

JUST FOR TEACHERS UPDATES



FloridaTeachersLead.org

April 11, 2018



Florida Educators,

One quality all teacher leaders possess is the ability to affect positively outcomes in classrooms beyond their own. They may do this by participating in an after-school tutoring program, informally mentoring a new teacher, leading a professional learning community, or even posting the school newsletter on social media. With this in mind and knowing that we often learn best from each other, the Florida Department of Education is proudly launching [Florida Teachers Lead](#), a teacher-driven website dedicated to enhancing the teaching profession as a whole.

We are currently in *phase one* of the site's development, and we hope that you will take the time to visit and share your thoughts. The goals of the initial phase are as follows:

- Share the mission, history, and future of the Florida Teacher of the Year Program.
- Introduce and honor the 2018-19 District Teachers of the Year.
- Highlight resources, instructional strategies and blogs by Florida teachers.

Future phases will include:

- Expanding blog posts to include more teachers, authors, education foundations and other leaders in education.
- Sharing teaching videos and resources aligned to the Florida Standards.
- Creating a more direct link for teachers to the Florida Department of Education.

Your feedback is what we need to make *Florida Teachers Lead* a more powerful resource for all teachers. Please share your ideas by emailing me at justforteachers@fldoe.org.

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#FLteachersLead

DOGWARTS HOUSE SYSTEM – SUWANNEE HIGH SCHOOL

Lagging attendance and low student engagement were no match for the Harry Potter-inspired house system that Elisa Hall, Emily Blackmon, and Vanessa Menhennett implemented in Suwannee High School's (SHS) English Department this year. On the recommendation of a friend, Elisa attended the [Ron Clark Academy](#) (RCA), and the experience drastically changed her classroom's culture. Through this professional development opportunity, she discovered that her classrooms needed more rigor and engagement on a daily basis.



The House System

By [Elisa Hall](#), Suwannee High School

The *House System* was one of the many strategies I observed at the Ron Clark Academy and immediately knew I wanted to implement in my classroom. The system encouraged friendly competitions, school spirit, and a comradery that was built as students strived to help each other succeed. To create this system, I collaborated with Emily and Vanessa, who also teach in the English Department at SHS and utilized the artistic expertise of 9th grade student Lauren Hatch who designed the Dogwarts Crest.

Inspired by the Harry Potter Series, our houses, Diligence, Optimism, Generosity, Sincerity, spell the word DOGS because we are the Suwannee Bulldogs. Students compete daily to win the House Championship by earning points for attendance, completion of assignments, hard work, being on task, being engaged, positive behaviors, teamwork, and showing house spirit. With teacher support and [Class Dojo](#), we immediately saw a difference in classroom culture.

[Click here to learn more about Elisa's House System.](#)

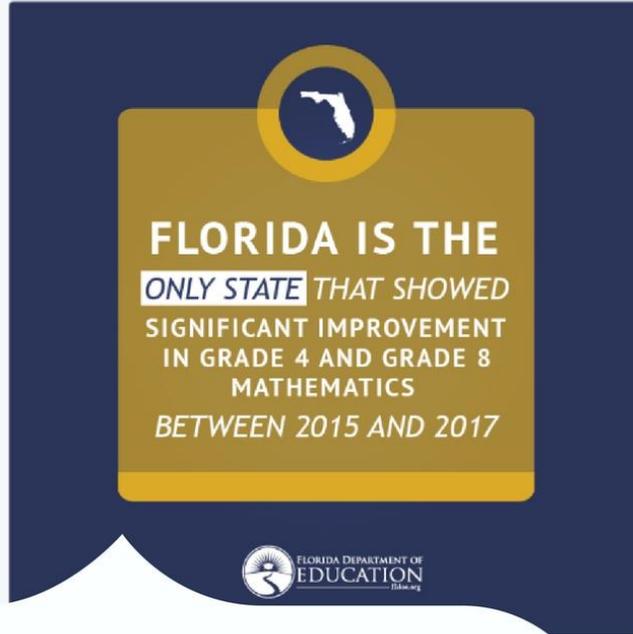
FLORIDA IN THE NEWS



FL Dept of Education @EducationFL · Apr 10

#DidYouKnow Florida is the only state that showed significant improvement in grade 4 and grade 8 mathematics between 2015 and 2017? #FLedu #NAEPDay #NAEP @NAEP_NCES

Find out more: bit.ly/2H7Eg2Z



CONGRATULATIONS,
FLORIDA TEACHERS AND STUDENTS!