

Preparing our
students
for tomorrow's world
2016-17



Developmental Research School
at the University of Florida

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at the University of Florida
P.O. Box 118530
Gainesville, FL 32611-8530



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OUR VISION

P.K. Yonge students are positioned to be creative, dedicated, and resilient learners who embrace the power of diverse ideas, talents, and cultures to improve our world.

Reflections on 2016-17

Each year at P.K. Yonge is filled with a host of experiences for our students, families, faculty, and staff — experiences that come to us embedded in the broader context of our community, city, state, nation, and ultimately the world. This year, we have celebrated events like Adam Maxwell receiving the Keeper of the Dream Scholarship, Jacob Sedesse being selected for Microsoft's Council for Digital Good, and Mickey MacDonald receiving the AERA Teacher as Researcher Award. Our town was ranked in Livability's 2017 Top 100 Best Places to Live, and on an international scale, Malala Yousafzai, world advocate for education, graduated from high school. This year, we have also experienced new challenges nationally, locally, and in our school. We have come together as a community in the face of these challenges, and what shines forth is the deep sense of caring that members of our school community have for each other and the potential for positive change we see in future generations taking their first steps into their adult lives.



In the words of our Class of 2017 salutatorian, Chase Bourn:

"Every student of the Class of 2017 has demonstrated compassion, kindness, and caring for all, regardless of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, or political ideology. It gives me hope that I know such excellent people will embark on their journey into the world with bright minds and kind hearts and become leaders that redefine societal expectations."

As faculty and staff at P.K. Yonge we are awed by the potential we see in our students to be positive forces in the world they enter after high school. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to share part of that journey with them.

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Leadership 2016-17



Leading *the* Way

At the end of each school year we have an opportunity to reflect on what has passed...and open the door to the future. We are excited about what lies ahead of us, knowing that what has come before prepares us to step forward with optimism.

Our work continues in the quest to provide equitable learning opportunities for all students. In celebrating their individual differences, we commit ourselves to understanding learner variability and the implications that has for us as educators. As part of this commitment, we continue our work on standards-based grading, universal design for learning, personalized learning, and systems that adequately reflect mastery of essential skills.

Through Teacher Inquiry, professional learning, hosting local and international guests on our campus, and serving our own students every day, we are uniquely positioned to think about the challenging educational and societal questions of our time. Considering these questions provides further inspiration for improving the educational experience at P.K. Yonge, and is the foundation for what we can share with schools across the country and increasingly beyond our nation's borders.

Each year we work to become a better school community, motivated by the academic and personal successes of our students. Many brains, hearts, and hands are engaged in this endeavor. In 2017-18 we launch Power Hour, where students access academic support, teacher office hours, club meetings, enrichment opportunities, or school assemblies during the school day. We continue to work on ways to monitor students as they progress through school to help us identify when support is needed; 6th and 7th grades are collaborating in new ways to explore connections that can enhance the student experience; and our elementary school's updated report card more accurately reflects students' learning gains.

We are always energized by the possibilities the future holds and remain committed to the personal and academic successes of our students.

Fast Facts: P.K. Yonge DRS 2016-17

51

colleges accepted
P.K. Yonge Class of
2017 graduates

31

years of coaching
and teaching by
Coach John Clifford
at P.K. Yonge

\$2m

scholarship dollars
offered to Class
of 2017

108

students in the K/1
Learning Community
staffed the Pizza by
the Creek restaurant
and store

105

presentations by
faculty — 49 local, 32
state, 12 national, 12
international



Honoring Our Past

Many people say, “All roads lead to P.K.” It’s surprising how many times stories surface where alums have come across other P.K. alumni in the most surprising contexts. Our collective alumni community is like a large extended family that spans the globe — characterized by their willingness to help a P.K. alum, to orient recent graduates to new cities, or to support a current student. As we reflect on this 82nd year of P.K. Yonge, we are deeply grateful for the growing community of P.K. Yonge alumni.

P.K. Yonge’s Past Supports Our Future

The breadth of experience P.K. Yonge students enjoy is due, in large part, to their participation in the broad range of extracurricular activities offered by the school. Many activities are made possible for our students due to the constant and generous support of our alumni. During the 2016-17 school year, P.K. Yonge alumni “paid it forward” by lending their support in the following ways:

- Athletic Uniforms and Awards
- Spring Musical
- Creek School
- Travel to National Competitions – Athletics and Clubs
- Lighting Upgrade for the Performing Arts Center – Spotlight
- College Scholarship
- Community Garden
- Elementary Solar Car Project
- Cameras for Creative Photography Class
- International Study Abroad — Spain
- Supplies for Jewelry-Making Class
- i-Pad for Elementary Art
- Spring Social
- Scholarships for Students Traveling to China in 2017-18
- Teacher Training, Development, and Conference Attendance

Our Graduates – Class of 2017

Each year we are impressed by the accomplishments of our graduating class, and then another class comes along to impress us all the more. Our 82nd graduating class of 112 students boasts 26 P.K. Yonge 'lifers,' 12 STEM scholars, and 27 Presidential Awards for Educational Excellence. The Class of 2017 was offered more than \$2,000,000 in scholarships, including 30 Bright Futures and 4 athletics scholarships. This group of young men and women completed more than 18,000 hours of community service. The Class of 2017 has an exciting future because of their accomplishments and their character. Congratulations graduates! We are eager to see where your academic, military, or professional paths take you!

P.K. Yonge's 2017 graduates were accepted to:

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College | 18. Jacksonville University | 36. Stetson University |
| 2. Bard College | 19. Johnson & Wales University | 37. Tallahassee Community College |
| 3. Charleston Southern | 20. Lake Sumter State College | 38. Thomas University |
| 4. College of Charleston | 21. Lynn University | 39. University of Alabama |
| 5. Colorado State University | 22. Mercer University | 40. University of California at Berkeley |
| 6. Duke University | 23. Mississippi State University | 41. University of California at Davis |
| 7. Edward Waters College | 24. New College of Florida | 42. University of Central Florida |
| 8. Elon University | 25. New York University | 43. University of Florida |
| 9. Emory University | 26. North Carolina Wesleyan College | 44. University of North Florida |
| 10. Flagler College | 27. Oklahoma City University | 45. University of Pennsylvania |
| 11. Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University | 28. Pace University | 46. University of San Agustin (Philippines) |
| 12. Florida Atlantic University | 29. Penn State University | 47. University of South Florida |
| 13. Florida Gulf Coast | 30. Reed College | 48. University of Tampa |
| 14. Florida Polytechnic | 31. Rensselaer Polytechnic | 49. University of Texas at Austin |
| 15. Florida Southern | 32. Rollins College | 50. University of West Florida |
| 16. Florida State University | 33. San Diego State University | 51. Vanderbilt University |
| 17. Hillsborough Community College | 34. Santa Fe College | |
| | 35. State College of Florida | |



23

students
were accepted
to the University
of Florida!

By the Numbers

This year's state assessments included Florida Standard Assessments (FSAs) and Florida End of Course Exams (EOCs). Exams were administered in FSA Math (grades 3-7), FSA English Language Arts (grades 3-10), FSA Science (grades 5 and 8). State End of Course Exams were administered. Satisfactory performance in these exams is defined as a score of 3 or above.



FSA Math – Satisfactory Performance		2014-15*		2015-16		2016-17	
P.K. Yonge		64		67		67	
State		56		57		59	
FSA ELA Reading/Writing – Satisfactory Performance		2014-15**		2015-16		2016-17	
P.K. Yonge		71		68		67	
State		52		52		54	
FSA Science – Satisfactory Performance		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
		5th	8th	5th	8th	5th	8th
P.K. Yonge		48	73	40	71	45	75
State		53	49	51	50	51	48

*Math FSA (gr 3-8) was first administered in the 2014-15 school year

**ELA FSA (gr 3-10) was first administered in the 2014-15 school year

Course Enrollments in STEM

In today's world, schools must be committed to developing the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) pipeline, by offering and encouraging students to take classes in the STEM disciplines. Our enrollment in high school STEM courses remains strong while our school maintains the same number of students, our school demographics, and random selection process.

Student Enrollments in STEM Courses				
Year	Math*	Science	Tech/Eng	Total
2012-13	250	247	28	525
2013-14	484	364	67	955
2014-15	517	445	75	1037
2015-16	520**	452	93	1065
2016-17	521	472	77	1070

*Includes number of 8th graders taking Algebra 1 for high school credit

** Correction: Original numbers in the 2015-16 Annual Newsletter included Middle School courses

State High School End-of-Course Exams

FSA Algebra 1 EOC (8th-HS @ PKY)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance	59	71	81
State – satisfactory performance	56	54	62

Biology EOC (9th grade @ PKY)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance	83	73	81
State – satisfactory performance	65	64	64

FSA Geometry EOC (9th-10th @ PKY)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance	88	78	76
State – satisfactory performance	53	51	54

US History EOC (11th grade @ PKY)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance	90	91	85
State – satisfactory performance	66	66	67

Civics EOC (7th grade)	2014-15	2015-16*	2016-17
P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance	87	86	80
State – satisfactory performance	65	67	58



Advanced Placement Results

In 2016-17 high school students at P.K. Yonge were offered a total of 15 AP courses. Advanced Placement opportunities begin with AP Human Geography in 9th grade and include courses in visual arts, mathematics, science, language arts, social studies and world languages throughout a student's high school career. AP courses are open access enrollment. The school's long-term goal is to achieve above-average state and national passing rates without restricting access.

Scores	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total number of AP students	201	217	216	197	226
Number of students with a passing score on at least one AP exam	128	133	138	124	115
Percentage of students with a passing score on at least one AP exam	64%	63%	64%	63%	50%

Advanced Placement	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
AP School Scholars Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams	22	27	31	40	27
AP Scholars with Honor Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams	7	10	10	5	9
AP Scholars with Distinction Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams	13	16	23	19	13
National AP Scholar Granted to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on five or more of these exams	1	2	3	4	4

The Year *in* Review 2016-2017



Performing Arts, Band, and Visual Arts

Performing Arts, Band, and Visual Arts thrive on campus with students giving great performances and creating impressive works of art. These programs provide unique means of exploration and expression that are a point of pride for the school. Performances, competitions, exhibitions and awards are all the result of the commitment of dedicated students, faculty, and families. We celebrate the products of their efforts and are grateful to those who come together to make the Performing Arts, Band, and Visual Arts Program at P.K. so vibrant.

Performing Arts Highlights

- Vocal Ensemble received Superiors at Festival Disney and performed at the Stop Children's Cancer Benefit Concert. Brianna Weller was chosen as a soloist.
- Women's Ensemble received Superiors, Best in Class, and the Silver Mickey (with second highest score of all competitive choirs) at Festival Disney.
- Women's Ensemble and Vocal Ensemble were chosen to perform at EPCOT's Christmas Candlelight program.
- Five high school and nine middle school students performed in All-State Choirs.

- Matthew Crews was chosen for the prestigious All-State Reading Choir.
- *The Drowsy Chaperone* spring musical included 28 student actors, 12 of whom were seniors.
- Matthew Crews and Luis Garcia-Godoy received scholarships to the University of Florida in Musical Theater and Music.
- Megan Poole received multiple scholarships to Oklahoma City University to major in theatre.
- Thespians continued their tradition of excellence advancing through the District and taking High Honors at the State competition.
- *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, ABRIDGED*, with more than 25 student cast and crew members, rejuvenated our theatre company.

Band

- Marching Band received a Superior rating at MPA and participated in the Florida Marching Band Championship.
- Middle School Symphonic Band received an Excellent rating at FBA Middle School Concert MPA.
- Winterguard received a Superior rating at FFCC Championships.

- Thirteen students received Superiors at District Solo and Ensemble MPA.
- Patrick Gilmartin and Katie Rocha received Superiors at State Solo and Ensemble MPA.
- Patrick Gilmartin and Matthew Crews performed in the Alachua County Honor Band.
- Aixa Molina performed in the All-State Honor Band.

Visual Arts Highlights

- Portfolio Exhibition and the Third Annual Honors and AP Art Show were hosted at the Harn Museum of Art.
- Students exhibited work in the Bluewave Gallery Portfolio and Photography Show and at the Tumblin Creek Spring Arts & Sciences Festival.
- Student artists were honored at local art competitions.
 - Saving My Alachua Art Competition
 - Isabella Acuña – first place – 4th grade
 - Miranda Barnes – second place – high school
 - Leo Asch – third place – high school
 - UF HealthStreet Student Art Contest
 - Jaedan Johnson – 1st place K-2nd grade
 - Isabella Acuña – 1st place 3rd-5th grade
 - Polina Antonenko – 2nd place 3rd-5th grade
- Sean Eunice's (11th grade) work was featured in the 2017 Statewide Student Surrealist Art Exhibit at the Dali Museum in St. Petersburg.

Clubs, Awards, and Internships

Our campus is always buzzing with activity, offering a wide range of opportunities for students to choose. We work hard to provide many ways to engage in campus life, and students thrive on it!

During the 2016-17 school year, the 22 members of the P.K. Yonge Roaring Riptide FIRST Robotics (FRC) Team #4118 placed 22nd out of 54 teams at the Orlando Regional competition. Long-time team mentor Dan Frank from Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at UF was honored with the Woodie Flowers Award recognizing mentors who lead, inspire, and empower mentees. Our school is grateful to Dan for his long-term commitment to P.K. Yonge Robotics and his exceptional mentorship.

This year, Odyssey of the Mind added an elementary team which placed 4th in their long term problem. Middle school finished 3rd in the regional competition, and both high school teams placed 2nd at regionals with one team placing 4th, and one team placing 9th in the state.

In Speech and Debate, the P.K. Yonge team finished 3rd in the North Florida/Saint Augustine Regional Speech and Debate League and seven students qualified for Speech and Debate nationals in Louisville, Kentucky.

With the addition of Portuguese as a new World Language this year, P.K. Yonge students took the National Spanish Exam and the National Portuguese Exam. In the Portuguese Exam, students received two gold and two silver medals. Gold medal recipient, Mary Rocha, took second place in the level 1 exam nationwide. In the National Spanish Exam, students received one gold, two silver, and six bronze medals, as well as 16 honorable mentions. Five students presented at the 17th Annual Spanish Graduate Association Colloquium at the University of Central Florida and Jenina Yutuc was featured in *Albricias*, the National Magazine for the Hispanic Honor Society. Students in our World Languages program competed in numerous events, notably in the Florida State Spanish Conference (placing third in their division) and the Modern Languages Expo, where they tied for first place in the high school category.

Experience in the working world is invaluable as students prepare to step into their adult lives. The Executive Internship is a means by which students become familiar with the nuances, demands, and benefits of the working world. This year, 20 juniors and seniors completed internships at the following places: UF Engineering, UF IFAS, UF Gator Lab, UF Health/Shands, O2B Kids, The Matheson Museum, Watson Events, Alachua County Humane Society, Newberry Animal Hospital, Gainesville Regional Utilities, Gainesville City Commission Office, and Veterans Administration Hospital.

Athletics

Our athletics program continues to provide important experiences and opportunities in the lives of students. We are proud of students' efforts and accomplishments and are grateful for the dedication of our many coaches, and the support from our school families.

2016-17 Athletic Accomplishments:

- Boys Basketball – District Champions, Elite 8
- Girls Basketball – District Champions, Elite 8
- Kailya Jackson named *Gainesville Sun's* Small School Athlete of the Year
- Baseball – District Runner-up
- Cross Country – Girls & Boys District Runner-up
 - Juliette Palechor – advanced to State
- Golf – District champions, Regional 3rd
 - Jake Davis – advanced to State
- Lacrosse – competed at Districts for the first time
- Soccer – Girls District Runner-up
- Swimming & Diving – Girls & Boys District Champions
 - Francisco Aguirre, Douglas Poole, Lain Shahboz, Quin Whittaker – advanced to State
- Tennis – Boys District Champions, Girls District 3rd
 - Brandon Stewart – Doubles & Singles District Champion
 - Marcela Ifju – Doubles & Singles District Champion
- Track and Field – Girls District Runner-up
 - Kailya Jackson – 5th in State in hurdles

The Year *in* Review 2016-2017

Research, Outreach, and Partnerships

Through serving the diverse community of students on campus, we occupy a unique place in the state and on the path toward a model of education that meets learners' needs today and tomorrow. Our work to design, test, and disseminate educational innovations is firmly grounded in serving the students in our classrooms every day.

Research: Inquiries, Investigations, and Innovations

Innovations in teaching practice originate in Teacher Inquiry at P.K. Yonge. Inquiry is a classroom-based teacher research model essential to enacting the mission of our school. Implicit in the Teacher Inquiry endeavor is a commitment to improving student achievement, embracing learner variability, and supporting the success of every student while systematically evaluating innovations as they are implemented.

During the 2016-17 school year Teacher Inquiry was embedded in professional learning. All faculty participated in the Teacher Inquiry cycle, either by completing their own research project, or by serving as a peer collaborator on the work of a colleague.

Areas of investigation included:

- Mastery of learning objectives
- Assessment and reassessment systems and practices
- Systems to support students with learning differences
- Goal-setting and small group discussions
- Effective models of feedback
- Curricular alignment
- Differentiation
- Rubrics, self-assessment, self-reflection, and student motivation
- Peer-management
- Learner confidence and independence

P.K. Yonge teachers continue to share results of their research, new strategies, and what they learn with educators across the state, around the country, and throughout the world. Details: <http://pk Yonge.ufl.edu/outreach/research/teacher-inquiry/>

The most recent school improvement initiative emerging from cycles of Teacher Inquiry is the school's move toward standards-based grading. Inquiry work over the past three

years laid the groundwork for a standards-based grading model expanding into 6th grade, with plans to move forward to 7th-12th grade over the next three years.

Outreach

As a developmental research school, P.K. Yonge's mission is to design, test, and disseminate innovations in education through serving and celebrating our wonderfully diverse K12 community. Dissemination of the work of the school takes place through Outreach activities hosted on our campus and through faculty presentations at professional conferences.

Research in Action, Summer Institutes, lesson studies, customized programs, and informational tours are all elements of the Outreach program. Activities during the 2016-17 school year were attended by more than 250 educators. Events shared recent efforts in Collaborative Literacy, Universal Design for Learning, Secondary Language Arts, and Targeted Feedback Cycles for Teacher Observation. Educators and educational innovators joined us from all over the state and the nation, and international visitors came to us from Belgium, Canada, China, Japan, New Zealand, and Slovakia.

P.K. Yonge faculty shared their research with the professional education community through a total of 105 presentations at professional conferences (49 local, 32 state, 12 national, 12 international) and their work was published on blogs (National Council of Teachers of English, Collaborative Classroom Blog, Teaching Tolerance) and in professional publications (*Science Scope*, *The Journal of Practitioner Research*, *Teaching Tolerance*, *Multicultural Perspectives*, *The New Educator*, and *Educational Technology Research and Development*). Faculty participated in webinars for the Center for the Collaborative Classroom and were involved in courses at SUNY Brockport and the University of Florida College of Education.



Partnerships

Our engagement in research and outreach is driven by the search for answers to challenging questions in education. The quest for answers leads us to cross paths and develop partnerships with researchers, institutions, and organizations who are all seeking solutions to the same problems.

The 2016-17 school year included partnership efforts to address questions in literacy, technology, and science, along with supporting the development of expert learners and informing the design of new technologies. The power of these efforts lies in partnerships developed between P.K. Yonge teachers and researchers from various institutions and organizations.

Summer Adventures in Literacy (SAIL) strives to support the development of literacy skills while providing hands on experience and mentoring for pre-service teachers (Holly Lane, UF), reading interventions were designed (Willa Van Dijk, UF doctoral student), and observation protocols were developed and videos produced to support special educators and students (Mary Brownell, UF).

In the areas of Science, Technology, and Math, our K/1 Learning Community partnered with the Florida Museum of Natural History to establish a Butterfly Garden (Andrei Sakourov, UF), a wildlife observation camera was installed

(Bill Giuliano, UF), and the iDigFossils project promoted scientific habits of mind in middle school (Pasha Antonenko, UF). An ongoing computer science project focused on how children interact with screens, devices, and new technologies to inform new designs (Lisa Anthony, UF), and students also created 3D games while learning to program and predict program behavior (Christina Gardner-McCune, UF). Observations took place in mathematics education (Aki Murata, UF) and P.K. Yonge elementary faculty participated in a research study focused on teaching fractions (Mills College, CA).

Preparing students to become expert learners in the digital age was an area of focus this year (Angela Kohnen, Danling Fu, UF), as was developing mentor teacher coaching strategies (Alyson Adams, UF). Additional efforts took place in technology, learner variability, and learning expertise as part of the work of a professional learning community (Nancy Dana, Kara Dawson, UF).

A partnership developed around the Health Smart Initiative this year (Carolyn Tucker, Frederick Desmond, UF) focusing on healthier drink and snack choices on campus, and school psychology training and field experiences (Diana Joyce-Beaulieu, UF) continued. Visits and observations from researchers and students were common, including observations focused on interior design, environment, and behavior (Sheila Bosch, UF).

Elementary News

Each year, our elementary school engages in deep learning coupled with a wide range of authentic projects and events that enrich the school experience for members of the school family — students, families, faculty, and staff.

In the K/1 Learning Community, students completed an economics unit while learning to identify personal skills and preferences as they prepared to staff the Pizza by the Creek restaurant and store. Families enjoyed pizza, great service, and purchased items made by members of the Learning Community. The K/1 Butterfly Garden was also established this year with the support of Dr. Andrei Sakourov from the Florida Museum of Natural History to enrich our students' science learning.

For the 2/3 Learning Community, the annual Cardboard Arcade offered intricate game designs for families and students that were developed through collaboration planning and problem-solving. The North American Showcase provided opportunities to learn about countries and create artifacts, display artwork, or sing songs from each locale. The final event for the year, the Literary Showcase, provided an excellent forum for students to present written work completed throughout the year.

In the 4/5 Learning Community, project-based science units resulted in proposals for dealing with spiders on campus and training games designed for NASA astronauts. 5th Grade presentations analyzed the effects of Manifest Destiny, and the Voices of the Past Museum (designed in collaboration with museum curators from around the state) shared understandings of interactions between early explorers and Native Americans. Finally, Meet the Author provided an opportunity for students in the community to share their inventory of stories, essays, and poetry from the 2016-17 school year with families and younger Learning Communities.





6th Grade — Properties of Light, Paleontology and 3D Printing

“Highly engaging” is how Dr. Mayra Cordero describes the 3D scanning and printing projects that took place in 6th grade science classes during the 2016-17 school year. As part of a National Science Foundation grant and a collaboration between Dr. Cordero and the College of Education’s Dr. Pasha Antonenko, Dr. Cordero’s students were able to scan and print fossils in 3D, while learning how the properties of light come into play with a 3D scanner. In addition to introducing students to content connected to paleontology, technology, and light, the project provided the perfect environment for students to engage in scientific practices — just like scientists — developing scientific habits of mind (curiosity, informed skepticism), employing scientific and engineering practices (developing and using models, analyzing and interpreting data), engaging with concepts that bridge different disciplines (patterns, scale, change), and exploring disciplinary ideas in physical and life sciences.



SAILing into Summer for 18 years!

School closes over summer? Not likely! At P.K. Yonge there are numerous activities underway on campus, not the least of which is our Summer Adventures in Literacy Program. After 18 years, the program, initially designed to support 3rd grade readers challenged by a state test, supports 140 K-5 students from P.K. Yonge and the community that surrounds us and provides invaluable practical experience to new teachers. This partnership between P.K. Yonge and the University of Florida’s Literacy Initiative is now able to offer more support for students who find reading challenging by integrating in situ training for preservice teachers and positioning P.K. Yonge teachers as mentors. Win-win-win is how all parties see the program, P.K. Yonge, UF College of Education, and students (and families) for whom SAIL opens doors to exciting futures.



Faculty Accolades

P.K. Yonge faculty are committed to their own learning and are often recognized by external entities for their efforts. We applaud the work of the whole faculty in their quest for excellence and commitment to making a significant impact on the lives of our students.

This year, Renee Andrews (Marine Science, AP Environmental Science), was named P.K. Yonge's Teacher of the Year. One of ten semifinalists for the 2017 NSTA/Shell Science Teaching Award, Ms. Andrews will also receive the Governor's Shine Award in October of 2017.

Congratulations to faculty members: Ashley Pennypacker Hill, Ed.D. on being promoted to University School Associate Professor and Tom Beyer, Christy Gabbard, Susan Johnson, and Michael Roberts on being promoted to University School Assistant Professor.

For a second year in a row a P.K. Yonge faculty member has received the American Education Research Association's (AERA) Teacher as Researcher Award. Dr. Mickey MacDonald (High School and AP Biology) was recognized by AERA for exemplary research conducted by a K12 teacher in her school context.

The Florida Department of Education named six P.K. Yonge faculty High Impact Teachers during the 2016-17 school year: Greg Cunningham (6th Grade Language Arts), Bill Steffens (6th Grade Mathematics), Dr. Jon Mundorf (7th Grade Language Arts), George Pringle (7th Grade Mathematics), Cody Miller (9th Grade Language Arts), and Dr. Kate Yurko (10th Grade Language Arts). The award is based on statewide ranking of secondary language and mathematics instructors during three prior academic years.

This year Dr. Carrie Geiger (Assistant Principal of Instructional Practice) completed her second year of the Commissioner's Leadership Academy as a Facilitator in Training. This collaborative effort between the Florida Department of Education, the University of Washington's Center for Educational Leadership and the Council for Educational Change focuses on skills in coaching teachers and strengths-based approaches to teacher observation.

At the end of each school year there are inevitably farewells. This year, we say farewell to Dr. Cathy Atria, who served as principal at P.K. Yonge for five years. Dr. Atria was responsible for many positive changes,

notably leading a transformation in how teachers are coached and supported in their professional practice. Her commitment to equity and diversity has had a profound impact on the school and her passion for P.K. Yonge athletics was second to none. Dr. Atria will serve as Principal-in-Residence at the University of Florida's College of Education.

Assistant Principal Dr. Russ Froman will leave us to take on the role of Title IX Coordinator for the University of Florida. Since 2006, Dr. Froman made it a priority to know and support every student and family on campus and was an ardent supporter of student life through athletics, clubs, and extracurricular activities.

With more than 30 years as Athletic Director, Coach John Clifford's tenure was punctuated by accolades and achievements. This lengthy tenure means that

there are now generations of families who have been in Coach Clifford's classes and played on his teams. We are grateful for a career spent here changing the lives of our students and making such an indelible mark on the P.K. Yonge community.

Ann Marie Heller's 38-year career in education included 8 years at P.K. Yonge. Ms. Heller believed that all students can learn chemistry, and was a staunch advocate for students both in and out of the classroom.

Ms. Carolyn Harrell, retired this year after 11 years at P.K. Yonge providing enrichment opportunities for Middle School students and publishing the nationally recognized *Creeks and Currents Literary Magazine*, formerly known as *Making Waves*.

Staff

Often the unsung heroes on campus, our staff keep us afloat as the Blue Wave moves from one season to the next. They are committed to our school, to students and their families, and to our faculty. Our staff admit new students, greet visitors at our front desk, make purchases, manage our facilities, enter critical data, communicate with families, support our administrators, administer medications, coordinate substitute teachers, supervise students, stay connected to alumni, plan and staff school events, maintain our network, manage the school's finances, keep track of attendance, deliver our packages, clean our campus, update our computers, receive payments, and make sure we all get paid! This year we say farewell to Linda Preston who served our school in many roles for more than 30 years.

Thank you P.K. Yonge staff! You are greatly appreciated.

We also thank the Alachua County Food and Nutrition Services staff in our cafeteria and our lawn crew.



We thank you
P.K. Yonge
families
for entrusting your children's
school experience to us.

Looking Ahead to 2017-2018

Pioneering the Future

What a privilege to learn and work at a school led by smart, dedicated, creative, and pioneering educators since 1934. The legacy continues as P.K. Yonge teachers and school leaders have embarked on a journey to transform “what is school” to provide stronger, better pathways for preparing our students for the future of our nation and the world. We are fortunate that P.K. Yonge’s heritage is rich with student-centered, flexible, meaningful, and engaging learning models and curriculums to draw upon as we work at the pioneering edge of K12 education.

The vision, courage, and creativity of P.K. Yonge faculty is like no other K12 institution in this nation. Our teachers are regularly called upon from across Florida, around the nation, and the world, to help other educators challenge the status quo so that they may improve the learning experience for their students. Today our teachers are focused on taking advantage of new technologies, emerging flexibilities in scheduling, assessments, grading, and learning spaces to enhance and personalize the learning experience and success for every student.

While we are far from figuring everything out, our teachers are continuously engaged in examining their practices and data to understand the impact of their work with their students. We are expanding the tradition of teacher research at P.K. Yonge. Every faculty member is identifying an area of practice that they believe can be altered to improve the learning experience of individual students. Each school year now begins with the opportunity to publicly share and discuss what each teacher learns during our *Annual Inquiries and Investigations Symposium*. Together our teachers are designing and testing approaches that will lead the next wave of educational transformation for our state and nation.

Leadership 2016-17

- Lynda Fender Hayes, Ph.D.
Director
- Catherine G. Atria, Ph.D.
Principal
- Russ Froman, Ed.D.
*Assistant Principal
Student Life and Behavioral Support*
- Carrie Geiger, Ed.D.
*Assistant Principal
Instructional Practice*
- Jennifer Farnsworth M.Ed.
*Assistant Principal
Academic Advisement and
School Counseling*
- Willie Powers, B.S.
Dean of Students
- Kent Johnson, M.Ed.
Dean of Students



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P.K. Yonge DRS
P.K. Yonge DRS Alumni
P.K. Yonge DRS Athletics
P.K. Yonge DRS Performing Arts

P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School at the University of Florida

1080 SW 11th Street
Gainesville, FL 32601
p. 352.392.1554
f. 352.392.9559