

FW: Follow-up email regarding proposed new Bachelor Degrees at SJR State

Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu>

Thu 04/04/2024 8:36 AM

To: Kester, Mary A. <MaryAnnKester@sjrstate.edu>

From: Kristin Carroll <kcarroll@my.putnamschools.org>**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2024 11:13 AM**To:** Tonya Whitehurst <twhitehurst@my.putnamschools.org>**Cc:** Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu>; Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Follow-up email regarding proposed new Bachelor Degrees at SJR State

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

We are very excited about this. Thank you for filling us in!

On Fri, Mar 15, 2024 at 6:14 AM Tonya Whitehurst <twhitehurst@my.putnamschools.org> wrote:

This is very exciting news!!!! We are looking forward to this opportunity for our future teachers!

Thank you,
Tonya Whitehurst
Executive Director, Human Resources
Putnam County School District
386.329.0547

PUTNAM COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Shaping the Future

We shape the future of our community by preparing all students for success in college, career, and life.

On Thu, Mar 14, 2024 at 6:15 PM Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu> wrote:

Dear Kristin,

Thank you for taking the time to talk with me yesterday about St. Johns River State College's plans to develop additional baccalaureate degrees. We truly appreciate your support of our goal of bringing additional opportunities to earn a Bachelor's degree to the residents of Putnam, Clay and St. Johns Counties and that you share our opinion that this will be a good way to potentially expose a new pipeline of students to careers as K-12 educators in Florida.

As we discussed, we are proposing to develop one Bachelor's degree for initial teacher preparation that leads to certification and four other Bachelor's degrees that include K-12 teaching tracks:

- The Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Student Education, which will include the Reading and ESOL endorsements and be an initial teacher certification program.
- The additional Bachelor degrees offered will not be approved for initial teacher certification, but they will include 15 credits of education coursework appropriate for students interested in pursuing alternative teacher certification in Florida (the courses listed on the SOE):
 - BS Biological Sciences
 - BS Social and Human Services
 - BAS Digital Art & Media
 - BAS Performance Design & Production

We are in the proposal development stage now, and it is our intent to launch all five of these new degrees in the Fall of 2025.

We value our partnership with the Putnam County School District and, as always, appreciate the district serving and engaging on our Teacher Education Advisory Board. Please let me know if you have any questions, and I look forward to continuing our partnership!

Dawn Boles

Teacher Education Coordinator

St. Johns River State College

[2990 College Drive | St. Augustine, FL 32084](#)

(904) 808-7456 | FAX (386) 312-4101

Visit us on the Web at SJRstate.edu



Due to Florida's very broad public records laws, most written communications to or from College employees regarding College business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this e-mail communication may be subject to public disclosure.

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

*SUNSHINE LAW AND PUBLIC RECORDS CAUTION: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Virtually all written communications to or from School Board of Putnam County, Florida Personnel are public records available to the public and media upon request. E-mail sent or received on the PCSD system will be considered public and will only be withheld from disclosure if deemed confidential pursuant to State Law. Individual student records are deemed confidential.

--



L. Kristin Carroll
Administrator on Special Assignment
Department of Human Resources
Putnam County School District
386 329-0547

The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential and protected from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by replying to the message and deleting it from your computer. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

*SUNSHINE LAW AND PUBLIC RECORDS CAUTION: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Virtually all written communications to or from School Board of Putnam County, Florida Personnel are public records available to the public and media upon request. E-mail sent or received on the PCSD system will be considered public and will only be withheld from disclosure if deemed confidential pursuant to State Law. Individual student records are deemed confidential.

FW: Follow-up email regarding proposed new Bachelor Degrees at SJR State

Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu>

Thu 04/04/2024 8:35 AM

To: Kester, Mary A. <MaryAnnKester@sjrstate.edu>

From: Parker Raimann <Parker.Raimann@stjohns.k12.fl.us>**Sent:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 10:33 AM**To:** Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu>**Cc:** Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>; Wayne King <Wayne.King@stjohns.k12.fl.us>**Subject:** Re: Follow-up email regarding proposed new Bachelor Degrees at SJR State

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Good morning,

It was great chatting with you this morning and we are so excited to hear about the new programs you are offering. I know that our district has faced a shortage of ESE teachers specifically and to see another program, in county, is a huge relief to us. We are excited to see how we can continue to work together with these new programs.

In addition, I so appreciate the additional Bachelor degrees you are offering that will embed some educational courses for these students.

Thank you,



Ms. Parker Raimann

Director of Instructional Personnel

Human Resources/St. Johns County School District

40 Orange Street

St. Augustine, FL 32084

ph. 904-547-7607

parker.raimann@stjohns.k12.fl.us

From: Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 9:57 AM
To: Parker Raimann <Parker.Raimann@stjohns.k12.fl.us>
Cc: Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>
Subject: Follow-up email regarding proposed new Bachelor Degrees at SJR State

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. **Do not** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Please report suspicious or potentially dangerous emails using the "Phish Alert Button".

Dear Parker,

Thank you for taking the time to talk with me today about St. Johns River State College's plans to develop additional baccalaureate degrees. We truly appreciate your support of our goal of bringing additional opportunities to earn a Bachelor's degree to the residents of St. Johns, Putnam and Clay Counties and that you share our opinion that this will be a good way to potentially expose a new pipeline of students to careers as K-12 educators in Florida.

As we discussed, we are proposing to develop one Bachelor's degree for initial teacher preparation that leads to certification and four other Bachelor's degrees that include K-12 teaching tracks:

- The Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Student Education, which will include the Reading and ESOL endorsements and be an initial teacher certification program.
- The additional Bachelor degrees offered will not be approved for initial teacher certification, but they will include 15 credits of education coursework appropriate for students interested in pursuing alternative teacher certification in Florida (to satisfy the education courses listed on the SOE):
 - BS Biological Sciences
 - BS Social and Human Services
 - BAS Digital Art & Media
 - BAS Performance Design & Production

We are in the proposal development stage now, and it is our intent to launch all five of these new degrees in the Fall of 2025.

We value our partnership with the St. Johns County School District and, as always, appreciate the district serving and engaging on our Teacher Education Advisory Board. Please let me know if you have any

questions, and I look forward to continuing our partnership!

Dawn Boles

Teacher Education Coordinator

St. Johns River State College

2990 College Drive | St. Augustine, FL 32084

(904) 808-7456 | FAX (386) 312-4101

Visit us on the Web at SJRstate.edu



Due to Florida's very broad public records laws, most written communications to or from College employees regarding College business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this e-mail communication may be subject to public disclosure.

FW: Follow-up email regarding proposed new Bachelor Degrees at SJR State

Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu>

Thu 04/04/2024 8:34 AM

To: Kester, Mary A. <MaryAnnKester@sjrstate.edu>

From: Wright, Samantha <samantha.wright@myoneclay.net>**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2024 3:00 PM**To:** Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu>**Subject:** Re: Follow-up email regarding proposed new Bachelor Degrees at SJR State

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Great talking to you Dawn. We completely support the development of additional baccalaureate degrees that will support future educators. If you need any assistance with collaboration with the process, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sam

On Wed, Mar 27, 2024 at 1:06 PM Boles, Dawn <DawnBoles@sjrstate.edu> wrote:

Dear Samantha,

Thank you for taking the time to talk with me today about St. Johns River State College's plans to develop additional baccalaureate degrees. We truly appreciate your support of our goal of bringing additional opportunities to earn a Bachelor's degree to the residents of Clay, Putnam and St. Johns Counties and that you share our opinion that this will be a good way to potentially expose a new pipeline of students to careers as K-12 educators in Florida.

As we discussed, we are proposing to develop one Bachelor's degree for initial teacher preparation that leads to certification and four other Bachelor's degrees that include K-12 teaching tracks:

- The Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Student Education, which will include the Reading and ESOL endorsements and be an initial teacher certification program.
- The additional Bachelor degrees offered will not be approved for initial teacher certification, but they will include 15 credits of education coursework appropriate for students interested in pursuing alternative teacher certification in Florida (to satisfy the education courses listed on the SOE):
 - BS Biological Sciences
 - BS Social and Human Services
 - BAS Digital Art & Media
 - BAS Performance Design & Production

We are in the proposal development stage now, and it is our intent to launch all five of these new degrees in the Fall of 2025.

We value our partnership with the Clay County School District and, as always, appreciate the district serving and engaging on our Teacher Education Advisory Board. Please let me know if you have any questions, and I look forward to continuing our partnership!

Dawn Boles

Teacher Education Coordinator

St. Johns River State College

2990 College Drive | St. Augustine, FL 32084

(904) 808-7456 | FAX (386) 312-4101

Visit us on the Web at SJRstate.edu



Due to Florida's very broad public records laws, most written communications to or from College employees regarding College business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this e-mail communication may be subject to public disclosure.

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. This communication may contain privileged and confidential information intended only for the addressee(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution or duplication of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.



**Board of County
Commissioners**

P.O. Box 1366
477 Houston Street
Green Cove Springs, FL
32043

Area Code: 904
Phone: 284-6352
269-6352
Fax: 278-4731

County Manager
Howard Wanamaker

Commissioners:
Mike Cella
District 1

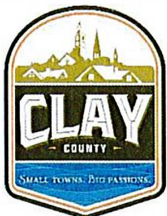
Alexandra Compere
District 2

Jim Renninger
District 3

Betsy Condon
District 4

Kristen Burke, DC
District 5

Switchboard:
GCS (904) 284-6300
KH (352) 473-3711
KL (904) 533-2111
OP/MBG (904) 269-6300
www.claycountygov.com



May 14, 2024

President Joe Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

RE: Letter of support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens,

On behalf of the Clay County Board of County Commissioners, it is my pleasure to offer this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The degrees you are proposing, BS degrees in Exceptional Student Education, Biological Sciences, and Social and Human Services, as well as BAS degrees in Digital Art & Media and Performance Design & Production, will all prepare graduates for entry into high wage, high demand careers. Many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs. In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of Clay County to earn a high quality, low cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering such degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

State colleges that offer baccalaureate programs provide the most economical means of achieving a four-year degree. Local state colleges, like St. Johns River State College, offering programs that include the baccalaureate degrees listed above will enhance resident satisfaction and provide for increased economic development in Clay County.

It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Jim Renninger".

Jim Renninger, Chairman
Clay County Board of County Commissioners



PUTNAM COUNTY

2509 Crill Avenue, Suite 200
Palatka, Florida 32177
(386) 329-0212

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Larry Harvey
County Commissioner, District 4

April 25, 2024

Baccalaureate Proposals
President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River
State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's
Dear President Pickens:

As the current chairman of the board of the Putnam County Board of County Commissioners, it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The BS in Exceptional Student Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Social and Human Services, BAS in Digital Art & Media, and BAS in Performance Design & Production degrees proposed by SJR State will all prepare graduates for entry into high-wage, high-demand careers, and many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs. In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high-quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce. This is an exciting time in the history of our local college. To be able to provide higher learning opportunities for citizens of this region so they can become the leaders of tomorrow that we need.

I could not be more happy than I am today in celebrating this great path forward.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Harvey", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Larry Harvey
Putnam County Commissioner
Larry.harvey@putnam-fl.gov
Cell: 386-916-8923
Office: 386-329-0205



St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners
Office of the Board of County Commissioners

May 17th, 2024

President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens:

On behalf of the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners, it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The BS in Exceptional Student Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Social and Human Services, BAS in Digital Art & Media, and BAS in Performance Design & Production degrees proposed by SJR State will all prepare graduates for entry into high wage, high demand careers, and many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs.

In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Sincerely,

Sarah Arnold, Chair
District 2



careersourcenefl.com

April 24, 2024

President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens:

On behalf of CareerSource Northeast Florida, it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The BS in Exceptional Student Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Social and Human Services, BAS in Digital Art & Media, and BAS in Performance Design & Production degrees proposed by SJR State will all prepare graduates for entry into high wage, high demand careers, and many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs. In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Sincerely,

Bruce Ferguson, Jr.

Bruce Ferguson
President

Corporate Office
| 1845 Town Center Blvd., Suite 250
Fleming Island, FL 32003
p: 904-213-3800 | f: 904-516-9217





CLAY FLORIDA

Economic Development Corporation
POSSIBILITY FLOWS | JUST SOUTH OF JACKSONVILLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman:

George Egan
Reinhold Corporation

Vice-Chairman:

Van Royal
EXIT Magnolia Pt. Realty

Treasurer/Secretary:

Frank Miller
Gunster Law

DIRECTORS

Ted McGowan
Reynolds Park/Clay Cty. Port

Jerry Agresti
Developers Realty Group

Morgan Wilbanks
Stellar

Rob Bradley
Bradley, Garrison & Komando P.A.

Russell Buck
TD Bank

Brian Knight
Pragmatic Works

Michael Rathjen
VyStar Credit Union

Kevin Rinks
Ascension St. Vincent's

Joe Mobley
The Fiorentino Group

Joe Pickens
St. Johns River State College

Jeff Taylor
HCA Florida OP Hospital

PRESIDENT

Crawford Powell

April 24, 2024

President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Dear President Pickens:

Clay County Economic Development Corporation is pleased to support the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The BS in Exceptional Student Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Social and Human Services, BAS in Digital Art & Media, and BAS in Performance Design & Production degrees proposed by SJR State will all prepare graduates for entry into high wage, high demand careers, and many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs. In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public college offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

Clay EDC works to recruit high-wage employers. Programs such as those proposed make our community tremendously more valuable when recruiting quality employers seeking a trained and ready workforce.

If I can provide additional resources or data, please do not hesitate to reach out. It is an honor to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to expand the offerings with these new baccalaureate degree programs to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Respectfully,

Crawford Powell, President



Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.

April 24, 2024

President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens:

On behalf of Clay Electric Cooperative, it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The BS in Exceptional Student Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Social and Human Services, BAS in Digital Art & Media, and BAS in Performance Design & Production degrees proposed by SJR State will all prepare graduates for entry into high wage, high demand careers, and many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs. In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

As a former educator who has transitioned into the private sector, I have seen both private and public institutions benefit from having a well-educated workforce. My bachelor's degree in education provided a good career for me and my family early on and has since enabled me to advance into a leadership role at Clay Electric. Had it not been for my degree and the knowledge, skills, and abilities a 4-year program afforded me, I would not be where I am today.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Sincerely,

Derek Hembree
District Manager
Palatka District
300 N State Road 19
Palatka, FL 32177



F L O R I D A ' S
Putnam County
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

May 6, 2024

President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens:

On behalf of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce I am pleased to submit this letter of support for for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

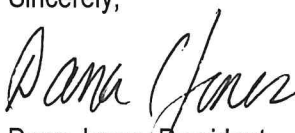
The Bachelor of Science degrees in Exceptional Student Education, Biological Sciences, Social and Human Services, along with Bachelor of Applied Science degrees in Digital Art & Media and Performance Design & Production degrees all proposed by SJR State will prepare graduates for entry into high wage/high demand careers. Many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs.

Florida has a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

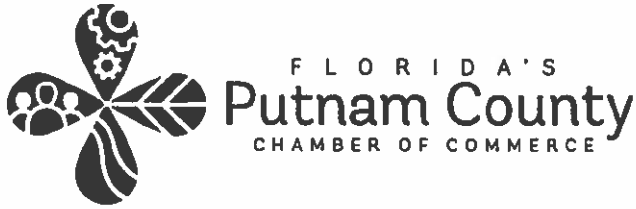
The Putnam County Chamber of Commerce is engaged in community development, economic development, workforce development and many quality-of-life efforts. We work with many partners, like SJR State College, to make Putnam County a great place to live, work and play. The benefits gained to the community through the approval of this request from SJR State will address workforce and economic needs and have a widespread positive effect on the business community and the overall economic climate.

It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,


Dana Jones, President





April 24, 2024

President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens:

On behalf of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce & Putnam County Economic Development Council (*PCEDC*), it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The BS in Exceptional Student Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Social and Human Services, BAS in Digital Art & Media, and BAS in Performance Design & Production degrees proposed by SJR State will all prepare graduates for entry into high wage, high demand careers, and many employment opportunities that exist within our local community for graduates of these programs. In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

Our primary mission is to leverage job creation in Putnam County for our citizens so that graduates can remain local and raise their families!

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Litten
Vice-President, Economic Development



Sheriff

H.D. "Gator" DeLoach
Putnam County Sheriff's Office



130 Orié Griffin Blvd.
Palatka, FL 32177
(386) 329-0800
www.putnamsheriff.org

25 April 2024

President Joe H. Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens:

On behalf of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

The BS in Exceptional Student Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Social and Human Services, BAS in Digital Art & Media, and BAS in Performance Design & Production degrees proposed by SJR State will all prepare graduates for entry into high wage, high demand careers, and many employment opportunities exist within our local community for graduates of these programs. In Florida, there is a well-documented critical teacher shortage, and graduates of programs in STEM, human services, digital media, and performance production are all in high demand as well. In addition to addressing employers' hiring challenges, the proposed programs will enable the residents of our community to earn a high quality, low-cost baccalaureate degree from the only public College offering baccalaureate degrees in our county, greatly increasing the likelihood that we retain these graduates in our local community and workforce.

Our ability to meet societal demands on law enforcement agencies to become more professional requires that our members are well educated. The requirement not only includes criminal justice related disciplines, but it also includes areas such as human services and digital technology. The Sheriff's Office currently partners with SJRSC in a scholarship program for our members desiring to further their education. These additional BS degrees will benefit our agency and our community.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Colonel Joseph Wells
Chief Deputy, Putnam County Sheriff's Office

West District Office
108 N. County Road 315
Interlachen, FL 32148
(386) 329-0848



A State Accredited Agency



CLAY COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOLS

900 WALNUT STREET, GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FL 32043

P (904) 336-6500 F (904) 336-6536 W oneclay.net

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

David S. Broskie

BOARD MEMBERS:

Erin Skipper, District 1
Mary Bolla, District 2
Beth Clark, District 3
Michele Hanson, District 4
Ashley Gilhousen, District 5

May 22, 2024

President Joe Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens,

On behalf of Clay County District Schools, it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

Florida's statewide teacher shortage is well documented, and these proposed baccalaureate degrees align with the local needs of our School District. The Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Student Education will be an initial teacher certification program in a critical needs area, and the baccalaureate degrees in Biological Sciences, Social & Human Services, Digital Art & Media, and Performance Design & Production will include 15 credits of education coursework that satisfy the education courses listed on the Statement of Eligibility for students interested in pursuing alternative teacher certification in Florida. In addition to exposing a new pipeline of students to careers as K-12 educators in their local community, these baccalaureate degree options will provide our high school graduates with additional opportunities to earn affordable Bachelor's degrees close to their homes.

Clay County District Schools values our partnership and the opportunities afforded by St. Johns River State College that support our educational needs by providing the necessary education for individuals to become highly qualified instructional candidates.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Sincerely,

David S. Broskie
Superintendent of Schools



Tim Forson
Superintendent of Schools

40 Orange Street
St. Augustine, Florida 32084
(904) 547-7500
www.stjohns.k12.fl.us

SCHOOL BOARD

May 23, 2024

Beverly Slough
District 1

Anthony E. Coleman Sr.
District 2

Jennifer Collins
District 3

Kelly Barrera
District 4

Patrick Canan
District 5

President Joe Pickens
St. Johns River State College
5001 St. Johns Avenue
Palatka, FL 32177

Re: Letter of Support for SJR State's Baccalaureate Proposals

Dear President Pickens:

On behalf of St. Johns County School District, it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the baccalaureate degrees being proposed by St. Johns River State College.

Florida's statewide teacher shortage is well documented, and these proposed baccalaureate degrees align with the local needs of our School District. The Bachelor of Science in Exceptional Student Education will be an initial teacher certification program in a critical needs area, and the baccalaureate degrees in Biological Sciences, Social & Human Services, Digital Art & Media, and Performance Design & Production will include 15 credits of education coursework that satisfy the education courses listed on the Statement of Eligibility for students interested in pursuing alternative teacher certification in Florida. In addition to exposing a new pipeline of students to careers as K-12 educators in their local community, these baccalaureate degree options will provide our high school graduates with additional opportunities to earn affordable bachelor's degrees close to their homes.

Furthermore, the development of these five bachelor's degree programs will fulfill an unmet need in St. Johns, Clay, and Putnam counties, as there is currently no school offering these programs. Beyond producing teachers, these degrees would prepare local students for jobs in scientific labs and research, social work and counseling, animation, audio production, as well as video editing. All programs would allow graduates to transfer to postgraduate programs as well as K-12 education.

The St. Johns County School District will inspire good character and a passion for lifelong learning in all students, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.

President Joe Pickens
May 23, 2024
Page 2 of 2

Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide additional information. It is a pleasure to support you and St. Johns River College as you work to bring these new baccalaureate degree offerings to the residents of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties.

Sincerely,



Tim Forson
Superintendent of Schools

/gcf

Institution Type: **College**

Institution: **Saint Johns River State College**

Program Location: **Clay, Putnam, & St. Johns Counties**

Program Name: **Bs In Exceptional Student Education**

Program Level: **Bachelors**

CIP Family: **13 Education**

CIP 4 Digit: **13.10 Special Education And Teaching**

CIP 6 Digit: **13.1001 Special Education And Teaching, General**

Anticipated Beginning Term: **Fall 2025**

Program Description **The Bachelors of Science in Exceptional Student Education with endorsements in Reading (K-12) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL, K-12) (CIP Code 13.1001) proposed by St. Johns River State College will be a 2+2 program designed to train and educate teachers to assist and empower children with disabilities who need specially designed instruction and related services to meet the increasing demand for locally ESE-credentialed educators. With a focus on a high-quality education, flexibility and experiential learning, this degree provides an opportunity for all students, specifically non-traditional students, to pursue their BS degree in an educational setting best suited for their needs. SJR States graduates will help meet the existing demand for Special Education teachers in Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties. Teachers certified in ESE currently ranks first on the Florida Department of Education's list of critical teacher shortages statewide. St. Johns River State College will be the only higher education institution within the three-county area to offer this degree, and within the College's Workforce Region 8 the annual unmet need of graduates is over 140.**

Primary Contact Name: **Edward Jordan**

Primary Contact Email: **EdwardJordan@sjrstate.edu**

Primary Contact Phone:

Secondary Contact Name: **No Secondary Contact**

Secondary Contact Email:

Secondary Contact Phone:

From: [Treese, Tyler](#)
To: [Brown, Dr. Melanie](#)
Cc: [Sfiropoulos, Mike](#)
Subject: SJRSC - APPRiSe Submission Receipt BS Exceptional Student Education
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 10:27:22 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-1517587272.png](#)
[Bacc Approval Process Manual Revised 2023-05-19.docx](#)

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Hello St. Johns River State College Baccalaureate Liaison,

Based on your recent baccalaureate submission in APPRiSe, the Division of Florida Colleges would like to offer assistance as you are working through the approval process. Section [1007.33](#), Florida Statutes and Rule [6A-14.095](#), Florida Administrative Code, outline the requirements for the approval process. Additionally, the attached document, Baccalaureate Approval Process Manual, is a quick overview of the steps, timeframes, and who is responsible for each step in the process.

As you are moving through the process, we will copy you on each of the notifications, and we will confirm the receipt of your submission. To complete the Notice of Intent and Proposal workforce data requests, use the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's State Colleges Projections Portal, which is the resource for your local workforce data <http://www.floridajobs.org/workforce-statistics/products-and-services/state-collegesprojections-portal>.

Thank you for serving as your college's baccalaureate liaison. Please feel free to reach out should you have any questions. I have included the Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Mike Sfiropoulos, as an additional contact and resource.

Thank You,

Tyler Treese
Academic Affairs Officer
Division of Florida Colleges
325 W. Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
850-245-9047 (Office)



Visit the Florida College System on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

Please note that Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials are public records available to the public and media upon request.

From: Sfiropoulos, Mike <Mike.Sfiropoulos@fldoe.org>

Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 10:04 AM

To: Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>

Cc: Treese, Tyler <Tyler.Treese@fldoe.org>; Humphrey, Clifford <Clifford.Humphrey@fldoe.org>; Smith1, Lorie <Lorie.Smith1@fldoe.org>

Subject: APPRISe Comment from UNF - St. Johns River State College: B.S. in Exceptional Student Education

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Dear Dr. Brown,

I hope you are doing well.

The University of North Florida (UNF) submitted a comment in the Academic Program Pre-Proposal System (APPRISe) in response to SJRSC's proposal for a B.S. in Exceptional Student Education. The comment is included below for your reference. Although we have not received the Notice of Intent, the timeline to submit the proposal remains the same, which would be after the 100-day period from the date the NOI is first submitted. In other words, the comment left by UNF does not affect the timeline of this proposal.

04-05-2024, UNF, John Kantner - *"We would like to express our concerns regarding the potential impact of this proposed program on the enrollments of existing programs, particularly at the University of North Florida. We have a well-established ESE program with endorsements in Reading (K-12) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL, K-12). We have recently invested significant resources in redesigning our programs to ensure accessibility and flexibility for all students. Our program has been carefully redesigned to meet the needs of a diverse student population, including non-traditional students, by offering multiple pathways to licensure, including online and apprenticeship models. Expanding our existing program to accommodate a larger number of students has been particularly in response to the critical shortage of Special Education teachers statewide. Our efforts to meet this demand have involved collaborating with local school districts and community partners, including Clay and St Johns Counties, to provide practical, hands-on training opportunities for aspiring educators. We are concerned that the introduction of a similar program at SJR State, particularly within our College's Workforce Region 8, will have a detrimental impact on our own enrollments. SJR State's program will draw prospective students away from UNF as their tuition is lower. This will create direct competition for a degree program that already struggles to attract a significant number of students in across Florida."*

Although an objection or alternative proposal were not submitted by UNF, SJRSC will still have the opportunity to address the comment, specifically in Section 15.2 of the proposal form, where SJRSC may provide a response. We also recommend that SJRSC include the comment in the appendices of the proposal.

Please feel free to reach out should you have any questions.

Thank you,

Mike

Mike Sfiropoulos, Ph.D.

Associate Vice Chancellor

Academic and Student Affairs

Division of Florida Colleges

325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1232B

Tallahassee, FL 32399

850.245.9523 (Office)



From: [Brown, Dr. Melanie](#)
To: [Kantner, John](#)
Subject: RE: APPRISe Comment from UNF - St. Johns River State College: B.S. in Exceptional Student Education
Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 12:33:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thank you for taking the time to pull and send this data, Dr. Kantner. I understand and appreciate UNF's perspective on this. Enrollment in our BS in Early Childhood Education is not as robust as we would like, but we share the challenges UNF has in recruiting students to the teaching profession and have the added challenge of the GK being a prerequisite to admission in our program. Our goal is not to poach your students but to instead provide a baccalaureate opportunity for students who are unable to attend UNF due to the distance to campus and their work and family obligations. The vast majority of SJR State's AA graduates articulate to UNF, and we are proud of our longstanding partnership and believe that UNF should continue to be the first choice for the majority of students from our service district. Featured on both [SJR State's](#) and [UNF's](#) websites is the articulation agreement between our institutions dubbed the "Gateway Program," and I am pleased to report that we have UNF recruiters and advisors on our three campuses regularly, working with our students who are preparing to transfer to UNF.

After receiving your email, I pulled updated addresses for our currently enrolled Early Childhood Education Bachelors students. This is the list of admitted, active students who have completed the AA and GK and are in years 3 and 4 of their baccalaureate program. We currently have 44 BS-ECE students, and with the exception of one student who lives in Bunell, all live in our three-county service district of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties. The greatest concentration of students by zip code is in 32068 which is west of Fleming Island out to Camp Blanding south to Penney Farms and north to Clay Hill and Jennings Forest. Of the students living in St. Johns County, only one lives as far north as World Golf Village, and the remainder live in southern St. Augustine, many almost to the Flagler County line. These are the zip codes that the majority of students in all of SJR State's degree programs live, and we anticipate that would be the case for the proposed BS-ESE degree as well. I have included the student enrollment city and zip list at the bottom of this email for your information.

I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you and Dr. Kane about this and also about establishing an articulation agreement for our BS-ECE graduates to UNF's graduate programs. This conversation is important to me, so if you tell me a date that works, I can modify my calendar to enable me to come to UNF to meet with you and Dr. Kane or whoever you recommend on Monday June 17 in the morning or anytime Tuesday June 18, Monday July 1, Tuesday July 2, Wednesday July 3, Monday July 8, or Tuesday July 9. After that it will be more challenging for me to modify my calendar, but please suggest a few options and I will make it work.

I know that we both strive to meet the educational needs of northeast Florida while protecting the interests of our institutions. I very much appreciate the candid, thoughtful discussion. I hope to hear from you soon.

St. Augustine	32084
St. Augustine	32086
St. Augustine	32084
St. Johns	32259

Melanie Brown, Ph.D.
Chief Operating Officer & Senior Vice President
St. Johns River State College

(386) 312-4202 work | (904) 669-2221 mobile
melaniebrown@sjrstate.edu
Visit us on the Web at SJRstate.edu

From: Kantner, John <j.kantner@unf.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 5:18 PM
To: Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>
Subject: Re: APPRiSe Comment from UNF - St. Johns River State College: B.S. in Exceptional Student Education

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Good afternoon Dr. Brown:

I was able to finally discuss this in more detail with Dr. Jennifer Kane, the interim dean of UNF's College of Education & Human Services. Our provost, Dr. Karen Patterson, is also the former chair of the department housing our ESE program. Their concern is related to your comment that "SJR State is prepared to operate a Bachelors in ESE even with what is anticipated to be relatively low enrollment." Our enrollment is already low, with only 6 graduates in the 2023–2024 year. They feel strongly that the student demand is so modest for ESE programs that SJR State and UNF will mostly end up splitting the enrollment, leading to both programs failing.

I just pulled the current student enrollment in our ESE program, and here are their home addresses (I only removed those with no address on file):

CITY	STATE
Bonita Spgs	FL
St Augustine	FL

Deland	FL
Jacksonville	FL
Bangor	PA
Saint Johns	FL
St Augustine	FL
Bradenton	FL
Middleburg	FL
Jax Bch	FL
Jacksonville	FL
Jacksonville	FL
Tallahassee	FL
Jacksonville	FL
Jacksonville	FL
Fern Bch	FL
Champaign	IL
Jacksonville	FL
St Johns	FL
Saint Johns	FL
Saint Johns	FL
APO	AE
Hilliard	FL
Providence	RI

You can see why we're so concerned about your proposed program! If we could develop some kind of articulation between your associate's degree and our BS, that would seem to better serve the region's needs. Would that be a better model?

John Kantner, PhD, RPA
Senior Associate Provost of Faculty & Research
University of North Florida

Academic & Student Affairs
1 UNF Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32224-7699
<https://www.unf.edu/asa/>
<http://www.unf.edu/research/>

j.kantner@unf.edu
(904) 620-4650
<https://kantner.domains.unf.edu>

From: Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>

Date: Monday, April 22, 2024 at 5:34 PM

To: Kantner, John <j.kantner@unf.edu>

Subject: FW: APPRiSe Comment from UNF - St. Johns River State College: B.S. in Exceptional Student Education

Dear Dr. Kantner,

This email is in response to the comment entered earlier this month by UNF in the APPRISE system regarding SJR State's intent to develop a BS in Exceptional Student Education.

I understand that UNF has additional capacity in its Bachelors in Exceptional Student Education, but SJR State does not view the program we are proposing as competition for UNF. Residents of our service district have requested that we offer additional baccalaureate options within Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties due to the distance between their homes and nearby public postsecondary institutions offering baccalaureate degrees. This is particularly true for the residents of Putnam County. In addition, our potential students have indicated that they do not want all online classes but that they instead want their courses to be offered at night as many are non-traditional students. Our program will require students to come to our campuses to take their courses, and our courses will meet in the evenings. We anticipate that our students will be working full-time with the exception of during their internship and other field experiences.

I know that you are aware of the critical shortage of certified ESE teachers in Florida. Even though we recognize that recruiting students for the program will be a challenge, a bachelors degree in ESE is a logical program addition for SJR State as it complements our established bachelors in Early Childhood Education. Our partners at the Clay County, St. Johns County, and Putnam County School Districts have all reported that graduates of our Bachelors in Early Childhood Education are exceptionally well prepared, successful teachers. Just as our BS in Early Childhood does, the BS in ESE that we propose would include the reading and ESOL endorsements. Our established BS in Early Childhood and proposed BS in ESE would share several common courses, minimizing the number of new courses that we would need to add, and in order to contribute to the production of graduates in this field, SJR State is prepared to operate a Bachelors in ESE even with what is anticipated to be relatively low enrollment.

I understand that UNF does not support SJR State's plan to develop a Bachelors Degree in Exceptional Student Education; however, based on the comment that was entered in APPRISE, I am unclear if UNF is planning an alternative proposal to offer a Bachelors Degree in Exceptional Student Education at a location somewhere in Putnam, Clay, and St. Johns Counties. UNF is the primary transfer destination of our AA students, and SJR State has a long-standing relationship with UNF that we sincerely value. I reach out to you for guidance on next steps. Would you like to schedule a phone call or Zoom for the two of us or an in-person meeting with a larger group from both of our institutions?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you!

Melanie Brown, Ph.D.
Chief Operating Officer & Senior Vice President
St. Johns River State College
(386) 312-4202 work | (904) 669-2221 mobile

melaniebrown@sjrstate.edu

Visit us on the Web at SJRstate.edu

From: Sfiropoulos, Mike <Mike.Sfiropoulos@fldoe.org>

Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 10:04 AM

To: Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>

Cc: Treese, Tyler <Tyler.Treese@fldoe.org>; Humphrey, Clifford <Clifford.Humphrey@fldoe.org>; Smith1, Lorie <Lorie.Smith1@fldoe.org>

Subject: APPRiSe Comment from UNF - St. Johns River State College: B.S. in Exceptional Student Education

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Dear Dr. Brown,

I hope you are doing well.

The University of North Florida (UNF) submitted a comment in the Academic Program Pre-Proposal System (APPRiSe) in response to SJRSC's proposal for a B.S. in Exceptional Student Education. The comment is included below for your reference. Although we have not received the Notice of Intent, the timeline to submit the proposal remains the same, which would be after the 100-day period from the date the NOI is first submitted. In other words, the comment left by UNF does not affect the timeline of this proposal.

04-05-2024, UNF, John Kantner - *"We would like to express our concerns regarding the potential impact of this proposed program on the enrollments of existing programs, particularly at the University of North Florida. We have a well-established ESE program with endorsements in Reading (K-12) and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL, K-12). We have recently invested significant resources in redesigning our programs to ensure accessibility and flexibility for all students. Our program has been carefully redesigned to meet the needs of a diverse student population, including non-traditional students, by offering multiple pathways to licensure, including online and apprenticeship models. Expanding our existing program to accommodate a larger number of students has been particularly in response to the critical shortage of Special Education teachers statewide. Our efforts to meet this demand have involved collaborating with local school districts and community partners, including Clay and St Johns Counties, to provide practical, hands-on training opportunities for aspiring educators. We are concerned that the introduction of a similar program at SJR State, particularly within our College's Workforce Region 8, will have a detrimental impact on our own enrollments. SJR State's program will draw prospective students away from UNF as their tuition is lower. This will create direct competition for a degree program that already struggles to attract a significant number of students in across Florida."*

Although an objection or alternative proposal were not submitted by UNF, SJRSC will still have the opportunity to address the comment, specifically in Section 15.2 of the proposal form, where SJRSC may provide a response. We also recommend that SJRSC include the comment in the appendices of the proposal.

Please feel free to reach out should you have any questions.

Thank you,
Mike

Mike Sfiropoulos, Ph.D.
Associate Vice Chancellor
Academic and Student Affairs

Division of Florida Colleges
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1232B
Tallahassee, FL 32399
850.245.9523 (Office)



Visit the Florida College System on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

Please note that Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from state officials are public records available to the public and media upon request.

From: [Lane, Brian](#)
To: [Allen, Dr. Myrna L.](#); [Kester, Mary A.](#)
Subject: Physics Teacher Preparation Grant
Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 11:27:08 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Hello - My name is Brian Lane, and I am a physics faculty member at the University of North Florida and Co-Director of the Northeast Florida Center for STEM Education. I am developing a proposal to [PhysTEC](#) (Physics Teacher Education Coalition) to establish a pathway for physics teacher preparation for Florida two-year college students. In partnership with the nearby Florida State College at Jacksonville, we have recently submitted a pre-proposal to PhysTEC and received feedback for the full proposal, due September 13.

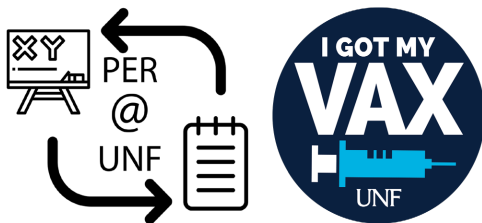
As part of developing this full proposal, we are looking to expand this pathway to include Florida state colleges beyond our immediate area. I'm writing to see if you would be interested in partnering with us on this proposal to include students from St. Johns River State College interested in STEM education.

For your consideration, [our pre-proposal is available here](#). I'm happy to discuss potential involvement over email or a Zoom call.

Thank you for your time!

Brian

W. Brian Lane, Ph.D. (he/him/his)
Instructor, Department of Physics
Co-Director, Northeast Florida Center for STEM Education (NEFSTEM)
University of North Florida
Brian.Lane@unf.edu
[Bio - Let's Code Physics - NEFSTEM](#)



[PER @ UNF - Physics Education Research at the University of North Florida](#)

From: [Sutliff, Susan M.](#)
To: [Brown, Dr. Melanie](#)
Subject: FW: Request 15-minute Phone Call with President Delaney
Date: Monday, April 1, 2024 12:36:41 PM

Susan Sutliff

Executive Assistant
Office of the President
5001 St. Johns Avenue, Palatka, FL 32177
Phone 386-312-4166
Fax 386-312-4229
Visit us on the Web at sjrstate.edu



Due to Florida's very broad public records laws, most written communications to or from College employees regarding College business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this email communication may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Harbidge Little, Michelle <MHarbidge@flagler.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 12:16 PM
To: Sutliff, Susan M. <SusanSutliff@sjrstate.edu>
Subject: RE: Request 15-minute Phone Call with President Delaney

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Hi Susan,

President Delaney can be available on Friday April 5th @ 2pm. I have a mtg w/ him this afternoon and go over the request and let you know if he has any questions.

Kind Regards,

Michelle Harbidge Little
Executive Administrative Assistant to the President

Flagler College
74 King Street | Saint Augustine, FL 32084
904.819.6288 | Fax: 904.824.6017
www.flagler.edu



From: Sutliff, Susan M. <SusanSutliff@sjrstate.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2024 10:57 AM
To: Harbidge Little, Michelle <MHarbidge@flagler.edu>
Subject: Request 15-minute Phone Call with President Delaney

Michelle,

Good morning. President Joe Pickens and Dr. Melanie Brown, Chief Operating Officer, are requesting a 15-minute phone call with President Delaney regarding the following:

- St. Johns River State College is proposing five (5) new degrees that will be taught in Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties and articulate from our Associate Degrees.
- SJR State is in the proposal stage now and hopes to implement in Fall 2025.
- There is currently significant unmet need for graduates of these programs, and there is currently not a program in these areas being offered within our service district.
- Proposed programs:
 1. BS in Exceptional Student Education with reading and ESOL endorsements will be an initial teacher certification program
 2. BS in Biological Sciences--prepares students for jobs in labs, research, utilities, etc., in addition to transfer to graduate programs. Will include optional track with 15 credits of education coursework for students interested in alternative teacher certification in Florida
 3. BS in Social and Human Services--prepares students for jobs in

- social working, counseling, etc. Will include optional track with 15 credits of education coursework for students interested in alternative teacher certification in Florida
4. BAS in Digital Art & Media--prepares students for careers in animation and the like. Will include optional track with 15 credits of education coursework for students interested in alternative teacher certification in Florida
 5. BAS in Performance Design & Production--prepares students for careers in audio production; projection and lighting technology; video editing; and design and construction technology. Will include optional track with 15 credits of education coursework for students interested in alternative teacher certification in Florida

Is President Delaney available for 15 minutes at any time during the following:

Monday, April 1 – 2:30-3:45 pm

Tuesday, April 2 – 1:00-1:45 pm or 3:00-4:30 pm

Wednesday, April 3 – 8:30 am-1:00 pm

Friday, April 5 – 9:00 am-3:30 pm

Monday, April 8 – 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Alternatively, if he does not have any questions or concerns and simply wants to email that he has no objections, that is okay with President Pickens.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Susan Sutliff

Executive Assistant

Office of the President

5001 St. Johns Avenue, Palatka, FL 32177

Phone 386-312-4166

Fax 386-312-4229

Visit us on the Web at sjrstate.edu



Due to Florida's very broad public records laws, most written communications to or from College employees regarding College business are public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this email communication may be subject to public disclosure.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

From: [Avendano, John](#)
To: [Brown, Dr. Melanie](#); thomas.lobasso@daytonastate.edu
Cc: [Pickens, Joe H.](#)
Subject: RE: Follow up to conversation with President Pickens regarding SJR State's Proposed Bachelors Degrees
Date: Thursday, March 28, 2024 2:09:25 PM

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of SJRstate. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe. Please forward suspicious emails to PhishStink@sjrstate.edu

Greetings Dr. Brown.... Thank you for the additional information regarding the programs to be offered by St. John's State College. Those all appear to be viable programs for the future of your service area. I wish you all well, and thank you again for sharing the plan with us. Please let me know how else I can support you and your efforts. Take care.

John

John Avendano, Ph.D.
President
Florida State College at Jacksonville
501 W. State Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Office (904) 632-3222
John.Avendano@fscj.edu
www.fscj.edu



** Please note that under Florida's very broad public records law, electronic mail and recorded voicemail messages to and from College employees may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Brown, Dr. Melanie <MelanieBrown@sjrstate.edu>

Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 2:55 PM

To: Avendano, John <john.avendano@fscj.edu>; thomas.lobasso@daytonastate.edu

Cc: Pickens, Joe H. <JoePickens@sjrstate.edu>

Subject: Follow up to conversation with President Pickens regarding SJR State's Proposed Bachelors Degrees

Dear Dr. Avendano and Dr. LoBasso,

Thank you for speaking earlier today with President Pickens about St. Johns River State College's plans to develop additional baccalaureate degrees. We appreciate the support of our neighboring Florida College System institutions as we work to improve residents' of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties access to affordable bachelors degrees.

As President Pickens shared in his conversation with you, we are proposing to develop one initial teacher certification program and four bachelors degrees that include K12 teaching tracks:

- The Bachelors of Science in Exceptional Student Education will include the reading and ESOL endorsements and be an initial teacher certification program
- Although these degrees will not be approved for initial teacher certification, they will include 15 credits of education coursework appropriate for students interested in pursuing alternative teacher certification in Florida:
 - BS in Biological Sciences (prepares students for jobs in labs, research, utilities, etc., in addition to transfer to graduate programs)
 - BS in Social and Human Services (prepares students for jobs in social work, counseling, etc.)
 - BAS in Digital Art & Media (prepares students for careers in animation, etc.)
 - BAS in Performance Design & Production (prepares students for careers in audio production; projection and lighting technology; video editing; design and construction technology; etc.)

Our research has shown that there is currently significant unmet need for graduates of these programs, and there are no bachelors programs in these areas being offered within our service district. We are in the proposal development stage now, and if all goes according to plan, it is our intent to launch these new degrees in the Fall of 2025.

Thank you again for your support of these efforts. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Melanie Brown

Melanie Brown, Ph.D.
Chief Operating Officer & Senior Vice President
St. Johns River State College

(386) 312-4202 work | (904) 669-2221 mobile
melaniebrown@sjrstate.edu

Visit us on the Web at SJRstate.edu

From: [Brown, Dr. Melanie](#)
To: john.avendano@fscj.edu; thomas.lobasso@daytonastate.edu
Cc: [Pickens, Joe H.](#)
Subject: Follow up to conversation with President Pickens regarding SJR State's Proposed Bachelors Degrees
Date: Monday, March 25, 2024 2:55:00 PM

Dear Dr. Avendano and Dr. LoBasso,

Thank you for speaking earlier today with President Pickens about St. Johns River State College's plans to develop additional baccalaureate degrees. We appreciate the support of our neighboring Florida College System institutions as we work to improve residents' of Clay, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties access to affordable bachelors degrees.

As President Pickens shared in his conversation with you, we are proposing to develop one initial teacher certification program and four bachelors degrees that include K12 teaching tracks:

- The Bachelors of Science in Exceptional Student Education will include the reading and ESOL endorsements and be an initial teacher certification program
- Although these degrees will not be approved for initial teacher certification, they will include 15 credits of education coursework appropriate for students interested in pursuing alternative teacher certification in Florida:
 - BS in Biological Sciences (prepares students for jobs in labs, research, utilities, etc., in addition to transfer to graduate programs)
 - BS in Social and Human Services (prepares students for jobs in social work, counseling, etc.)
 - BAS in Digital Art & Media (prepares students for careers in animation, etc.)
 - BAS in Performance Design & Production (prepares students for careers in audio production; projection and lighting technology; video editing; design and construction technology; etc.)

Our research has shown that there is currently significant unmet need for graduates of these programs, and there are no bachelors programs in these areas being offered within our service district. We are in the proposal development stage now, and if all goes according to plan, it is our intent to launch these new degrees in the Fall of 2025.

Thank you again for your support of these efforts. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Melanie Brown

Melanie Brown, Ph.D.
Chief Operating Officer & Senior Vice President
St. Johns River State College
(386) 312-4202 work | (904) 669-2221 mobile
melaniebrown@sjrstate.edu

Visit us on the Web at SJRstate.edu