

Preparing our
students
for tomorrow's world
2018-19



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 2018-19

This year we are more acutely aware of the many and myriad ways we receive love and support from our Blue Wave community, a community that both spans the globe and the ages. This year we are grateful for the innumerable expressions of support as we climbed the mountain to secure funding to begin construction on our much-awaited secondary building. Support came to us in the form of lobbying efforts, encouraging words, expressions of love for our school, and financial commitments.

We are grateful for the numerous letters of support shared with the Florida legislature from faculty, families, students and alums, and for the consistent support we receive from the University of Florida. We are also grateful to the five high school students (Kevin Concha [11], Jackson Fugate [11], Dariannie Merced-Calderon [11], Jahnise Nixon [Class of 2019], and Israel Wilcox [Class of 2019]) who traveled to Tallahassee to meet with legislators and staffers to advocate for the \$10M legislative funding request for P.K. Yonge's secondary school.

While we are excited about the potential that our new facility promises, we know that regardless of the physical facilities in which we teach and learn, the Blue Wave spirit binds us together as a community invested in the futures of the young people on our campus for generations to come.

We are, as always, grateful for all of you who chose, and now choose, P.K. Yonge.



Reflections on 2018-19

- Leading the Way
- Fast Facts
- Honoring Our Past
- Our Graduates
- By the Numbers

The Year in Review 2018-19

- Performing Arts, Band, Visual Arts
- Athletics
- Clubs, Awards, Internships

- Research, Outreach, and Partnerships
- Elementary
- Features
- Faculty Accolades
- Staff

Looking Ahead to 2019-20

- Pioneering the Future

Leadership 2018-19



Leading *the* Way

Beginning with the 2016 legislative session, P.K. Yonge has been included as one of a small number of pilot districts in Florida tasked with designing and testing a personalized, mastery-based education system. In a nutshell, this transition moves us from the current model (based on how many hours students spend in class) to mastery of essential content and skills. As a pilot district, we have regular opportunities to partner and consult with the Florida Department of Education, elected officials, and interested organizations to identify both opportunities and challenges in this redesign effort.

We were eager to participate in the pilot as it aligns with many program development efforts already underway on campus. Over a number of years, significant efforts have been made to identify clear learning goals, develop multiple methods and opportunities for students to demonstrate mastery, design personalized learning pathways, and to more clearly report on individual mastery of essential knowledge and skills. We are working toward a future where course credit is awarded based on mastery, where grades clearly reflect what students know and can do, and where students are positioned to identify and meet their own learning goals.

We have taken on the challenge of what we have known — that completing the traditional high school program does not guarantee students are prepared for the demands of the future. Through the development of a personalized, mastery-based education system we are seeking to nurture the Blue Wave spirit — persistence, self-direction, and flexibility with a problem-solving mindset.

Fast Facts: P.K. Yonge DRS 2018-19

101
graduates

\$1.6m
in scholarships

34
Bright Futures
scholarships

121
conference
presentations by
faculty

200
performers in the
Disney Spectacular



Honoring *Our* Past

The presence of Blue Wave alumni, always and everywhere, is quite remarkable. We often hear that “all roads lead to P.K.” from alums and families encountering each other locally or in distant places. In the coming year, we will celebrate P.K. Yonge’s 85th year, giving credence to our belief that P.K. Yonge not only spans distance, but time. Throughout the history of our school, and despite distance, Blue Wave alumni have supported P.K. through word, fund, and deed.

P.K. Yonge alumni, alumni families, retired faculty, current students, families, faculty, and friends, please mark your calendars for the celebration of P.K. Yonge’s 85th year!

For more information, contact Tamera Freeman (Tamera Crockrell, Class of 2004) t.freeman@ufl.edu
Follow @pkyalumni on Facebook.

P.K. Yonge’s Past Supports Our Future

Students and faculty at P.K. Yonge enjoy significant support from our alums and retired faculty in numerous ways and over their whole school experience. The fondness with which our alums remember their time here is made evident by expressions of generosity that include support for elementary activities, faculty travel, robotics, athletics, and much, much more.

This year, we share our gratitude for alumni support in the following ways:

- Athletics Uniforms, Helmets, Banquets, Speakers, Weight Room Upgrades, Baseball Batting Cage
- Spring Musical, Musical Instruments, Concert Uniforms
- Travel for Athletics, Clubs, 4/5 trip to Kennedy Space Center
- College Scholarships
- International Activities: Costa Rica Travel, Hosting Chinese Students and Faculty
- Teacher Training, Professional Development, and Conference Attendance
- Camera and Zoom Lens, Animation Camera Kits, Heat Press
- Alumni Communications
- Building Supplies for Robotics Team
- Books for K-1, Creek School
- Construction of the Secondary Building

PK
Yonge

Save the date: 06.20.20
Celebrating 85 years of P.K. Yonge!
Details forthcoming!

Our Graduates – Class of 2019

Each graduating class makes its own mark — always different, always engaging, and always missed as we bid them sad farewells from campus but cheer them on into the next phase of their lives. We celebrate their accomplishments and confess to our disappointment that we won't have such a close view of their transition into young adulthood. Our 84th graduating class of 101 students, including 19 P.K. Yonge 'Lifers,' was offered more than \$1.6M in scholarships, including 34 Bright Futures and 7 athletic scholarships. The class of 2019 received 11 Presidential Awards for Educational Excellence, completed 19,000 hours of community service, and included a National Merit Scholar (Jonathan Gorday), and a Keeper of the Dream Award winner (Anthony Hardge) for the third year in a row.

Our graduates were accepted to:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Academy of Art University | 25. Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College | 51. Ringling College of Art and Design |
| 2. Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University | 26. Fordham University | 52. Rust College |
| 3. Alabama State University | 27. Fort Valley State University | 53. Rutgers University |
| 4. Albany State University | 28. Franklin College | 54. Santa Fe College |
| 5. American University | 29. Full Sail University | 55. Southeastern Louisiana University |
| 6. Anna Maria College | 30. Furman University | 56. Southern University at New Orleans |
| 7. Asbury University | 31. Grambling State University | 57. Stetson University |
| 8. Auburn University | 32. Greensboro College | 58. Tallahassee Community College |
| 9. Barry University | 33. Harriet Wilkes Honors College | 59. The Savannah College of Art and Design |
| 10. Benedictine College | 34. Hartwick College | 60. University of West Florida |
| 11. Bethune Cookman University | 35. Hofstra University | 61. University of Central Florida |
| 12. Brevard College | 36. Johnson & Wales University | 62. University of Colorado |
| 13. Clark Atlanta University | 37. LaGrange College | 63. University of Florida |
| 14. College of Central Florida | 38. Livingstone College | 64. University of Louisville |
| 15. Colorado State University | 39. Louisiana State University | 65. University of Miami |
| 16. Daytona State College | 40. Lurleen B Wallace Community College | 66. University of North Florida |
| 17. Flagler College | 41. Lynn University | 67. University of Oregon |
| 18. Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University | 42. Marion College | 68. University of Pittsburgh |
| 19. Florida Atlantic University | 43. Mars Hill University | 69. University of Saint Mary |
| 20. Florida Gulf Coast University | 44. Marshall College | 70. University of South Florida |
| 21. Florida International University | 45. Massachusetts College of Art and Design | 71. University of West Florida |
| 22. Florida Southern College | 46. Miami Dade College | 72. Valdosta State University |
| 23. Florida State College of Jacksonville | 47. Nova Southeastern University | 73. Virginia State University |
| 24. Florida State University | 48. Parsons School of Design | 74. Virginia Tech |
| | 49. Pratt Institute | 75. Webber International University |
| | 50. Quinnipiac University | 76. Western Governors University |



22

students
were accepted
to the University
of Florida!

By the Numbers

2018-19 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), and FSA Science (grades 5 and 8). State End-of-Course Exams were administered in Civics, Algebra 1, Biology, Geometry, and US History.

We believe that success on high-stakes assessments is a consequence of multiple variables. We also know that when teaching focuses on mastery of standards with learners at the center, exciting things happen. This year, our school performance was notable, with numerous instances of students placing in the top 10 among Florida school districts. In addition, *US News and World Report* ranked P.K. Yonge #1039 in the nation, #57 in Florida, and #1 in Gainesville, based on student performance on state tests, student participation and success on a variety of college-level exams, and graduation rates.

Numbers in parenthesis below indicate P.K. Yonge's ranking among Florida school districts.

English Language Arts: 3rd grade (#2), 5th grade (#5), 6th grade (#1), 7th grade (#1), 8th grade (#3), 9th grade (#5), 10th grade (#4), **Math:** 7th grade (#1), **Geometry:** (#3), **Science:** 8th Grade (#1), Biology (#8), **Social Studies:** 7th grade Civics (#4), US History (#5).

| FSA ELA Reading/Writing (3rd–10th @ PKY) | 2015-16 | | 2016-17 | | 2017-18 | | 2018-19 | |
|--|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 68 | | 67 | | 67 | | 65 | |
| State – satisfactory performance | 52 | | 54 | | 60 | | 61 | |
| FSA Math (3rd–7th @ PKY) | 2015-16 | | 2016-17 | | 2017-18 | | 2018-19 | |
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 67 | | 67 | | 71 | | 73 | |
| State – satisfactory performance | 57 | | 59 | | 54 | | 55 | |
| FSA Science (5th & 8th @ PKY) | 2015-16 | | 2016-17 | | 2017-18 | | 2018-19 | |
| | 5th | 8th | 5th | 8th | 5th | 8th | 5th | 8th |
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 40 | 71 | 45 | 75 | 48 | 69 | 49 | 76 |
| State – satisfactory performance | 51 | 50 | 51 | 48 | 55 | 52 | 53 | 51 |



State High School End-of-Course Exams

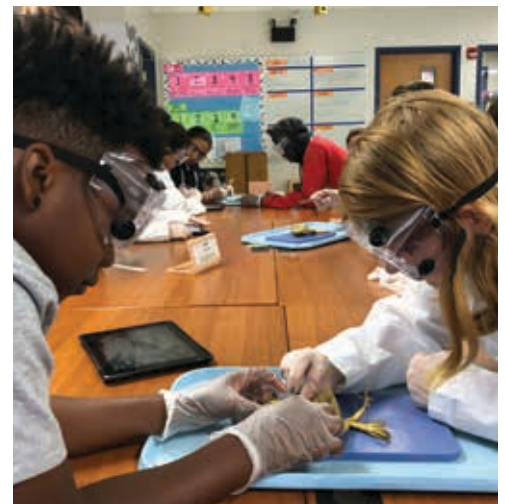
| FSA Algebra 1 EOC (8th-HS @ PKY) | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 71 | 82 | 73 | 67 |
| State – satisfactory performance | 54 | 62 | 61 | 60 |

| Biology EOC (9th @ PKY) | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 73 | 81 | 88 | 78 |
| State – satisfactory performance | 64 | 64 | 65 | 67 |

| FSA Geometry EOC (9th-10th @ PKY) | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 78 | 76 | 73 | 77 |
| State – satisfactory performance | 51 | 54 | 56 | 57 |

| US History EOC (11th @ PKY) | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 91 | 85 | 75 | 81 |
| State – satisfactory performance | 66 | 67 | 68 | 69 |

| Civics EOC (7th @ PKY, Winter) | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| P.K. Yonge – satisfactory performance | 86 | 80 | 65 | 84 |
| State – satisfactory performance | 67 | 58 | 71 | 71 |



Advanced Placement Results

In 2018-19 P.K. Yonge high school students were offered a total of 15 AP courses. Beginning in 9th grade, students were able to enroll in AP classes ranging from World History to AP Calculus to 3D Art to AP Biology. As always, our efforts continue to focus on opening up advanced coursework opportunities to all students. This year 84% of our 9th grade class enrolled in AP Human Geography.

| Scores | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total number of AP students | 216 | 197 | 226 | 249 | 279 |
| Number of students with a passing score on at least one AP exam | 138 | 124 | 115 | 162 | 105 |
| Percentage of students with a passing score on at least one AP exam | 64% | 63% | 51% | 45% | 38% |

| Advanced Placement | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| AP School Scholars Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams | 31 | 40 | 27 | 13 | 22 |
| 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 | 10 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 2 |
| 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 | 23 | 19 | 13 | 8 | 14 |

The Year *in* Review 2018-2019

Athletics

We recognize the accomplishments of our teams every year and are proud of those who perform well on the field, court, track, or in the pool. We celebrate our Floyd E. Lay Sunshine Cup All-Sports Award for boys, girls, and overall in 4A, 3A, and 2A categories and have much to be grateful for, including the dedication of athletes, coaches, family members, and volunteers. Go Blue Wave!

2018-19 Athletic Accomplishments:

- Athletics Signings
 - Football – Kris Martin (Benedictine College), Israel Wilcox (Fort Valley State University), Nicholas Maccioli (Mars Hill University), and TJ Jenkins (Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College).
 - Basketball – Byron Smith (Southeastern Louisiana State University), Raquel Cassidy (College of Central Florida), and Naomi Ross (Lurleen B. Wallace Community College)
- Basketball
 - Boys – District Champions, Regional Finalists
 - Girls – District Champions, Regional Champions, Final Four Finalists
- Cross Country – Girls – District Runner-Up
- Football – First play-off win in 14 years, Regional Semi-Finalist
- Golf – District Champions
- Soccer – Girls – District Runner-Up, Regional Finalists
- Swimming & Diving –
 - Girls: District Champions, Regional Runner-Up, State: 200m medley: 7th, Lain Shaboz (500 free: 3rd, 100 back: State Champion)
 - Boys: District Champions, State: 400m free – 7th, Trevor McGovern (200 free: 3rd, 100 back: 2nd)
- Track and Field – State: Jaren Hamilton (400m: 2nd), Zuriel Reed (400m: 4th, 200m: 7th), Nymera Presley (300m hurdles: 6th)
- Tennis – Boys – District Champions
- Volleyball – Girls – District Champions

Performing Arts, Band, and Visual Arts

We commit ourselves to providing an enriching school experience that offers many and varied opportunities for students to explore the arts through performance and creative works. Our Performing Arts, Band, and Visual Arts programs are great points of pride on campus and

draw their success from students, faculty, and families who commit themselves and their time in multiple ways. The accomplishments below highlight a sampling of the significant impact these programs have on our students and school community.

Performing Arts

- Patrick Brown [10], Kate Scarborough [10], Doogan Townsend [10], Patryk Weller [11], Adrian Velez Villanueva [Class of 2019] completed the All-State musicianship exam and audition, and participated in the Florida Music Educator Association's All-State Music Festival
- High school choirs, comprised of 72 students, auditioned and performed at the Disney World Candlelight Program
- Vocal Ensemble performed at the "Holiday Traditions" concert for Stop Children's Cancer where Austin Halvosa [Class of 2019] performed as a soloist and Ashlynn Price [6] and Matthew Kryzknowski [6] sang *The Polar Express*
- Middle School "On Stage" class performed with The Chieftains at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts
- 200+ students participated in the spring musical, *Disney, A Spectacular Broadway Review*
- Thespians staged their *Fall Evening of Scenes* Thespian Showcase
- District Thespians: Critic's Choice Award: Jahnise Nixon [Class of 2019]
- State Thespians: Alex Barba [Class of 2019] and Jahnise Nixon: top rankings in audition events; Jahnise Nixon: honors for outstanding performance in a competition category; Austin Halvosa, Jahnise Nixon, Alex Barba: superiors
- National Silver Key Award for Excellence in Writing a Dramatic Play Script: Alex Barba

Band

- 14 superior ratings at Solo and Ensemble Festival
- Straight superior ratings for sight-reading
- Jessica Alday [10], Nick Broadbent [8], Patrick Brown [10], Gabriel Kalt [7], Gabe Ruszczyk [8], Nate Wolf [10] performed with the Alachua County Honors Band
- Nick Broadbent [8]: All-State Band
- Adrian Velez Villanueva [Class of 2019] Honor Performance Series at Carnegie Hall



Visual Arts

- AP and Honors 2D/3D students exhibited in the Annual AP & Honors show at the Harn Museum of Art
- 5 AP students received college credit for their art portfolios
- Elementary, Middle School Portfolio, High School, and Digital Photography exhibited at the Tumblin Creek Spring Arts & Sciences Festival
- “The True Face of Teenage Beauty” student art show by Miranda Barnes [11] was installed in the Blue Wave Gallery
- The Dali Museum’s Student Surrealist Art Exhibit 2019: “Waking Dreams” included work by Lucinda Labrada [11] and Jeanina DelCastillo [Class of 2019]
- Alachua County Library District Fall Teen Art Show — Jasmine Ibarrientos [10]: 1st Place; Ryan Barrera [8]: Best Logo, Best Painting

Clubs, Awards, and Internships

We aim to provide a rich and varied experience for all learners on our campus and know that we can never capture everything that takes place in a school year. Below we provide a snapshot of the many activities in which students were involved.

The Roaring Riptide FIRST Robotics Team #4118 received the Pit Safety Award, a Judge’s Award, and a Team Award and explored new ways to engage with the Assistive Technology community. They participated in the Holiday Toy Adaptathon, and presented at the Assistive Technology Industry Association conference. The team contributed 1400+ hours to promote STEM education and assistive technology outreach and completed 115 assistive technology projects. Sixteen students competed and Joey MacDonald [11], Amaria Williams [10], Kourtney Bryant [10], and Richard Sarkees [9] took 4th

place in their challenge at the Army Corps of Engineering Fair. In FIRST LEGO League twenty-three students from 4th-7th grade perfected robots designed to address a human space flight issue. They enacted FLL’s core values of gracious professionalism and ‘coopertition,’ as they competed in the Cornerstone Practice Tournament and Swamp Stomp.

Four P.K.Yonge teams representing middle and high school competed in Odyssey of the Mind competitions. One high school team placed first in regionals and fourth in the state (Julia Bush [9], Miranda Barnes [11], Abby Freidin [11], Douglas Poole [11], Jaxson Christie [9]), and the other (Kacie Bailey [11], Katie Bates [11], Cierra Boutin [11], Katie Rocha [11], Zane Vesper [Class of 2019], Patryk Weller [11], Samantha White [11]) placed first in regionals and second in the state, while also being recognized with the Ranatra Fusca Creativity Award for outstanding creativity and embodying the Odyssey of the Mind program. This team placed 8th in the world competition — the highest a P.K.Yonge team has ever placed!

In Speech and Debate, one senior (Jahnise Nixon, [Class of 2019]) and two sophomores (Will Eubanks [10th] and Naethan Paul [10th]) competed in the National Catholic Forensic League with more than 2,500 students, with the P.K.Yonge team finishing third in the district. In World Languages, our students brought home three silver medals, four bronze, and nine honorable mentions on the National Spanish Exam, and five students presented with Señora Santiago at the 19th Annual Colloquium of Spanish and Hispanic Literatures, Linguistics, and Cultures at the University of Central Florida. Global Awareness Club hosted their first Cultural Day event, the P.K.Yonge Eurochallenge team took second place (Mya McAfee [10th], Julia Lemos [9th], Andrea Ortiz [9th], Ethen Ungaro [10th]), and Philip Miller [10th]) competed in the state Poetry Out Loud competition.

Twelve students completed executive internships this year as they looked toward taking the next step into their adult lives. We are grateful for their hosts: the VA Hospital, The Hippodrome, McTureous Chiropractic, UF College of Health and Human Performance, Pavlik Orthodontics, Chris Doering Mortgage, TV-20, Newberry Animal Hospital, Atlantic Design, Alachua County Library District, Rawe Recruits, P.K.Yonge Elementary Learning Communities, and LVR Ink. Field trips and class presentations were also made possible by UF Digital Worlds, Baker Baker, Full Sail University, and representatives from GRU, LifeSouth, Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Shands Emergency Room, Koss Olinger, Alachua County Fire Rescue, and the UF Career Connections Center.

The Year *in* Review 2018-2019

Research, Outreach, and Partnerships

We believe the most powerful pathway to improving the school experience and supporting student success is through focused and continuous research. We must pay attention, pose questions, and formalize investigation and analysis for the betterment of all aspects of school. We commit ourselves to sharing the process and the answers we uncover through our work.

Research: Teacher Inquiry

Supporting the research mission of the school and serving as an avenue for professional learning, Teacher Inquiry is where pathways for innovation and school-improvement originate. Teachers engage in highly-relevant action research projects that inspire creative approaches to teaching and learning, motivate reflections on teaching practice to improve student learning, and engage teachers in program development at P.K. Yonge.

Teacher Inquiry projects are embedded in all disciplines and at all levels of the academic experience from Advanced Placement, to elementary math, to theater, and engineering. The following themes were represented in Inquiry work on campus this year:

- Standards-Based Grading
- Assessment
- Student agency, engagement, and motivation
- Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
- Student self-awareness and social emotional needs
- Universal Design for Learning and personalization
- Mastery-Based Learning
- Equity, student behavior, and discipline
- Collaboration, peer support, and peer tutoring
- Students' habits of work
- Technology-supported learning

Outreach

Sharing innovations that are designed and tested at P.K. Yonge is rooted in the school's role as a developmental research school. Each year, we look for ways to share our experiences with educators in the next classroom, across the state, around the nation, and across the globe.

In 2018-19 our focus turned to the Florida Legislature and enhancing our legislators' understanding of the role of a developmental research school. These efforts centered

around a range of activities: our affiliation with the University of Florida and partnerships with researchers across the UF campus, teacher preparation programs and internships, our continued participation in the mastery-based learning pilot since 2016, and our impressive student outcomes across all demographic categories.

Through other outreach efforts, international guests came to us with specific interests in mastery-based learning, systems and structures that support learning and teaching in collaborative learning spaces, organizing instruction for flexible student groupings, and allocating time to planning instruction. Guests from North Carolina focused on investigating the establishment of a university-affiliated lab school, and the Florida Council of 100 visited P.K. Yonge as they toured the state in search of best practices in K-12 education.

One of the most important avenues through which P.K. Yonge's work is shared with the worldwide community of educators is through presentations given by our highly-skilled classroom practitioners and teacher researchers. This year, P.K. Yonge faculty gave 121 presentations at conferences (70 local, 22 state, 5 regional, 15 national, 9 international). Notably, Lynda Hayes, Mollie Bryen, Christy Gabbard, Mickey MacDonald, Tara Palmer, and Macy Geiger presented at the Leadership and Learning Symposium in Cambridge, England, and Jon Mundorf served as keynote speaker at the Harvard Graduate School of Education Principals' Center. P.K. Yonge faculty work is increasingly being published in academic journals and as book chapters, and on professional blogs. This year faculty work was published in *Acts of Resistance: Subversive Teaching in the ELA Classroom* (Miller, Mundorf), an American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language Special Interest Group publication (Santiago), Center for the Collaborative Classroom Blog (Flavin), *English Journal*, *English Leadership Quarterly*, *Land of Opportunity: Immigrant Experiences in the North American Landscape* (Miller), ExcelinEd Blog (Sheppard), the



Florida Journal of Educational Research (Andrews, R., Beckett, Harris, MacDonald), *The Handbook of Research on STEM Education* (Sheppard), *Immigrant Experiences* (Geiger, C.), the NCTE Blog (Boehm, Miller), *Science Scope — NSTA* (Breil), and *Transactions on Techniques in STEM Education and Girls and Women of Color in STEM: Navigating the Double Bind in K-12 Education* (Cordero).

Partnerships

P.K. Yonge partners with researchers from the University of Florida and other institutions to address critical issues in learning. As a laboratory for designing, testing, and disseminating promising practices, research partnerships are integral to achieving the school's mission.

This year, partnerships have included work in **computer science** — strategies for inclusive education (Israel, UF Education) and collaborative approaches (Boyer, UF CISE), **inquiry-based science** — engagement (Pringle, UF Education), lesson study (Lord, UF Education), integrated STEM (Antonenko, UF Education & FLMNH, NSF), plant diversity and human “blindness” to non-flowering plants (Sessa, UF IFAS),

bone biomaterials engineering (James, UF Materials Science), **literacy** both online (Kohnen, UF Education) and reading (Almutwa, UF Education), **mental health** — social emotional learning (Anthony, UF Education), identifying and responding to mental health needs (Saunders, UF Education), social media use and self-worth (Zollicoffer, UF Psychology), language/cognitive development and social group preferences (Sudo, UF Psychology), cyberbullying (Doty, UF FYCS) play-based therapy and positive behavior (Swank, UF Education), **multi-tiered system of supports** — academic enablers (Anthony & Waldron, UF Education), grip strength (Schneider, UF OT), **music** — modern band class (Haning, UF Music Education), **positive behavior system of supports** (Gage, MacSuga-Gage, UF Special Education), **school improvement** — teacher inquiry (Dana, UF Education), **technology** — touchscreen research and development (Anthony, UF CISE), 1:1 Chromebook implementation (Li, UF Education), Virtual Reality and climate science (Pimentel, UF Journalism), engaging underrepresented students in STEM, cryptography, and cybersecurity (Antonenko, UF Education, NSF), and **universal design for learning (UDL)** — technology (Dawson, Dana, Kohnen, UF Education), implicit bias (Kerr, UF Psychology).

Elementary News

Opportunities for learning and growth abound in our creative elementary program with experiences embedded in classroom learning, collaboration, field trips, and project-based work. We can never include everything, but endeavor to share highlights from each community for the 2018-19 school year.

The K/1 community established a new butterfly garden with help from Andrei Saurakov and his team from the Florida Museum of Natural History. As part of their economics unit, students learned about jobs, goods and services, interviewed for and took jobs at the K/1 Pizza by the Creek, and made items to be sold at the Trash to Treasure store. UF President Kent Fuchs and College of Education Dean, Glenn Good, enjoyed their pizza lunch, shopped, and commented on what great service they received! K/1 students visited Depot Park, the Butterfly Rainforest, and Publix, and celebrated the 100th day of school, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Homecoming.



The 2/3 community's Family Culture Night shared traditions, clothing, food, and drinks from around the world and connected students with their local and global community. The Literary Showcase highlighted student writing, providing family and friends an opportunity to read completed work, and the annual Cardboard Arcade put creative engineering solutions to work and raised \$450 for the Wounded Warrior Project. Students engaged with science and art in STEAM clubs, visited Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, and attended a Dance Alive performance.

The 4/5 Treehouse community read *Wishtree* (Applegate) and connected with other communities at the 'wishtree' on the front circle during the Elementary Family Picnic. In the Voices of the Past Museum, students were positioned as curators and, as part of their research learned how experts present findings through field trips to the Florida Museum of Natural History, the Santa Fe Planetarium, and the Santa Fe Zoo. In another authentic learning experience, 4/5 students, all journalists for *The Treehouse Times*, met with Doug Ray, editor of the *Gainesville Sun* and demonstrated learning about westward expansion of the United States by publishing work in their printed special edition newspaper.





PHOTO BY RACHEL ZUCKERMAN [CLASS OF 2020]

Blue Tide

2018-19 was a banner year for the Blue Wave Football Team! Coach Marcus McDonald, his 9 assistant coaches, and the 50 young men who wore the Blue Wave colors had a 10-2 season with a home play-off victory against Bradford High School — an excellent way to end a 14-year absence from the playoffs for the Blue Wave. Congratulations to Coach McDonald and the Blue Wave football team for their hard work, dedication, and an incredible season. Congratulations are also in order for the four athletic scholarships signed at the end of this great season! This great season wouldn't have been possible without a trainer, team families, a camera operator, ball boys, managers, volunteers, and fans!



Costa Rica

Pura Vida! The 2018-19 Rosa Rabell Scholarship group (Cierra Boutin [11], Kevin Concha [11], Ga'leisha Miller [10], and William Brunson [11]) with faculty chaperone, Natalie Andrews, [2-3 Learning Community] traveled to Costa Rica in June on a program that provided a rich, multifaceted experience of Costa Rica. Their language classes developed some survival skills and further enhanced fluency. Living with a Costa Rican family brought new relationships, deeper understanding of culture, and great hospitality and kindness. Travelers were exposed to new animals and important elements of animal welfare, spent time in the rainforest where environmental science was brought to life, and visited San Jose where they encountered beautiful architecture, fine arts, and history.



Faculty Accolades

A finer group of educators there will never be! P.K. Yonge faculty are committed, creative, energetic, and highly skilled. Their roles reach beyond the confines of their classrooms and disciplines as they counsel and encourage learners, sponsor clubs, coach athletics, and take time to engage in deep professional learning.

This year we celebrate Dr. Mickey MacDonald's (HS Biology) promotion to University School Professor, Blake Beckett's (6th Grade ELA) promotion to University School Assistant Professor,

and Christy Barba's (8/9 Learning Community Leader) promotion to University School Assistant Professor.

Cody Miller (9th Grade ELA) was named to the International Literacy Association's (ILA) 30 Under 30 List, joining 29 other educators, researchers, and advocates from across the globe in being recognized for extraordinary contributions to the 'Literacy for All' movement. Mollie Bryen (HS Counseling) was recognized by the College Board Counselor Recognition Program for innovative, results-oriented work in service of student success and opportunity.





Congratulations!

We congratulate Angela Flavin (2/3 Learning Community Leader) on being named P.K. Yonge Teacher of the Year, and Dr. Mickey MacDonald on receiving the first Dennison Teacher Research Excellence Award for her commitment to the mission of the school, research partnerships with the College of Education, and educational improvement for the State and beyond.

Staff

Each year we take a moment to recognize our staff's commitment to our school and the contributions they make to the Blue Wave community. Here's a (non-exhaustive) list of a variety of things our staff members do: greet students and families, take payments, manage attendance, arrange family meetings for Exceptional Student Education services, manage equipment, track our finances, clean our classrooms and offices, supervise students at lunch and after school, troubleshoot our phone system, secure the school campus, repair Chromebooks, write reports for the State, place orders for educational materials, clean up after our students at lunch, organize faculty travel, balance our books, handle medical emergencies, organize our admissions process, enter critical data, organize substitutes, manage our network, and much, much more. Thank you P.K. Yonge staff. We couldn't do school without you.



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

Looking Ahead to 2019-2020

Pioneering the Future

With support from the Florida Legislature, the University of Florida, generous alumni, and supportive faculty, staff, families, and students, construction of our much needed 6th-12th grade facility will begin in the 2019-20 school year! With our existing state-of-the-art elementary building and now our secondary building to be completed in December 2020, P.K. Yonge will serve as a model for K-12 school design in curriculum, teaching and learning, and now architecture. Our learning spaces will spark innovation and provide increased opportunities for university faculty and students, aspiring educators, and our highly skilled and nationally-known K-12 teachers as they partner in their shared quest to invent the future of K-12 education to serve all of Florida's children.

P.K. Yonge's architecture has always been significant to its influence on K-12 education. From pioneering the university laboratory school mission with professors residing in the building in 1934, to integrating the outdoors as a key educational component on our "new" K-12 campus in 1957, we design innovations that transform how students and teachers work together today and in the future.

Already a destination for national and international teachers and school leaders eager to see research and theory in practice, our school's reputation will grow and its impact will extend well beyond our state, and even beyond our national borders.

Work has been underway on campus for a number of years to design and develop systems in preparation for a new model of school and a new physical environment. Secondary teachers will continue to adapt their use of technology to support student learning, refine grading practices to communicate progress toward mastery, and plan for the transition to a new secondary facility.

As the world changes at such incredible speed and the future makes new demands of our next generation, we are making adjustments to the learning experience we design and provide for our students. We are beyond excited about taking the journey into the future of P.K. Yonge with all of you!

Leadership 2018-19

- Lynda Fender Hayes, Ph.D.
Director
- Carrie Geiger, Ed.D.
Principal
- Ashley Pennypacker Hill, Ed.D.
Director of Student and Family Services
- Christy Gabbard, M.Ed.
Director of Program Development and Outreach
- Julie Henderson, M.H.Ed.
Director of Communications
- Kelly Barrett, M.Ed.
Director of Athletics



www.pkyonge.ufl.edu



@pkyongedrs



P.K. Yonge DRS

P.K. Yonge DRS Alumni

P.K. Yonge DRS Athletics

P.K. Yonge DRS Performing Arts

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