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THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANATEE COUNTY FEATURES A STUDENT AND A CAREER &amp; TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

Newspaper in  
 Education Presents  
**Inquizi**  
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## Fostering Lifelong Learning

Hope Goodwin's teaching philosophy focuses on fostering lifelong learners. Hope, a 20 year teaching veteran, is the Early Childhood Education (ECE) teacher in Palmetto High School's (PHS) Early Education Academy. PHS has an on-site preschool, located adjacent to Hope's ECE class, with 12 children currently enrolled. The preschool is the perfect environment for students who wish to learn about early childhood education and the developmental stages. ECE students also have the opportunity to gain firsthand experience through internships at First Baptist Church's Wee World as they progress through the course.

This year has been especially busy and rewarding for Hope. She serves as the FCCLA advisor, where students recently prepared for their first District Competition held at Woodland Baptist Community Church. She has also taken her philosophy of fostering lifelong learning and merged it with mentoring by starting a Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) school-based volunteer mentoring program on campus. PHS BBBS already boasts 25 members who are in the process of being matched.

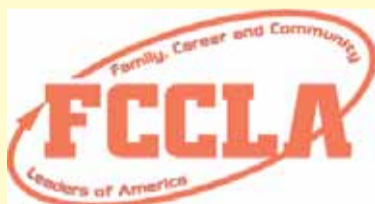
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& Buzz

## Words of Wisdom

Jesse Johnson was tired of keeping to himself. It was a lonely and boring existence. Now Jesse, a friendly senior at Palmetto High School (PHS), walks across campus and says hello to just about everyone in sight. What brought about this amazing transformation? Jesse realized he wanted to participate in life instead of watching it go by. He realized he needed to change, decided to take a chance, and began participating in school activities.

Jesse started by joining Junior Reserve Officers Training Corp (JrROTC) in his sophomore year and never looked back. This year he is the President of Events & Projects in PHS's Family, Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) where he has already organized a skate night. Jesse was also the driving force behind the FCCLA "Rockin' with the Tigers" float for the homecoming parade, which won "Most Original" out of thirty entries.

Jesse has a few words of wisdom to share. First and foremost, he says, "Be yourself, just say no, and resist peer pressure." Excellent advice, Jesse!

InnoVators  
From Zero to Three

Do you have young children around you—siblings, nieces, nephews, or neighbors? Do you know how important you are—you can help them learn!

Early childhood is the most rapid period of human development; kids learn to walk, talk, sing, and run, all by age three. Of course, they don't learn these things solely by themselves. Children's surrounding environments are closely related to how much and how well they learn. When parents, family members, teachers, and caregivers challenge kids and encourage them in learning processes, it helps them advance to the next level of development.

Zero to Three (<http://www.zerotothree.org>) is a helpful website that discusses early childhood development and reminds us that growing up is not a race; each child learns at his or her own pace. The site elaborates on these categories of learning:

- **Language and literacy skills:** Reading and writing may begin in kindergarten, but the foundation for those skills is laid much earlier. Singing songs, talking together, reading books aloud, and pointing at objects enhances a toddler's ability to communicate and develop literacy skills. At birth an infant's brain is wired to seek out language, and like a sponge it will soak up opportunities to learn.
- **Social and emotional development:** A child's sense of who he or she is in the world will definitely impact the learning process, and motivation for learning comes with the desire to connect to others. Coping with challenges and resolution of conflict are crucial in this area.

If you have an interest in working with children, whether it's in a school, daycare, as a baby-sitter, or as a parent yourself, keep in mind that kids are *always* learning. Challenge yourself—what are you doing to help them grow? Are you hindering them in any way? Remember that each child learns differently; don't compare them to other kids. Focus on helping them become well-rounded, intelligent, social men and women who will one day raise kids of their own.

DISCOVER  
the  
Future

**Regional Careers:** Related occupations and current wages in the Suncoast Workforce Region.

Occupational Title	Entry Level	Experienced
Minimum wage	\$6.79	—
Manatee County Teachers – 10 month – Bachelors*	\$38,517	\$60,836
Manatee County Teachers – 10 month – Masters*	\$39,555	\$66,033
Manatee County Teachers – 10 month – Doctorate*	\$44,376	\$74,349
Preschool teachers**	\$13.42	\$15.76
Childcare workers**	\$7.60	\$10.09

**Source:** <http://fred.labormarketinfo.com>  
 FL Labor Market Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics & Wages Program

**Career Pathway:** Students desiring a career in any of these areas can find related educational programs at these schools\*:

Palmetto High School  
 Manatee Technical Institute  
 Manatee Community College  
 University of South Florida

\*Other Manatee schools may offer similar programs. Listed schools are related to today's issue.

WEB  
Wise

Check out the following websites:

[www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)  
[www.teacherscount.org/wannateach/](http://www.teacherscount.org/wannateach/)  
[www.flccla.org](http://www.flccla.org)  
[www.fcclainc.org](http://www.fcclainc.org)

Explore  
IT

## Share Learning by Reading

For this activity, you'll need:

- A children's picture book
- Paper and crayons
- A child, 3 to 6 years old (with parent's permission, of course)

Read a book aloud to a younger sibling or neighborhood child. Depending on the child's age, interact with them in different ways as you read. Point at the pictures and ask them what they are. Ask about colors, or what certain things in the book would sound, feel, or taste like. Ask them comprehensive questions about what's happening in the story. After reading, ask them to draw their own pictures of what happened in the book. Be creative—you are helping them learn!



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