



North Florida Region

SEPTEMBER 2011

POSITIVE CHARACTER QUOTES

Motivation will almost always beat mere talent
-Norman R. Augustine

It is time for us to stand and cheer for the doer, the achiever, the one who recognizes the challenge and does something about it.
- Vince Lombardi

Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off the goal.
-Henry Ford

I think a hero is an ordinary individual who finds strength to perseverance and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.
-Christopher Reeve

Victory Belongs to the most persevering.
-Napoleon

Welcome Back!

The beginning of each school year marks the beginning of planning for success.

This year our region will work hard to build the 3 R's: Relationships, Results, and Responsibility.

Relationships will grow within our region as we begin to help our sister schools through initiatives such as our Education Directors, New Teacher Discussion Boards, and School of Excellence Program Reviews.

Results will continue to climb as we enrich and enhance our programs and this will become evident

through the data and surveys we use to measure our successes.

Responsibility will take place in every classroom as the students see their data on boards in the room or notebooks that they record. Together students across each campus will take on the responsibility and ownership of their individual learning gains.



A great quote comes from a fantastic book *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* by Robert C. O'Brien; In the book it is said, "All doors are hard to unlock until you have the key." In the Imagine North Florida Region we are building relationships with others that helps us take responsibility in looking for the key that unlocks the result of success for each student!

Have a wonderful start to the school year and stay positive as we hunt for the keys together!

North Florida Education Directors

Moving forward with a new initiative in the area of instruction is exciting for our region's academic successes. Please know they are here to help you as they work on our regional goals. Please join me in welcoming our new leaders as Education Directors.

Imagine School at Evening Rose.

Primary-Stephanie Smith
Intermediate-Janie Frazier
Middle School-
Melissa Balfour

Imagine South
Lake Charter



Primary- Kathleen Dial
Intermediate-Korrin Dykhouse
Middle School- Kerri Connelly
Imagine School at Town Center
Primary- Angie Address
Intermediate-Jimmy Menard
Middle School- Kristen Rossheim

JOY AT WORK

A Revolutionary Approach to Fun on the Job

*Word to the wise:
Projects under
\$400 have the best
chance of being
funded!*



Advanced Reading Challenge

Reading Challenge Coordinator Materials 2010-2011

Shared Values



Join Task Forces on your campus- to help make a difference. If you are chosen as the decision maker—remember—A “good” decision should make all the

stake holders unhappy because no individual or group got all that they wanted.

Each stakeholder is crucial to our school’s success. Obviously, the school depends on capital, but it also needs teachers, parents, students, and

staff. The value created is the sum of the contributions of all these stakeholders. In return, each stakeholder deserves a portion of the value created.



Economic Sustainability Grant Highlight

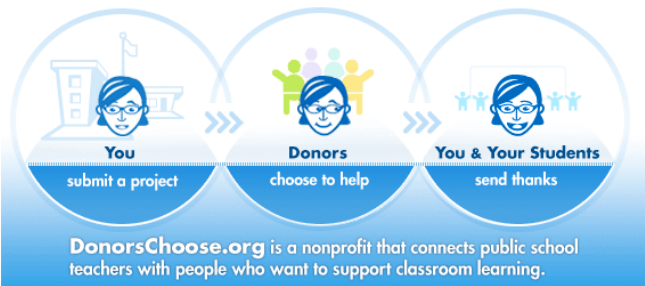
The Basics of DonorsChoose.org

As teachers, you know your students’ needs best. This site is here to provide an avenue for public school teachers to submit project requests for the specific materials their students need to learn.

As the name implies, donors will then choose which projects to support. Once a project is funded, we deliver the

materials directly to the school. In return, teachers submit photos of the project in use and thank-you notes

from students, which are then sent to the project’s donors. It’s simple to register - So what are you waiting for?



Advanced Reading Challenge

The ARC has been revised and updated this summer! Some books were added to the lists, including more non-fiction books! Also, remember that like last year, students are able to choose 2-3 of their own books. These “choice” books must be

approved by the ARC coordinator or classroom teacher. On our region website you can find book lists and coordinator materials. These documents are posted on Inside Imagine as well. Please feel free to get started with the challenge as soon as your stu-

dents are ready! We will be holding a friendly competition amongst our three schools - with a VERY SPECIAL prize for our school who has the most challenge victors! The newsletter will provide monthly updates!

Academic Achievement

Technology- Inspector Gadget

Www.Mindomo.com allows for mindmapping in a very sophisticated way. Users can create idea flowcharts on whatever topic you would like; and then create subtopics, multimedia links, and more.

www.mapsofwar.com contains interactive maps that can make great hooks to put things into perspective for students.

Www.wordsift.com takes Wordle.com to another level. Once you enter your text, a word cloud is generated - as well as a word web and pictures. Great academic structure especially for ELL or struggling readers.

Xtranormal.com is an easy-to-use tool that enables students to create short animated movies using a range of characters and settings. Animate the characters with movements and sound effects.

Www.c-spanclassroom.org provides video clips from with lesson plans, links, questions, etc.

“Tell us your favorite technology tool, website, etc! and be our next Inspector Gadget!”



Important Dates in

September:

National Hispanic Heritage Month

3—Uncle Sam’s Birthday

5—Labor Day

6—Read a Book Day

8—International Literacy Day

11— National Grandparents day

13—Roald Dahl’s Bday

14— Francis Scott Key wrote the Star Spangled Banner

16— Constitution Day

17—National Play Doh Day

21— International Peace Day

23— First day of Autumn

26— Johnny Appleseed’s Bday

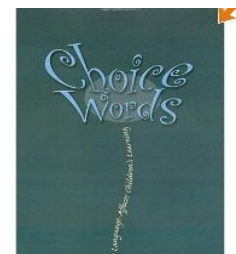
Professional Development Book Review

Choice Words: How Our Language Affects Children’s Learning by Peter Johnston (Stenhouse, 2004)

With just 120 pages, this small book is packed with big ideas about the importance of teacher language. “Choice Words is

groundbreaking work, and perhaps the most powerful and teacher-friendly book ever published,” says Richard Allington, professor of reading education at the University of Tennessee and former president of the International Reading Association. Choice Words suggests that how teachers talk to chil-

dren is critical to how they develop as learners. Creating a healthy environment in the classroom through appropriate language is just as important as selecting content just harder to measure.



\$11.40 new on amazon.com



North Florida Team

Executive Vice President: Diane Beatty

Apprentice Region Director and School Principal of Imagine School at Town Center: Lisa O'Grady

School Principal of Imagine School at Evening Rose: Suezan Turknett

School Principal of Imagine South Lake Charter: Mary Briggs

Region Education Coordinator: Jennifer Fornes

Region Education Director: Stephania Sherman

Region Finance: Cathi Cohen

Region Human Resources: Lorna Potter



Parent Tip

Research shows that parental involvement can free teachers to focus more on the task of teaching children. Also, by having more contact with parents, teachers learn more about students' needs and home environment, which is information they can apply toward better meeting those needs. Parents who are involved tend to have a more positive view of teachers, which results in improved teacher morale.

When communicating with parents, consider your remarks in relation to the 3 categories that influence how parents participate:

- ◇ Classroom learning activities?
- ◇ The child's accomplishments
- ◇ How the parents can help at home with their child's learning

Region Celebrations:

Awards at Forum!

We are very proud of all the National Awards winners! Awards the North Florida Region brought home this year:

Imagine Schools National Teacher of the Year-Linda Williams, Assistant Principal at Imagine School at Evening Rose

Imagine Shared Values School of the Year- Imagine School at Town Center

Imagine Positive Character Development School of the Year Co-Runner Up -Imagine School Town Center

Imagine Schools Parent Choice Runner Up- Imagine South Lake Charter

National School of Character- Imagine South Lake Charter



Share your celebrations with our region....just email me!

2011 Promising Practices Award Winners:

Imagine South Lake

Character Caroling Students at Imagine South Lake take character inspired songs "on the road" by spreading their message of caring to the entire school community during the winter holidays.

Imagine Town Center

Learning with a Purpose Empowered students combine good character with academic goals to make a difference in the world.