

STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

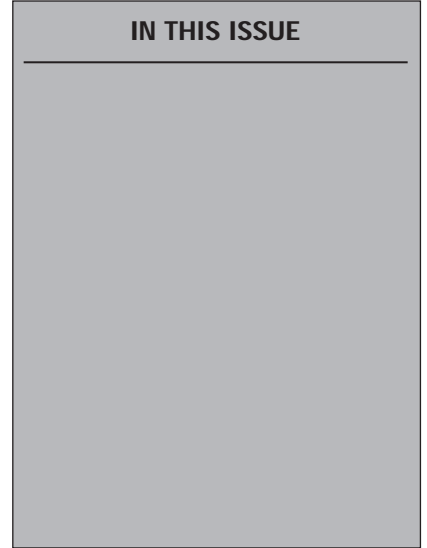


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IN THIS ISSUE



Stockonians Partner with Regional Catholic School

Continued

The professional development and mentoring provided by Kientz and Devaney was made possible through a \$5,000 grant, y jkej "Dkujqr" OeJ wij "tgegkxgf"htq o "vjg" Okmgøu "Ugchqqf"Rqnet "Dgct" TwpI Ycnm "hqt" Cwvku o "kp" Ugc "Kung" Ekv { . " P0L0" Mcvjnggp" Klein, associate professor of Occupational Therapy, serves on the grants committee at Bishop McHugh. After the school applied and received the grant, Klein suggested that Kientz provide consulting because of her experience. Kientz and Devaney hope to provide additional support to the teachers by helping to implement the strategies discussed.

Through another partnership between Stockton and Bishop McHugh, students in the Little Storm Preschool have begun Young Active Minds. The new initiative, facilitated by Stockton's Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program and led by Klein, is designed to facilitate the self-regulation skills important to young children. The Young Active Minds Program was developed in collaboration with faculty and students from Stockton, and a generous donation of learning materials from the online equipment company, Fun and Function, which specializes in therapeutic learning tools.

As part of the program, teachers receive professional development on topics that include self-regulation in early childhood; Łpg" o qvqt" umkm" fgxgnqr o gpv=" ejcmgp ikpi " dgjcxkqtu=" cpf" dguv" rtcevkegu" kp" vgc ejkpi " rtg/M" uvwfgpvu0" Vgcejgtu" vjgp" yqtm" alongside Stockton graduate students and staff to co-teach with these additional learning experiences.

Klein said the Young Active Minds Program is ongoing, and additional collaboration with Stockton is highly desired.

“Self-regulation is a child’s ability to develop and gain control of his/her emotions, behavior, motor skills and communications skills,” Klein said. “It is an important life skill that children begin to develop from birth with the support of caring adults, and it’s one that will help children maintain interest and attention needed for learning and good relationships.”

