FDLRS SUNCOAST
QUARTER 2 NEWSLETTER

SERVING CHARLOTTE, MANATEE & SARASOTA COUNTIES

WHAT'S INSIDE

PK: Early Literacy Tip Sheet

SEL: How to put "Maslow before Bloom" in your class

TECHNOLOGY: The best apps to add to your digital learning toolbox

A NOTE ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The FDLRS Suncoast Associate Center (AC) team works diligently in support of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) through the provision of products, training and services. FDLRS supports occur under the direct supervision of the FDLRS Suncoast Coordinating Council and are aligned with State Performance Plan (SPP) indicators on the Local Education Agency (LEA) Profile. The team works collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure that students, families and educators receive the supports needed for success! The FDLRS AC Team would like to wish you all health and a wonderful start to the holiday season! We welcome input and feedback to this newsletter – let us know how we’re doing!

– Sincerely,
The FDLRS Suncoast AC Team
WEARING A MASK SOCIAL STORY FOR YOUNG LEARNERS

Click here for a social story about how to wear a mask by Autism Little Learners. This free story is for children who may need to wear a mask in public due to COVID-19. It is important to prepare children for big changes in these unprecedented days. This social story has been translated into 11 different languages.

THE FIRST 1,000 DAYS SARASOTA BY THE BARANCIK FOUNDATION

The First 1,000 Days Sarasota website offers helpful resources to boost brain development for parents of young children. If you live in Sarasota County and you are pregnant or have a child 3 or younger, the organization can connect you to free or low-cost services for prenatal or medical care, food, transitional housing, mental health, addiction recovery, daycare, parenting, and more. Click here to be connected to local services.

EARLY LITERACY TIP SHEETS

University of Florida's Lastinger Center has partnered with the Florida Grade Level Reading Campaign to offer parents and teachers of young children with easy-to-implement tips and strategies to build early language and literacy skills right at home. These tip sheets are available in English and Spanish. Topics include asking children to retell a story, how to ask questions about what was read, and child friendly definitions of reading vocabulary.

"High quality early childhood care and education programs can improve children's chances for success in later life. Investing in early interventions timed to take advantage of crucial phases of brain development is necessary for all children. In particular it can improve the lives of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable children and their families, with profound consequences for societies at large." - The World Health Organization
6 WAYS TO STRENGTHEN FAMILY INVOLVEMENT AT YOUR SCHOOL

1. **Volunteering** - Promote participation by offering parents and community members a variety of virtual ways to support your school.

2. **Parenting** - Share parenting tips to help parents create a stable home environment for their children.

3. **Communicating** - Consistently send home information about student learning and school events.

4. **Learning at home** - Share strategies to help parents reinforce learning at home and provide support.

5. **Decision-making** - Include parents in school decisions and give them leadership roles.

6. **Collaborating with the community** - Strengthen your family programs by identifying and integrating resources from the community.

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**Sarasota County Schools Parent Engagement Series**

Sarasota County Schools and FDLRS Suncoast is offering a variety of engaging parent and family activities. Click here to view the flyer and register for these online events.
Edutopia has a toolkit of strategies to meet your students’ social and emotional needs all day long. These ideas can support educators in meeting students’ basic needs for safety and belonging before turning to challenging academic tasks.
RESOURCES FOR REMOTE & CONCURRENT TEACHERS

7 Apps that Inspire Students

Technology expert Jacqui Murray recommends that educators limit the amount of applications introduced to students. "Limit new apps to five. All year. Introduce them; let students get comfortable using them in varied circumstances, in multiple subjects. Only then expect students to take ownership of the apps’ ability to share the student’s knowledge." Read her list here.

25 Tips to Engage Remote Learners

The ed-tech leaders at TechThought have compiled 25 tips to simplify and engage remote learners. Consider using checks for understanding, cold calling, accountable talk, quick team-building games, digital polls, and backchannel discussions. Emphasize student well-being, engagement, and autonomy as you work with them in remote teaching and learning. Read the entire list here.

Three Tools to Make Word Clouds

- Mentimeter
- Poll Everywhere
- vevox

PARENT & FAMILY

DIGITAL LEARNING GUIDE

This "Parent and Family Digital Learning Guide" will inform you, as a parent or caregiver, as you monitor your child's progress as your child accesses and uses technology for learning. This guide aims to help all parents and caregivers, including those who have limited experience with digital tools, those who are expert with these tools, and anywhere in between.
An online presentation isn’t a movie. As a teacher or presenter, you are not a Netflix star putting on a show. Engagement is in the interaction and collaboration with the learners.

—Katie Novak

**USING I-READY TO HELP IDENTIFY AND SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA**

The information provided by the i-Ready Diagnostic for Reading can be used to identify students with significant reading difficulties, including students with dyslexia, who may require additional screening. In addition, the Reading Diagnostic can provide insight into which domains and sub-skills may be impeding instructional progress for struggling readers. [Click here to read “Using i-Ready Diagnostic and i-Ready Instruction to Help Identify and Support Students with Dyslexia.”](#)

**MORE TOOLS FOR YOUR DIGITAL TOOLBOX**

**Educreations**

Educreations is a unique interactive online whiteboard that is friendly to operate. Using this app, you can create appealing videos for the subject content and share them instantly with students. Moreover, it is easy to engage students with video content and help them master each of their subjects.

**Photomath**

Photomath is an award-winning online educational web app. The app has a dedicated team of mathematicians who examine effective math teaching methods, develop solutions for math problems, and more. With the support of this app, you can make students understand concepts in a better way.

**Scratch**

Scratch builds a rich virtual classroom by allowing students to showcase their creative skills to the outside world. Students can combine music, graphics, and photos to create interactive games, animations, and slideshows. These activities make them engaged in learning as well as playing.

**Storybird**

With the support of the Storybird you can create digitally interactive and artistic books in the virtual classroom. You can assign projects to students, give feedback, and more. Additionally, this tool assists in expanding the writing and reading skills of students by giving them challenges to compose stories on their own.
First, remember that your role is a parental one. Your child needs family.

Set up a comfortable space in your home for learning. While school closure for COVID-19 is temporary situation, it is likely that it may be extended as needed to keep people safe.

Establish a schedule. Schedules are important for you and for your child, especially if you are also working from home. Set clear expectations and goals with your child.

Allow breaks and time for recess. Most children don’t have long attention spans, and this can be even more likely for students with disabilities. Many students’ individual education plans (IEPs) include accommodations for frequent breaks, and this will apply to home learning as well.

Limit distractions. Siblings, gaming devices, tablets, television shows, or other distractions are likely to take your child’s attention away from schoolwork.

Allow socialization. Even if playdates are not recommended, you should find ways for your child to interact with family, friends and classmates.

Provide time away from screens. Eye strain, screen glare, and not moving cause fatigue.

Find or create support networks. You are not alone. Everyone is experiencing this, so reaching out can provide you with new resources, ideas, or just plain comfort.

Ask for help. While we are practicing physical distancing and families and teachers are doing their best to continue education, many agencies and organizations are temporarily suspending fees for their online resources so that there are plenty of resources.

The Florida Inclusion Network published a tip sheet for families supporting their children with disabilities at home during COVID-19. Click here to read the detailed list.
Register for our online professional development opportunities in your district’s PD portal or contact angelica.rossi@saratocounty schools.net.

Universal Design for Learning 102: 12/2/20
ESE 101: 1/11/21
Collaborative Teaching: 1/25/21
Accommodations Part 1: 2/2/21

UPCOMING FDLRS/FIN TRAININGS

BEESS Portal to Professional Development Alternatives

FDLRS SUNCOAST SPRING 2021 PDA OFFERINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Instructor(s)</th>
<th>Email(s)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Development and Communication Skills</td>
<td>1/7 - 4/10</td>
<td>60 pts.</td>
<td>David Ursel</td>
<td>david.ursel@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engaging Learners through Informative Assessment</td>
<td>1/11 - 3/1</td>
<td>20 pts.</td>
<td>Jackie Ketzer, Jacqueline Detter</td>
<td>jacqueline.detter@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<td>Transition</td>
<td>1/12 - 4/14</td>
<td>60 pts.</td>
<td>Liz Lewis</td>
<td>liz.lewis@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<td>Differentiating Reading Instruction</td>
<td>1/12 - 4/16</td>
<td>60 pts.</td>
<td>Kim Seth</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ketzh@nefcs.org">ketzh@nefcs.org</a></td>
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<td>PBS: Understanding Student Behavior</td>
<td>1/13 - 3/21</td>
<td>60 pts.</td>
<td>Michael Santagata, michael.santagata@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<td>Assessment &amp; Evaluation</td>
<td>1/19 - 4/12</td>
<td>60 pts.</td>
<td>Karen Mills</td>
<td><a href="mailto:millik@manateeschools.net">millik@manateeschools.net</a></td>
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<td>Exploring Structured Literacy</td>
<td>1/19 - 4/5</td>
<td>40 pts.</td>
<td>Kim Seth</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ketzh@nefcs.org">ketzh@nefcs.org</a></td>
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<td>Foundations of Exceptional Education</td>
<td>2/1 - 4/14</td>
<td>60 pts.</td>
<td>Diane Cunnings, diane.cunnings@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<td>Instructional Practices</td>
<td>2/2 - 4/6</td>
<td>60 pts.</td>
<td>Sara Gaines</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gainess@fdlrs.org">gainess@fdlrs.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Differentiating Instruction</td>
<td>2/3 - 4/5</td>
<td>20 pts.</td>
<td>Kelley Privaldo</td>
<td>kelley.priedit@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<td>Differentiating Science Instruction</td>
<td>2/9 - 4/20</td>
<td>30 pts.</td>
<td>Jackie Detter, Jacqueline Detter</td>
<td>jacqueline.detter@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<td>Technology for Student Success: An Introduction</td>
<td>2/11 - 4/22</td>
<td>20 pts.</td>
<td>Robyn Sadio</td>
<td>robin.sadio@saratocounty schools.net</td>
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<td>Technology for Student Success: Assistive Technology</td>
<td>3/4 - 5/13</td>
<td>20 pts.</td>
<td>Robyn Sadio</td>
<td>robin.sadio@saratocounty schools.net</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Requirements:
- Attend “Face-to-Face” Virtual Meetings (Highly Suggested)
- Possess a computer with internet access
- Submit all assignments electronically using Microsoft Word
- Complete all assignments within given timelines

Registration:
- Sarasota Employees: Register in the PD Portal: https://iis.saratocounty schools.net/PDLogin/
- Manatee Employees: Register in MyPDG

For additional information, please contact FDLRS Suncoast PDA Coordinator: Angelica Rossi angelica.rossi@saratocounty schools.net

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