

# Merrie L. Tankersley

## EDUCATION

**The University of South Florida** Tampa, FL- August 1997

Master of Arts in Reading Education, College of Education

**The Florida State University** Tallahassee, FL- May 1991

Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, College of Education

### Honors and Awards:

Athlete/Scholar of the Year- Scholarship established in my name, four-year varsity letterman; voted swim team captain by teammates; M.B. Stultz Award for academic and athletic excellence with merits in value and leadership; member of Golden Key National Honor Society

**Certification:** State of Florida Department of Education Certification- Subject Eligibility Areas include Elementary Education, Reading Education, and E.S.O.L.

## EXPERIENCE

August 2006-present University of Tampa-Clinical Education Director, Lecturer /Education Department

- completed the New Teaching Institute (NTI) to earn certification to teach hybrid and online classes
- Created an online Clinical Educator Training for district and charter school teachers
- Developed International Study Abroad courses in Northern Ireland and Thessaloniki, Greece
- Established a partnership with Stranmillis University at Queens College in Belfast
- Traveled to Finland and Switzerland with a group of Education majors to study international education systems
- FL state certified Clinical Educator Trainer, conducted in-person trainings for local teachers
- Started and Implemented an Education Department leadership certificate program, BELIEVE
- Led book club for Education majors
- Acquired funding, planned, and accompanied Education majors to attend the Ron Clark Academy workshop in Atlanta, Georgia (8 years)
- Selected for *Marquis Who's Who in American Education* publication 2010-2011
- Recipient of the 2007-2008 Richard Piper Service Award for the College of Math, Education and Social Sciences
- Chaired the following committees: Clinical Education Committee, the Education Curriculum Committee, Intern Supervision Committee, TEAC Committee, TESOL/Literacy Assistant Professor national job search, Secondary Supervisor/Lecturer national job search, and co-chair of Visiting Instructor line.
- Partner with Hillsborough County schools with placement of student teachers
- Design and teach Practicum III and Practicum IV senior seminars
- Presented yearly at Open House sessions for potential Education and non-Education majors

- Instructor Classroom Management Course
- Instructor of freshmen advising course
- Academic Advisor
- Faculty Counselor of Kappa Delta Pi for over 20 years

January 1998-August 2006 University of Tampa-Adjunct Professor

- Term Position- Spring 2006 Instructor of Learner Diversity, Emergent Literacy, and Literature and Language Arts
- Recipient of Part-Time Faculty Member of the Year Award for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences- 2004-2005 school year
- Term Position- Fall 2004 Instructor of Learning Theories, Teaching in the Inclusive Classroom, and Classroom Management
- Director of Interns- Spring 2004
- Instructor of Introduction to Reading, Diagnosis and Remediation of Reading Problems, Home, School, and Community Partnerships, TESOL Methods and Strategies, and ESOL Survey, and Gateways classes
- Completed “Win-Win Discipline” training classes under the instruction of Dr. Spencer Kagan- Spring 2006
- Member of the University of Tampa Teacher Education Advisory Committee
- Supervisor of Practicum II and Practicum III interns
- Developed reading exam questions for Regents University

August 1993-1999 John B. Gorrie Elementary School-Classroom Teacher

- Gorrie Elementary “Teacher of the Year”- 1997
- Recipient of the International Reading Association’s “Celebrate Literacy” award; nominated by Gorrie Elementary’s principal and assistant principal
- Member of the Hillsborough County Training Cadre- trained Hillsborough County teachers in current reading strategies
- Third and fourth grade team leader- organized and distributed information to grade level teachers and was responsible for coordinating field trips and special programs
- Co-Chairman of the School Improvement Team- assisted with creating school goals and budgeting strategies
- Partnered with Learning Disability teacher in using the fusing technique
- Assisted the guidance counselor with screenings for special education programs
- “Looping” teacher-catalyst for bringing this method of teaching to the school
- Member of the school Intervention Team-assisted co-workers with strategies to guide struggling students
- Member of the National Blue Ribbon Writing Committee and Five Star Recognition Writing Committee- completed essays about my classroom and school accomplishments
- Math/Family Reading Night Coordinator-organized relevant math and reading activities for students and their families
- Taught Multicultural and marine Biology Summer Enrichment Classes-developed curriculum and hands-on activities for kindergarten through sixth grade students

- Reading/Writing tutor- instructed small group remediation classes
- Coordinator of “Reading on the Bus” Program-organized and helped implement a plan to encourage children to read on the bus ride to and from school
- School “Battle of the Books” Representative-led a team of fourth graders to the Hillsborough County competition
- Attended state math and reading conferences
- Co-wrote and co-produced grade level social studies plays
- Completed Clinical Education training through Hillsborough county
- Supervised The University of Tampa and The University of South Florida interns
- Selected to complete University of South Florida’s S.C.A.T.T. Clinical Teacher Training
- Member of Writing, Social, Discipline, Reading and Technology Committees

Summer 1995 Academic Adventure-Exchange Program- Instructor

- Wrote lesson plans and taught foreign middle and high school students
- Supervised students on field trips

June 1991-June 1993 Robles Elementary School- Classroom Teacher

- Tutoring Coordinator- researched and distributed current teaching strategies to tutoring teachers; coordinated attendance procedures and communication with parents
- Third Grade Show Supervisor- created a film production to encourage attendance at PTA meetings
- Young Author’s Convention Representative- prepared and submitted students’ writings to represent Robles Elementary School

### **PUBLICATIONS**

- Johnston, P., Tankersley, M., & Civil, M. (Oct.-Dec. 2020). Trouble Areas of Evaluations for Beginning Teachers. *Kappa Delta Pi Record*, 56: 188–190.
- Johnston, P., Tankersley, M., Johnston, N., Glossinger, S., Gabel, T., Johnston, T., & Anderson, Rookstool, M. , Briggs, T. & Loftus, C. (2014). Smart Phone Applications Enhancing Learning in University Classroom Settings. *Journal of Instructional Psychology*, 41, 20-32.
- O'Hara, H. and Tankersley, M. (2014, March 18). American educators find surprises in Helsinki and at home in the United States. *Diane Ravitch's Blog*. Retrieved May 8, 2014 from dianeravitch.net.
- Johnston, P., Tankersley, M. Joenson, T., Hupp, M., Buckley, J., Zanzinger, A., Poirer, A. & Walsh, A. (2013). Motivations behind "bully victims": Further suggestions for anti-bully education. Education, in press.

### **GRANTS RECEIVED**

- The University of Tampa Board of Fellows Grant (2016, 2017, 2019)

- Dean of College of Social Science, Math and Education grant (2014, 2016, 2017)
- U-Save Creativity Grant (1997)- math/reading project
- NationsBank Mini-Grant (1997)- math/reading curriculum
- International Reading Association Grant (1996)- reading project
- Metropolitan Life Mini-Grant (1996)- Literature Circles reading program
- International Reading Association Grant (1993)- school newspaper project
- Hillsborough County Education Foundation Grant (1992)- manners project

## PRESENTATIONS

- Tankersley, M., Civil, M. (with students: Amanda Koehler, Bridget Ruggiero, Katherine Graber, and Kristen Cote) Fall 2019 *Volunteering At The Berkeley Academy* Kappa Delta Pi International Conference, Norfolk, VA.
- Tankersley, M. (2017, November, 2018, February) *Manners Matter*. Workshops presented to students in grades 3-6 attending schools in Hillsborough County, Tampa, FL.
- Tankersley, M. (2017, October). *Benefits of Activities Character Education*. Workshop presented at the Kappa Delta Pi International Convocation, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Tankersley, M. & Schimmel, T. (2016, March ) *I Lead Workshop*. Workshop presented for Education majors, teachers, and professors from the state of Florida at The University of Tampa in Tampa, FL.
- Tankersley, M. (2015, October) *The Pygmalion Effect in Practice* and as part of the Behavior, Structure, Compassion, and Advocacy session at the Kappa Delta Pi Convocation in Orlando, FL.
- Johnston, P. & Tankersley, M. (2014, March). *Integrating Smart phone Use into the University Classroom*. Workshop presented at 25<sup>th</sup> International Conference on College Teaching and Learning, Ponte Vedra, FL.
- Tankersley, M. (2013, October). *Differentiated Instruction: What Does it Look Like in the Classroom*. Workshop presented at the Kappa Delta Pi International Biennial Convocation, Dallas, TX.
- Tankersley, M. & Schimmel, T.W. (2011, October). *Behavior Contracts & Creating Brain-Friendly Classrooms*. Workshop presented at the Kappa Delta Pi International Biennial Convocation, Indianapolis, IN.
- Tankersley, M. & Schimmel, T.W. (2009, October). *Literature Circles for Building a Classroom of Reflective Readers*. Workshop presented at the Kappa Delta Pi International Biennial Convocation, Orlando, FL.
- Tankersley, M. (2008 March). *Brain Based Learning*. Presented to Education majors and Elementary teachers in Hillsborough County
- Tankersley, M. & Matassini, N. (2006 August). *Classroom Management*. Presented to elementary teachers at Trinity Charter School.
- Tankersley, M. & Lehan, J. (1999). *Reading Foundations II* .Presented to second and third grade teachers in Hillsborough County

- Tankersley, M. & Lehan, J.(1999). *Reading Foundations I*. Presented to second and third grade teachers in Hillsborough County
- Tankersley, M. (1998). *Reading Renaissance: A New Way to Use Accelerated Reader*. Presented at John B. Gorrie Elementary School, Tampa, FL
- Tankersley, M. & Smith, M. (1997). *Reading in Circles: How to Use Literature Circles in Your Classroom*. Presented at the Florida Reading Conference , Kissimmee, FL, Forest Hills & Gorrie Elementary School faculty members, Tampa, FL
- Tankersley, M. (1997). *Hands-on Activities for the Math Curriculum*. Presented at Gorrie Elementary School, Tampa, FL

#### **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Kappa Delta Pi (2006-2022); faculty counselor (2000-2022)
- International Reading Association (1991-2022)
- Florida Reading Association (1991-1999)
- Hillsborough County Math Council (1991-1999)
- International Math Council (1991-1999)