

**From:** Robinson, Gerard  
**Sent time:** Sunday, January 22, 2012 7:42:12 PM  
**To:** Patricia Levesque (Patricia@afloridapromise.org) <patricia@afloridapromise.org>  
**Cc:** MaryLaura@excelined.org; Joanna@afloridapromise.org; Padget, John; Desai, Dr. Akshay; Martinez, Roberto; Feingold, Barbara; Chartrand, Gary; Shanahan, Kathleen; Bradshaw, Sally; Abbott, Lynn; Jaryn Emhof (Jaryn@excelined.org) <jaryn@excelined.org>  
**Subject:** Re: school grades workshop -- invitation to press conference on Tuesday

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Hi Patricia:

Thanks for the Foundation's support.

Gerard

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 22, 2012, at 7:39 PM, "Patricia Levesque ([Patricia@afloridapromise.org](mailto:Patricia@afloridapromise.org))" <[patricia@afloridapromise.org](mailto:patricia@afloridapromise.org)> wrote:

Dear members of the State Board of Education,

I won't be appearing at your workshop on school grades tomorrow. However, I wanted you to know that the Foundation supports the department's recommended changes to the school grade calculation. I'm available by cell if you have any specific questions – 850-443-1290.

Also, I wanted to invite you to a press conference on Tuesday at 11:30 in the 301 Capitol. The Foundation is holding a press conference with Senate President Mike Haridopolos, Ben Austin with Parent Revolution, our bill sponsors Sen. Lizbeth Benacquisto and Rep. Mike Bileca, former Sen. Al Lawson and other stakeholders. The press conference is on the parent empowerment bill. The bill does primarily two things: 1) creates a parent trigger – similar to California's law that gives parents the ability to direct school boards to select a specific turnaround differentiated accountability option and 2) it ensures no child is assigned to an ineffective teacher two years in a row.

I've attached a short white paper on the legislation.

If any of you are interested in attending the press conference, please let us know.

Thank you for all the hard work you do serving on the state board of education.

Patricia

<Bileca and Benacquisto Parent Empowerment combined draft one pager.docx>