

Spring Edition

April 2022



President's Message

I want to thank our members for being so understanding during the first years that we set out on our journey together to build a quality organization that protected the interests of administrators in Pasco County. Little did we know that a worldwide pandemic would have a drastic effect on our profession, but we have persevered and united with CLASS!

There are a few people that I would like to thank for helping us achieve early successes, and that starts with our Superintendent Kurt Browning.

Success starts from the top. Mr. Browning's leadership and support has allowed our organization to go from starting-up and kick-starting to all-in. It's because of his direction that our school system triumphs and experiences so many successes. Also, having strong community support is essential and no one has been a stronger advocate than Gary Cucchi. Florida Educators Insurance is a proud sponsor of CLASS and continues to provide first-rate services to educators throughout the county. We are also very appreciative of the support of John McLay and Associates and Paul Gigante Productions!

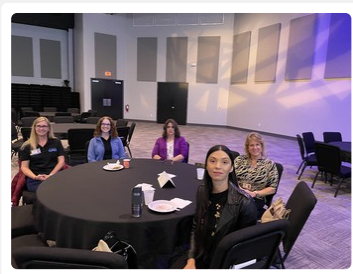
Lastly, I encourage you to take part in future CLASS activities to fully enjoy the benefits of being a member. There are a bevy of opportunities and we would love to have you involved. I am honored to have served as president of the organization for the 2021-22 school year. Thank you for entrusting in me to lead.



Thank you,
Ric Mellin
CLASS President 21-22

CLASS Hosts first in-person General Membership Meeting since Fall 2019!

The Spring CLASS General meeting was held March 22 at Grace Family Church in Land O' Lakes. Meeting in person to network, receive updates and inspiration and just catch up with one another were key experiences from over 80+ members able to attend. The minutes are still being developed, and we thank Gary Cucchi and Mike Smith from Florida Educators insurance Agency and congratulate the gift card winners: Tammy Berryhill, Melissa Carusso, Jill Cortier, Michelle Hudson, Jodi Legg, Courtney Lough, Bailey Morris, Pio Rizzo, Jomarry Schulz, and Steve Williams. We are appreciative of the wonderful hospitality at Grace Family Church and their generous rental rate - finding a central location was important to us!



We had an amazing catered breakfast!



Dr. Renee Sedlack, former Pasco Schools administrator, and currently a professor at St. Leo University, shared an inspiring message and content from a chapter in a book featuring four Pasco principals; two are featured here - Carin Hetzler-Nettles and Ric Mellin.

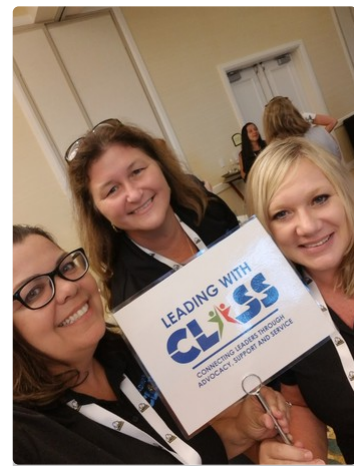


80+ members were able to join in-person.

CLASS Sponsored SOCIAL Activities at FASA ChampionsGate

For the second year in a row, CLASS Pasco is working to provide fun activities to support our Pasco County Administrators and celebrate the end of the school year and the start of summer with learning

at FASA. **Tuesday, June 7th is the first day of conference.** The Opening Keynote with Gerry Brooks starts at 2:30pm and **CLASS is having a Happy Hour from 4:00-6:00 PM for all Pasco County Administrators attending FASA. We have free drinks for the first 125 people to attend and chances to win more tickets with various games.** There are also hors d'oeuvres, but it gives people plenty of time to plan for dinner later on.



In addition to the afternoon Happy Hour, **we have a few other opportunities for people to connect and have fun. These would require you to drive over earlier on Tuesday, June 7th.** Ric Mellin is planning to organize a **kayaking adventure mid morning on June 7th.** Gary Cucchi is also sponsoring a foursome for the golf tournament so if you do play, you will have to travel over early and be ready for an 8:00 AM tee time. **Please [click the link to complete the questions](#)** which will let us know of your interest (we need to register golfers soon). Thanks for helping us support YOU. Other Discover '22 events can be found [here](#) on the FASA conference agenda.

Nominations for 2022-2023 CLASS Advisory and Executive Boards

CLASS Pasco continues to grow and strengthen in our mission of Connecting Leaders Through Advocacy, Support, and Service. The work our organization accomplishes is dependent upon the leadership and volunteers who serve on our Advisory or Executive Boards. We are beginning the nomination process for new positions which begin July 1, 2022. The timeline includes the following:

- Nominations from March 21 - April 29,
- Confirming Nominees from May 1 - May 13,
- Ballots sent to members May 31,
- Election ends June 24,
- Winners announced June 28, new members begin July 1

The open positions on the **Advisory Board are Elementary Principal, High School Principal, Middle School Assistant Principal, District Instructional Departments, and District Non-Instructional Departments (all 2 years terms)** The positions on the **Executive Board are President Elect (22-23, then President in 23-24) and Secretary (two year term)**. There are commitments of time:

- Monthly Advisory Board meeting (currently 1st Wednesday of month at 3:30 or 4:14pm - may be changed)
- Monthly Executive Board meeting commitment of meeting (currently 2nd Wednesday of month at 3:30pm - may be changed)
- Monthly Superintendent meeting (currently 3rd Thursday of month at 1pm - may be changed) for those eligible to participate on zoom or in person
- Annual meetings
- Planning/goal setting session this summer

Here is the link in order to complete the nomination form: <https://forms.gle/5E6ehkeDHOESKqtH6>

Have a voice and stay involved!

Food drive a huge success!

We are thankful to all who made this year's food drive a success! Our spring food drive was held from February 14-25, giving us the opportunity to distribute food items to 13 different schools prior to spring break. Schools that collected food sent items to a feeder pattern or similar-type school. For example, Land O' Lakes High School provided 7 large boxes of cereals, snacks, peanut butter and other treats to Pine View Middle's food pantry. Four collection bins at the district offices provided an amazing bounty of goods that were delivered to the West Pasco Education Academy and Wendell Krinn Technical High. These are just a few examples of the generosity shown by caring people throughout Pasco Schools.



Advocacy Actions

Wayne Bertsch worked hard in Tallahassee and continues to share legislation and budget actions to date. It is important that we continue viewing actions as the Governor lines items in the budget and determines his stance on bills presented to him. We also thank those who went to Tallahassee for the FASA Advocate conference in January. Several members and Pasco administrators attended for two and a half days and made some good connections with legislators and their staff. Vaughnette Chandler (Treasurer), JoAnne Glenn (Secretary, whose school funded her trip), Advisory Board members Tracy Miller, and Carin Hetzler-Nettles in person, and Erin Ipock and Tammy Rabon-Noyce virtually, represented CLASS Pasco.

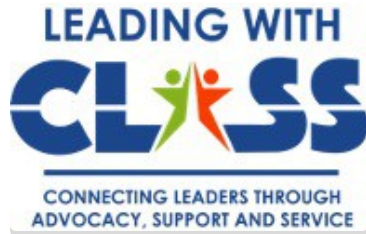


21-22 Focus and Action Areas

We continue pursuing our short range goals and focus areas for this school year that are aligned with our organization's pillars. At your various whole group meetings (assistant principal, principal and district departments), your liaisons have continued sharing updates and seeking your feedback:

- **ADVOCACY** - we will connect with elected officials to seek equity among administrative ranks and provide opportunities for elected officials to visit schools.


- **SUPPORT** - we will establish quarterly opportunities for district and school leaders to connect for networking and increase communication to provide members greater personal and professional connections.
- **SERVICE** - we will increase visibility and support leaders facing unique challenges and establish a Spring Break food drive.



CLASS Pasco


 Facebook

Connecting Leaders through Advocacy, Support and Service; A not-for-profit 501(C)3

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