degree in Educational Leadership. She has already passed the General Knowledge Exam in preparation for her future career. After college, she hopes to return to Pasco to teach and lead. We at CLASS look forward to having her join us and our colleagues in leading student achievement in our district.



GET CLASS GEAR AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY NEEDS



As we discovered, in a year of social distancing, we did not have many opportunities for "service". However, as a pillar in our organization, we continue meeting needs in our community.

We are excited to announce the creation of an eStore where a portion of the proceeds will be used to support a cause/charity of our choosing. Swag yourselves up with CLASS-branded gear knowing that \$2 of every purchase comes back to us! Each year, we will collectively choose a cause to celebrate as we make a financial gift in the name of our organization. The eStore will be available beginning July 1. Stay tuned!

LEADING WITH CLASS

CONNECTING LEADERS THROUGH
ADVOCACY, SUPPORT AND SERVICE

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