



Developmental Research School  
at the University of Florida

# P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School School Advisory Council

**March 29, 2022**

**Member Attendance:** Lynda Hayes, Angela Kohnen, Mickey McDonald, Carla-Ann Brown, Jennifer Greer, Marisa Stukey, Meryl Klein, Angie Gonzalez, Brenda Breil, Wantanisha Morant, Rob Cox, Therese Marie Rigor, Regina Wims

**Member Absences:** Cris Gentilman, Lida Rodriguez Andrade, Janie Williams, Carrie Geiger

**Guests:** Brian Marchman, Caley Rappa, Renee Andrews, Claire Lewis, Kevin Fabulich,

**Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Marisa Stukey**

## **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES**

- Motion to approve minutes by Regina Wims
- Seconded by Angela Kohnen
- Upon vote: Motion passed 12-0

## **MARCH MEETING AGENDA**

- Amendment: next year's sac's members
- Motion to approve minutes by Regina Wims
- Seconded by Brenda Briel
- Upon vote: Motion passed 12-0

**New Director Introduction-** Lynda Hayes

- Dr. Brian Marchman

**Faculty Travel Request-** Leigh Anne Brewster

- FIRST World Championships - Houston, TX
- The students of Roaring Riptide, along with myself, will present about their work, in assistive technology that began in 2017, and has expanded to serve a national community
- Requesting \$649.16
  - Motion to approve funds by Brenda Breil
  - Seconded by Wantanisha Morant
  - Upon vote: Motion passed 12-0

**Teacher Research Presentation:** Rappa and Fabulich

- Caley Rappa: Dinosaur Week: Understanding the Impact of an Inquiry-Based Thematic Unit on Student Reading and Writing
  - During the 2020-2021 school year, she taught a combined kindergarten and first-grade class. Her learners were so interested and engaged whenever friends were discussing or reading anything related to dinosaurs. Given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student learning, she chose to create a thematic unit of study to explore her wondering: In what ways can an inquiry-based thematic unit of study on dinosaurs provide support for reading and writing?

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**DINOSAUR WEEK:** Understanding the Impact of an Inquiry-Based Thematic Unit on Student Reading and Writing By: Caley Rappa

**Wondering:** In what ways can an inquiry-based thematic unit of study on dinosaurs provide support for reading and writing?

**CONTEXT**

- Combined k-1 class
- COVID-19 Impacts on students and schooling
- Need for extra time spent for reading intervention and support
- Dinosaur experts/high interest topic

**DATA & METHODS**

- Student led wonderings- KWL
- Dinosaur Diaries
- Thematic Design including comprehension, fluency, independent work, writing (BME), and lessons to guide students to answer their wonderings
- Culminating Dinosaur Day
- Hands on fossil making, AR dinosaurs on iPads, paleontologist experiences

**FINDINGS**

- Teaching is a walk in the park... Jurassic park
- Utilize your student experts—sometimes your students will know more about something than you do and that's okay!
- Follow the lead from your students. Ask your students what they want to learn about.
- Intervention should be specific and goal oriented.

**IMPLICATIONS**

- When asking a whole class of students what they want to learn, all students can be involved and engaged in a topic they may not love as much as others.
- Using student interests is a key to participation, engagement, and overall creating a love of learning.
- Provides opportunities for collaboration and planning for future themed weeks and activities

- Kevin Fabulich: Promoting Critical Thinking, Self-Determination Theory, and Faculty Collaboration in a Project Based Course.
  - This work builds on observations from prior inquiry that assessed the transition to standards based grading (SBG). Given that the move to SBG increased both student motivation and critical thinking in previous classes, how could curriculum design dovetail with the new grading system to further enhance student motivation and critical thinking? Would implementation of Self Determination Theory principles increase student engagement and production? In a hi-flex classroom on a 4x4 schedule, how could we facilitate critical thinking while responsibly covering course content? What, if any, are the gains from collaborating with instructional support staff to assist this work?

**Presentation & Discussion: Outdoor Learning Committee:** Meryl Klein/Claire Lewis (parents), Renee Andrews (faculty), Eco Club Student(s)

Utilizing the natural environments surrounding our entire campus to enhance the teaching and learning experiences for everyone. Potential ideas:

1. Hilltop terraced orchard garden (work out new steps and terracing from Elem circle to new MS/HS where old steps were)
2. Meditation, labyrinth, garden (between the creek and the PA amphitheater space)
3. Sunshade for amphitheater
4. Formal outdoor classroom area (south of the creek along east side of road)
5. Wetland garden (behind the secondary building leading up to the maintenance road)
6. Informal seating (north of the building, south of the creek)
7. Wet lab deck (west of service drive and south of elementary/service drive bridge)



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8. Bat houses (near coastal engineering property line/PE/athletic fields and at upper elementary)
9. Walking Trails (use what have paved and enhance using map that Ms. Still and science teachers mapped out)
10. Tree Tour (Ms. Andrews' students are working with Mr. Mathien's students)
11. Art garden/planter box area (past the lunchroom outside language wing and just north of art wing); cover fence with art banners
12. Game tables at lunch area
13. Music Garden (West of Elementary music building)
14. ECO Pollinator Garden (outside art wing/north of gym parking area)
15. K-1 Pollinator Garden (east of K-1)
16. Existing Spaces
  - Remnant of Native Pollinator Garden at north end of Elementary Circle
  - Tree with seating SE of Main Office
  - Commons from Gym to MS/HS Building
  - Retention ponds up at new 6th Street entrance
  - NE Covered Basketball Court

### **PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FEES BUDGET 2022-23 DISCUSSION-** Lynda Hayes

- activity fees for athletics restored to pre-pandemic amounts
- supplements for the fall drama and the spring musical have been added
- carry forward the allocation to purchase 2 new vans for increased flexibility in transportation
- credit card fees have increased, so monetary allocations have also increased
- Question to be answered next month: the distinction between director and assistant director of athletics
- voting on the budget will occur next month

### **22-23 SAC MEMBERSHIP-** Lynda Hayes

- Director: Dr. Brian Marchman
- Principal: Dr. Carrie Geiger
- College of Education Rep: TBD
- Student Body President: TBD
- Faculty Policy Council Chair: Dr. Jon Mundorf (1-year term)
- Elementary Faculty Rep: Bryce Stevenson (year 1)
- Middle School Faculty Rep: Carla-Ann Brown (year 2), Secretary
- High School Faculty Rep: Brenda Breil (year 1)
- PKY Support Staff Rep: Tish Andrews-Hawkins (year 1)
- Elementary Parent Rep: Dr. Marisa Stukey (year 2), Chair
- Elementary Parent Rep: TBD (year 1)
- Middle School Parent Rep: Regina Wims (year 2)
- Middle School Parent Rep: Wantanisha Morant (year 1)
- High School Parent Rep: Lida Rodriguez Andrade (year 2)
- High School Parent Rep: Jennifer Greer (year 1)
- Community Members: Janie Williams, Rob Cox, Meryl Klein



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### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT UPDATE-** Therese Marie Rigor

- Separated into grade levels
- 9th graders: planning a 9th-grade night: rising 8th graders will join current 9th graders to share the realities of 9th grade
- 10th grade: planning a field trip to Jacksonville zoo in late May
- 11th grade: in charge of planning prom
- 12th grade: has fundraised for grad bash through selling t-shirts. Senior week and activities are set. Seniors are now focusing on senior projects and graduation

### **FACULTY POLICY COUNCIL UPDATE-**Mickey McDonald

- School Calendar Proposal 2022-2023
  - starting on 8/10 (the earliest day we can start with students based on legislation)
  - Back to school symposium on 8/1 and 8/2
  - Winter PL days are 1/4, 1/5, and 1/6
  - Spring break is during the same week as SBAC and UF
  - School ends on 5/26
    - Amendment: change the October workday from 10/14 to 10/17 to match SBAC
      - Motion to approve the change by Angie Gonzalez
      - Seconded by Angela Kohnen
      - Upon vote: Motion passed 12-0
  - Approval of the calendar overall:
    - Motion to approve 22-23 calendar by Angie Gonzalez
    - Seconded by Wantanisha Morant
    - Upon vote: Motion passed 12-0

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT –** Lynda Hayes

- UF has approved PK to go before the Board of Trustees for construction drawings for a new gym
- Set a fundraising goal of \$2 million for construction. So far we have raised \$300,000+

### **ADJOURN**

- Motion to adjourn the March 29, 2022 meeting by Brenda Breil
- Seconded by Regina Wims
- Upon vote: Motion passed 12-0
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm