



INSPIRATION

“Like a drop in the vast ocean, each of us causes ripples as we move through our lives. The effects of whatever we do, insignificant as it may seem, spread out beyond us.”

Newsletter of the Clearview Adult Education Center
Volume 7, Issue 2

September/October 2020

Important Dates

10/14/20	Faculty Meeting
Zoom	1:30 pm
11/1/20	Daylight Savings Time
Ends - Clocks Go Back 1 Hour	
11/5/20	Threat Assessment Drill
CVAEC	11:45 am
11/11/20	Faculty Meeting
Zoom	1:30 pm
12/9/20	Faculty Meeting
Zoom	1:30 pm

11/23/20 - 11/27/20
Thanksgiving Holidays – No School

12/21/20 – 1/4/21
Winter Break – No School

As educators, we are constantly learning. Two areas that I am constantly reminded that are important are Mastering the Art of Listening and Paying attention to the Details, after all not everyone knows how to do them properly. If you Master the Art of Listening, you will improve your leadership skills. A wise leader knows how to listen and actually hear what others are saying. Unless you listen, you can't really know anybody. Listening is love; that's what it really is. I was reminded the other day that my skills as a good listener still need perfecting. We had a student come to us with a tough history of loss. He was working full-time with the City of St. Petersburg Sanitation Department. He had many excuses why he could not come to school or stay the allotted time. He TABE tested low. He was not a talker. He just kept saying, "I did 75%, I did 75%". He came from another county program. All we saw were his TABE scores. We knew we were losing him. He was getting more agitated and frustrated. Finally, I sat down with him and said, "I am trying to hear you". I went to some teachers and asked what I could do? They said to call GED.com and figure out his login with him because he forgot it; maybe there is something there. So, one night we sat down, called GED.com, did some trouble shooting and found out he

passed 2 out of the 4 exams and in one area, he was only 3 points away. He immediately called his mom from school. He was finally heard, and it changed his whole demeanor. He was excited and now had the drive to finish. He looked up at the 25%/50%/75%/100% board with all the names under each percentage and asked, "Can my name go under the 50% column?" I said, "Absolutely!!" The Art of Listening was the key to this success. It is a constant work in progress; paying attention to the details. In orientation with students, listen to what they are saying, make each plan unique to the student. When you pay attention to the details, the big picture will take care of itself. In education, we are constantly perfecting our skills and strengthening our own set of tools. I guess you could say we are sharpening our tools to be better educators and to be successful in life. Seeing the change in attitude in the student I spoke of above was exciting and very rewarding. I did not give up. I persevered until I was successful. I have learned that from my life, my staff and my faculty. We never give up, we work together, and we persevere. We also make sure we have fun too as you see in our newsletters. Sometimes our paths are difficult but finding the joy along the way is important too. We got this!



Clearview Adult Education Center will be offering FSA ELA retakes in November 2020. Students needing a reading score towards graduation should sign up for this opportunity. This test is administered in three different sessions, one session for the writing portion and then two sessions for the reading portion of the test. The dates and times for the FSA ELA retakes are:



• FSA ELA Writing Test - Wednesday, November 4, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.

- FSA ELA Reading Test (Session 1) – Wednesday, November 11, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.
- FSA ELA Reading Test (Session 2) – Thursday, November 12, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m.
- FSA ELA Retake Make-Up (Writing and Reading) – Wednesday, November 18, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m.

Email Abby Campbell at campbellab@pcsb.org or call 727-221-5395 for more information.

Upcoming ACT Test Dates

Test Date	Reg. Deadline	Late Fee
12/12/20	11/6/20	11/7-20/20
2/6/21	1/8/21	1/9-15/21
4/17/21	3/12/21	3/13-26/21
6/12/21	5/7/21	5/8-21/21
7/17/21	6/18/21	6/19-25/21

Upcoming SAT Test Dates

Test Date	Reg. Deadline	Late Fee
12/5/20	11/5/20	11/6-24/20
3/13/21	2/12/21	2/13-3/2/21
5/8/21	4/8/21	4/9-27/21
6/5/21	5/6/21	5/7-26/21



Get Your Flu Shot! Now more than ever, it is important to get the flu vaccine. As flu season quickly approaches and the forecast of COVID-19 remains unknown, experts warn Americans to take extra precautions to reduce the burden on our healthcare systems. The flu shot is the best way to reduce your risk of getting sick with the flu and spreading it to others. For more information about the flu shot and additional incentives from pharmacies, please visit www.pcsb.org/wellness.

Mark your Calendars!! Annual enrollment dates for 2021 medical insurance coverage will be October 14 – October 26, 2020. Employees may enroll, change, or cancel coverages.

The Pinellas County Schools Referendum is up for renewal

Referendum funds boost reading, music and art programs, provide up-to-date technology and textbooks, and help recruit and retain quality teachers. Eighty percent of the Referendum revenue supplements teacher salaries. This year, each teacher receives a salary supplement of \$5,231 as part of their base salary. The Referendum is on the November ballot. Remember to vote! To learn more, visit www.pcsb.org/referendum. See the PCS Referendum Education Video at <https://youtu.be/n9SZa6cwfHE>.



Sunshine Success Story 2020-21 Showcasing Florida's Adult Education Students



Rodney Arroyo arrived at Pinellas Hope Homeless Shelter in March of 2018 after being hit by a motorcycle. Prior to his accident, Rodney was a talented artist and skilled in cutting men's hair, but the severe accident caused considerable damage to his right arm which resulted in the loss of all mobility. Even before coming to Pinellas Hope, Rodney and his family were struggling financially. At that time, he was living with his young daughter and her mother. After the accident, his daughter and her mother were forced to move out of state, and Rodney has not been able to see them since. Rodney was left homeless, without use of his dominant arm, no family, and no diploma. Upon arriving at Pinellas Hope, Rodney enrolled in the GED class located on site through the partnership with Pinellas County Adult Education. While taking classes, he also took it upon himself to learn how to use his left hand and begin the long road of

finding the artist within again. He spent days, weeks and months retraining himself to use his left hand, so he could once again draw and cut hair. He was a determined student and quickly passed two of the four tests, but had trouble hitting the higher score needed on the last two pretests to have the exam fees covered by the school. This seemingly challenging obstacle did not discourage Rodney. Since he didn't have the money to pay for the tests on his own, he immediately contacted friends and networked with people until he booked additional haircut clients and collected the necessary funds for the tests! Rodney scheduled the third test and passed. Left with only the official math test, he scheduled it for the next available day but missed passing by only a few points. Still, Rodney was not discouraged. He worked harder, cut more hair that weekend, and scheduled a retest early the following week. This time he was successful and earned his GED. Earning a diploma was only the beginning however. Rodney loved to cut hair, but it had always been just a hobby for a few bucks here and there. In October, Rodney transitioned from GED classes to the Barbering Program at Pinellas Technical College. He flourished and finished the program in June. He still does not have full use of his right arm but has successfully found employment and is now the newest member of the Ideal Kutz Barber Shop. Without doubt, Rodney is bound for success. Despite what he may have lost in the past, he continually expresses his gratitude for the relationship he developed with our adult education program. A perfect example of this is when he overheard another GED student talking about how nervous he was about an upcoming job interview. Even having never met the young man before, Rodney offered a free haircut to support him in his endeavor. He has been effusive in his appreciation for having been given a new start and believes in paying it forward. Since that initial offer, Rodney has continued giving out free haircuts to our homeless students as his way of saying thank you to Pinellas County CTAE. Such a resilient and positive young man. His new career as a barber is just the first step in his bright future! By Adult Education Managing Officer Margaret Paynter



As we begin the 2020-21 school year, Clearview Adult Education Center would like to thank SPC-Seminole for their unending support of our adult education program. We want them to know they have been an amazing community partner for the past 20 years. We take this occasion to express our sincere gratitude to Mr. Mark Strickland and his staff for working closely with us during this pandemic. Without their sincere efforts to ensure the safety of all our students and staff, we would not have been able to open our class on time for our students who requested face-to-face instruction. Clearview Adult Education Center has been blessed with a wonderful community partner and we look forward to many, many more years of working together with SPC-

Seminole. With our constant partnership we will continue to provide an excellent educational experience for our students. By CVAEC SPC-Seminole GED Teacher Jeani Chua

Adult and Community Educators of Florida (ACE)



Each year, our adult organization for the State of Florida, the Adult and Community Educators of Florida (ACE), recognizes a few individuals that stand out for their accomplishments in the field of adult education. This year, Pinellas County School District had two recipients of these prestigious awards.

One recipient was our very own ABE/GED District Coordinator Anne Morgan. Anne is so deserving of this award. I will share a small bit of what was written about Anne. "What name goes with basketball? LeBron James. What name goes with technology? Bill Gates. What name goes with ABE/GED Education? Anne Morgan. Anne's expertise and experience in this area make her the best candidate. She is always

there for students, teachers, administrators and district leaders. She always has an answer and if not, she will research and find the answer.

She advocates for all her teachers, administrators and students. If we have a training on a Saturday, Anne is there making sure it is set up and ready." We are so very proud of Anne Morgan. Well deserved!!!



"It's never too late to learn."



At 85 years old, Charlie checked a big item off his "bucket list" by earning his high school diploma through our GED program! Before joining our Clearview Adult Family, Charlie retired from a successful 36-year career with the postal service. After the heartbreaking loss of his wife, he decided he was going to accomplish some of the things he had always wanted to do and getting his high school diploma was one of them. It wasn't always easy, especially relearning math after being out of school for so long, but as Charlie says, "It's never too late to learn; your mind needs to be exercised." Charlie's accomplishment is inspiring. He has set a wonderful example for others, especially his 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

He plans to continue studying and will be attending SPC to continue his personal growth by taking some philosophy courses. What else is next? Charlie says he only has one more thing left on his bucket list . . . learning to play the saxophone.

He's beginning lessons soon for that as well. We couldn't be prouder of you, Charlie!!! You are a true inspiration.

Birthday Celebration

Once a month, it has been our tradition to celebrate our students' birthdays with a cake which we share with all the class after singing Happy Birthday in different languages. This year, due to our special circumstances, we are unable to do so but that doesn't stop us from celebrating! Carmen is a lawyer from Honduras and one of our ESOL students. We celebrated her birthday with a special individual cupcake and a candle (not lit so she didn't have to blow it out). We sang Happy Birthday and she took the cupcake home to enjoy with her family. When COVID is over we will have so many things to celebrate, so



many hugs to give and so many good times to share!
Naki Angelou and Gabriela Molina.

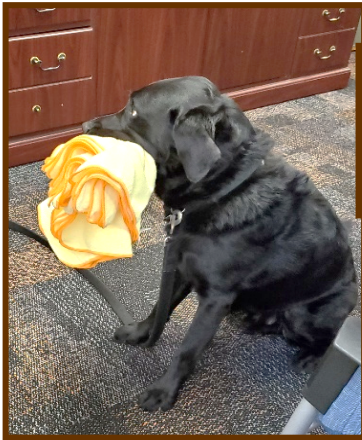
ESOL strong! By CVAEC Largo Library ESOL Teachers

SOMETIMES by David Whyte

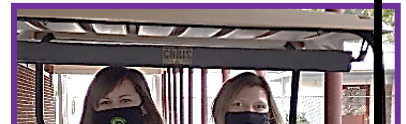
*Sometimes if you move carefully through the forest,
breathing like the ones in the old stories,
who could cross a shimmering bed of leaves without a sound,
you come to a place whose only task is to trouble you
with tiny but frightening requests,
conceived out of nowhere but in this place beginning to lead everywhere.*

*Requests to stop what you are doing right now, and
to stop what you are becoming while you do it,
questions that can make or unmake a life,
questions that have patiently waited for you,
questions that have no right to go away.*

We read this poem together in the ESOL Language Lab. I see it as a great metaphor for our busy minds. By CVAEC ESOL Teacher Patricia Rivera



Buddy, the police dog, stopped by and offered us a “paw” cleaning. Buddy is always a welcome sight here at Clearview. He has that calming effect on the staff and students. Thank you, Barbara Baugher, for bringing him to visit us on your shift. We love seeing Buddy!



To the dismay of Gabe and Tony, the golf cart got a make-over, but they are great sports. The Clearview Staff needed a smile and the golf cart was the smile we got last week. What is next?



Some Friday Fun!!

