

**From:** Smith, Kevin  
**Sent time:** Wednesday, October 26, 2011 11:44:43 PM  
**To:** walt\_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us; elefsky@cfl.rr.com; Cari@ExcelinEd.org; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope; Tart, Suzanne  
**Subject:** FW: 10/26/11 Education Round-Up  
**Attachments:** image001.gif

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FYI - have a great day!

Sincerely,

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-----Original Message-----

From: Higgins, Deborah  
Sent: Wed 10/26/2011 10:25 AM  
Subject: 10/26/11 Education Round-Up  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

<[http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/Images/logo\\_nc\\_sub.gif](http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/Images/logo_nc_sub.gif)>

USF Poly reveals plan for independence <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/1/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lLm9yZW~~/721008422>>  
(Central Florida News 13 © 10/26/2011)

LAKELAND -- The University of South Florida Polytechnic has revealed its plan to split from the main campus and become its own university. According to Bay News 9's partner paper, the St. Petersburg Times, officials unveiled the plan Monday night. School officials said they have already raised more than \$51 million for the new campus. The rep...

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Volusia teachers rally for more pay <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/2/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lLm9yZW~~/721266989>>  
(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 10/26/2011)

Andrew Spar, president of the Volusia Teachers Organization, rallies the crowd during a protest Tuesday. (N-J | Peter Bauer) DELAND -- Hundreds of teachers chanted outside the Volusia County School Board on Tuesday seeking an increase in pay soon after the board heard how the district could see a large deficit next year. The union has been seeking a raise t...

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The Wrong Education Problems Are Being Solved  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/3/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~/600145552>>

(Education Week © 10/26/2011)

By Craig Hochbein & Bradley Carpenter Beyond the field of education, history provides numerous reminders that relatively high rates of failure often accompany the improvement of performance. Ty Cobb, who holds the record for the highest batting average in baseball history, ended his career with a .337 average and thus failed in nearly two-thirds of his career attempts. One can only imagin...

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FCC Broadband Initiative Tackles School Needs  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/4/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~/600145555>>

(Education Week © 10/26/2011)

A public-private effort announced last month by the Federal Communications Commission to increase broadband Internet access in underserved communities has the potential for a heavy impact on K-12 students, the initiative's partners say. Many of those contributing to "Connect to Compete"-which has two dozen private partners headlined by companies such as Microsoft, the Discovery Channel, and Bes...

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eLearning Update: Private Providers Need Public Oversight  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/5/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~/600145554>>

(Education Week/Digital Education Blog © 10/26/2011)

By Ian Quillen on October 25, 2011 12:50 PM | No comments | No recommendations An examination of the growing field of online K-12 education finds that the industry-and particularly the for-profit sector within it-is in need of more public regulation, and then recommends four reforms to fulfill that need. The report, out of the National Education Policy Center at the University of Colorado Bo...

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Schools add more teachers <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/6/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721285758>>

(Florida Keys Keysnews © 10/26/2011)

In response to higher student enrollment throughout the Florida Keys, the Monroe County School Board on Tuesday approved an additional \$279,000 to hire teachers needed to meet the state's class size mandates. That brings the after-the-fact 2011-12 budget amendments to nearly \$500,000 for added staff, but keeps the projected ending fund balance at 3.57 percent of the estimated \$75 million in...

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Jacksonville legislators hear parent, educator concerns

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/7/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721210983>>

(Florida Times-Union © 10/26/2011)

Saying they were there to listen, state Reps. Daniel Davis and Reggie Fullwood got an earful Tuesday night from parents, teachers and others concerned about Duval County's public schools and finding ways to ensure state budget cuts don't shortchange students. Fullwood, D-Jacksonville, and Davis, R-Jacksonville, fielded questions on topics ranging from school funding and school choice to tying teac...

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Edison State meeting ends with failed motion to request Walker's resignation

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/8/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721190140>>

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 10/26/2011)

After the Board of Trustees meeting, District President Kenneth Walker said the blunt comments by student, faculty and trustees didn't surprise him. He has no plans, however, to conduct his business any different despite the onslaught of complaints. 'I will do the same good job I've been doing for 20 years,' Walker said. 'I'm ready, willing to meet with anybody at any time if they want to discuss...'

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Lee County School District awarded \$1.25 million grant

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/9/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721190177>>

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 10/26/2011)

Lee County Schools has won a five-year, \$1.25 million grant from the National Education Association Foundation to increase achievement rates for low income and minority students. The Teachers Association of Lee County, the Lee County School District and the Foundation for Lee County Public Schools will use the funding to support joint work that will improve the quality of instruction in district ...

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Judge hearing Fla. retirement contribution case

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/10/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721311181>>

(Gainesville Sun © 10/26/2011)

A judge is hearing arguments over a new state law that requires public employees to contribute 3 percent of their pay to retirement. The hearing on Wednesday is expected to just be the first step on a path leading to the Florida Supreme Court. The Florida Education Association and other unions contend the law is unconstitutional. They say it violat...

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Change the magnet school 'soil' and not everything will grow

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/11/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721183795>>

(Hernando Today © 10/26/2011)

BY LAURA PAGE, Guest columnist I've been reading the recent articles in the papers regarding the magnet schools, and I am quite surprised by the opinions and statements of some people. Of course, we are all entitled to our own opinion, but to make suggestions based on just opinion seems, to me, very risky. In reference to an article that stated magnet schools need to be more inclusive and that...

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Welcome to College Ready Writing <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/12/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721268644>>

(Inside Higher Education © 10/26/2011)

To my regular readers, welcome to my new home here at Inside Higher Ed. I couldn't be more excited to be a part of the blogging community here. I appreciate that Inside Higher Ed has been at the forefront of supporting academic bloggers and encouraging academics to write in ways that aren't typically supported by traditional higher education. Blogging has been a liberating experience, ...

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Student Loan Changes, Sans Congress <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/13/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lLm9yZw~~/721268648>>

(Inside Higher Education © 10/26/2011)

WASHINGTON – President Obama today will announce a plan to consolidate federal student loans for millions of borrowers and expand income-based repayment for current students – both steps he will take without input from or action by Congress, amid rising concern about student debt. Together, the two changes – part of the president's package of economic measures designed to be enacted by ...

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A Shifting Burden <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/14/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lLm9yZw~~/721268649>>

(Inside Higher Education © 10/26/2011)

While tuition and fees continue to rise at a fast pace, particularly at public colleges and universities struggling with declining state appropriations, federal financial aid policies have kept down the price students pay for a college degree, according to two annual reports released today by the College Board on tuition and financial aid. In all sectors of higher education, tuition prices incre...

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Bob Graham: Let Board of Governors decide on USF Poly  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/15/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lLm9yZw~~/721363191>>

(Lakeland Ledger © 10/26/2011)

LAKELAND – After following the ongoing push to make the University of South Florida Polytechnic Florida's 12th state university, former Gov. Bob Graham said Monday politics has no place in the university decision-making process. Graham said the current battle over whether to create a university in Lakeland that is independent of USF has devolved in...

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Land O' Lakes High School Ranks Among The Country's Best  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/16/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lLm9yZw~~/721108734>>

(Land O Lakes Patch.com © 10/26/2011)

Land O' Lakes High School has yet again ranked among the top schools in the country when it comes to test scores, graduation rate and academic excellence. It ranked

49th in the state and 255th in the country on this year's Washington Post High School Challenge. The challenge was previously sponsored by Newsweek Magazine, but transitioned to the Post recently. "We rate schools based ...

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Two Miami-Dade charter schools lose funding <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/17/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721207618>>

(Miami Herald © 10/26/2011)

Two troubled Miami-Dade charter schools have had their funding cut off by the school district - an extraordinary measure that could threaten the schools' ability to survive. The school district is withholding more than \$185,000 from the Academy of Arts & Minds charter school in Coconut Grove because the school has failed to provide some services for children with special needs -...

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In college, these American citizens are not created equal

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/18/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721207829>>

(Miami Herald © 10/26/2011)

"I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" - Lady Liberty On Saturday, the day after its 125th anniversary celebration, the Statue of Liberty will close its doors for a year-long, \$27 million renovation of the monument's interior. One could only hope that the nation's soul will undergo some transformation as well. Emma Lazarus, the descendant of Sephardic Jews expelled from S...

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UCF tweaks dental school plan, but will it be enough?

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/19/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721210695>>

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/26/2011)

A month after a state committee sharply criticized the University of Central Florida's plan to open a dental school in 2014, the college has fine-tuned its proposal and asked for another review. It's hoping a new partnership with University of Florida's top-ranking dental school will help it earn approval next month. UCF plans to hire UF as a consultant to help develop curriculum and cli...

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Orange board votes 5-3 to close Richmond Heights Elementary  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/20/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721276321>>

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/26/2011)

The Orange County School Board voted 5-3 Tuesday night to close tiny Richmond Heights Elementary near downtown Orlando in exchange for a larger Eccleston Elementary that would open in 2013. Students attending Richmond Heights would be rezoned to Eccleston or to Washington Shores Elementary, another nearby school that is due to be replaced in 2014. Richmond Heights is just over a mile from Ecc...

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Scott's latest pension proposal could cost local governments millions  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/21/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/600145538>>

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/26/2011)

Local governments and school districts across Florida are bracing for grim financial news next legislative session that means hundreds of millions of dollars now available from this year's pension overhaul could be taken away. The new law lowered the amount that local governments pay into employee pension accounts by 6 percent, while also forcing workers to contribute 3 percent of their salari...

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Exposing secrets and salaries - bring it on! <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/22/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/600145539>>

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/26/2011)

Last week, Gov. Rick Scott stirred up a hornet's nest by putting the salaries of all public-university professors online for the world to see. Some folks screamed bloody murder, claiming Scott was simply trying to embarrass them. Frankly, I'm not too sympathetic. Sure, the governor was trying to make some people uncomfortable. But so what? Public information is public information. An...

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Judge to consider lawsuit about Florida retirement contributions  
<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/23/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721355966>>

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/26/2011)

TALLAHASSEE A judge is hearing arguments over a new state law that requires public employees to contribute 3 percent of their pay to retirement. The hearing on

Wednesday is expected to just be the first step on a path leading to the Florida Supreme Court. The Florida Education Association and othe...

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Four apply for interim schools superintendent position

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/24/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZW~~/721207967>>

(Palm Beach Post © 10/26/2011)

Four eligible applicants submitted résumés by Tuesday afternoon's deadline to be considered as the interim replacement for Palm Beach County Schools Superintendent Bill Malone, the district said. The Palm Beach County School Board will meet Wednesday at its regularly scheduled school board workshop to discuss the candidates and potentially create a short list of the applicants to be int...

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Series of hearings set on changing school board district boundaries

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/25/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZW~~/721207970>>

(Palm Beach Post © 10/26/2011)

The Palm Beach County School District is looking for the public's input on a proposal to shuffle cities and regions as the district redraws the voting boundaries for school board elections. District officials will hold a series of public workshops: Nov. 1 at Pahokee High School, Nov. 2 at Conniston Middle School in West Palm Beach, Nov. 3 at Park Vista High School in suburban Boynton Beach and No...

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TCoast schools: Bessey Creek El's Team Green was named a finalist in the Florida Green School Awards

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/26/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZW~~/721207972>>

(Palm Beach Post © 10/26/2011)

BESSEY CREEK ELEMENTARY BCE Team Green was named a finalist in the Florida Green School Awards sponsored by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The team has implemented recycling initiatives at the school, which have reduced trash consumption one-third. Members have raised more than \$400 for the school through efforts to recycle juice pouches and chip bags in partnership with Terr...

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Fire school bus drivers whose sick-out stranded kids?

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/27/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721208100>>

(Palm Beach Post © 10/26/2011)

A sick-out by school bus drivers that stranded some Palm Beach County students at bus stops on Monday had completely petered out by Tuesday. The school district has had trouble hiring enough bus drivers, who complain of low pay and difficult working conditions. An estimated 20-24 drivers called in sick Monday to protest pay. The district employs 620 bus drivers. One driver told The Post he sti...

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Commentary: Giving Florida's students a Third World education

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/28/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/600145561>>

(Palm Beach Post © 10/26/2011)

Posted: 7:15 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24, 2011 Gov. Scott has declared that Florida doesn't need any more anthropologists and needs to cut back on psychologists and other social scientists as well. Oh, and Florida doesn't need humanities, either. The governor is pushing a plan that would starve liberal arts and social sciences in the state's public universities, with the backing of the state L...

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My View: Anthropological higher-ed changes <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/29/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721341653>>

(Sarasota East County Observer © 10/26/2011)

Much is being made in the media about Gov. Rick Scott's move to reform higher education in Florida. Well, not really broad, important reform, but a comment he made about whether Florida taxpayers should subsidize anthropology majors the way they do business, science and engineering majors. "While anthropology is really interesting, there are no jobs there. We don't te...

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College costs rise once more <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/30/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/721269415>>

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 10/26/2011)

It's a kick in the gut even for students and families hardened to bad financial news: Average in-state tuition and fees at four-year public colleges rose an additional \$631 this fall, or 8.3 percent, compared with a year ago. Nationally, the cost of a full credit load has passed \$8,000, an all-time high. Throw in room and board, and the average list...

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'Help desk' now handling public complaints in Palm Beach County schools

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/31/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9ILm9yZw~~/721048402>>

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 10/26/2011)

In Palm Beach County school district headquarters, the complaint department is now open on the third floor. Parent and community critics often blasted the superintendent's suite and School Board offices for disregarding calls and emails, or dishing out courtesy, form-letter responses. But now, most complaints from parents, employees and others are handled by a help-desk system that opens "Constit...

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Study finds flaws in virtual education, including motives of for-profit virtual schools

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/32/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9ILm9yZw~~/721286298>>

(St. Augustine Record © 10/26/2011)

By LILLY ROCKWELL Copyright 2011 . All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed. October 26, 2011 - 12:01am Study finds flaws in virtual education, including motives of for-profit virtual schools The News Service of Florida Motives of for-profit virtual schools questioned TALLAHASSEE - A new study is sounding alarms at the quick expansi...

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Casino bill sacrifices horse and dog tracks for gambling megaresorts

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/33/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9ILm9yZw~~/600145535>>

(St. Petersburg Times © 10/26/2011)

TALLAHASSEE - In a move designed to shift Florida's gambling focus, two new bills to be filed Wednesday would award exclusive full-casino licenses to three large "destination resorts" and leave the struggling parimutuel industry to wither. The goal of the proposals by Rep. Erik Fresen, R-Miami, and Sen. Ellyn Bogdanoff, R-Fort Lauderdale, "is to reduce gaming in the state and have the kind of...

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Will competing Florida charter school groups speak with one voice?

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/34/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/600145551>>

(St. Petersburg Times/The Grade Book Blog © 10/26/2011)

The Florida Charter School Alliance announced its formal launch this week, a month after its soft opening in name and website only. Its goals, according to its press release, are to support existing charter schools, bring new "high quality" charter schools to all Florida communities and advocate for more charter school funding. Already, the question being raised is, Does the state need another...

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Fix our schools, fix our workforce <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/35/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/600145550>>

(The Hill © 10/26/2011)

Over the past two weeks, the Senate has held two votes on President Obama's American Jobs Act. Both times, every Senate Republican voted to block a bill that would put more money in the pockets of middle-class families and keep hundreds of thousands of teachers in the classroom, instead of in unemployment lines. Our nation's schools are facing the toughest fiscal pressures in our lifetime. The D...

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Governors Bush And Wise Announce Blueprint For Digital Education Initiative

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/36/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/600145553>>

(The Pelican Post (LA paper) © 10/26/2011)

for Reform' contains detailed recommendations for state policymakers on digital learning This past week, former Florida Governor and chairman of Digital Learning Now! Jeb Bush and former West Virginia Governor Bob Wise unveiled an expansive plan for utilizing technology to achieve educational progress entitled the "Roadmap for Reform: Digital Learning." The detailed 72-point plan aims to bridge t...

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Nearly Half of States Link Teacher Evaluations to Tests .

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/37/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZw~~/600145549>>

(Wall Street Journal © 10/26/2011)

Nearly two-thirds of states have overhauled policies in the last two years to tighten oversight of teachers, using techniques including tying teacher evaluations to student test scores, linking their pay to performance or making it tougher to earn tenure, according to a report issued Wednesday. Teacher Evaluation Policies, by State See which states follow certain policies. <http://online.wsj....>

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Career academies take shape <<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/38/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZW~~/721192208>>

(Walton Sun © 10/26/2011)

PANAMA CITY - Business leaders were asked to influence the preparation of the future workforce by helping create sustainable and relevant high school career academies. On Monday, Bay District School officials and business leaders met for the Bay Next Generation Learning Community Workforce Education Summit at Florida State University Panama City. "The purpose is to bring education, ...

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Ravitch: Congress should ditch NCLB, not tinker with it

<<http://mediatracking.com/npcapp/bounce.aspx/npcemail/678/39/ZGVib3JhaC5oaWdnaW5zQGZsZG9lM9yZW~~/600145547>>

(Washington Post/The Answer Sheet Blog, Valerie Strauss © 10/26/2011)

By Valerie Strauss This was written by education historian Diane Ravitch for her Bridging Differences blog, which she co-authors with Deborah Meier on the Education Week website. Ravitch and Meier exchange letters about what matters most in education. Ravitch, a research professor at New York University, is the author of the bestselling "The Death and Life of the Great American School System," an...

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Have a great day! Deborah

<<http://www.lovers-poems.com/blog/2011/09/happy-autumn-2/>>