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Sent time: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 5:03:43 PM
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Subject: Fw: 11/1/11 Education Round-Up

FYI... Have a great evening!

Sincerely,

Kevin Smith,

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Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

From: Higgins, Deborah
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 10:38 AM
Subject: 11/1/11 Education Round-Up

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



[School Suspensions Among Boys May Be Linked to Lower College Attendance](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education © 11/01/2011)

By Dan Berrett Family life plays a larger role in predicting the behavioral problems of boys than it does of girls, which helps explain why boys have lower college-going and graduation rates, a new study finds. In general, boys tend to score lower than girls on "noncognitive" measures like self-control. They are also more likely to have attention and behavioral problems, and be diagnosed with at...

[MONEY TREE: Fla. Legislative Leaders Warn of More Cuts](#)

(Community College Week © 11/01/2011)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida legislative leaders are warning that schools, health care and other programs could get cut again in 2012. The state's economy stalled over the summer and now there are dire predictions that the fragile recovery once under way will not materialize as expected. New estimates floated by the GOP-controlled Florida Legislature suggest that state legislators may be c...

[Flagler officials ponder selling ads on school property](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 11/01/2011)

BUNNELL — Facing steep cuts in state funds, Flagler County schools may be turning to another revenue source. The School Board will consider allowing more advertising on school property to support its programs. The regular meeting starts at 6 tonight at the Government Services Building, 1769 E. Moody Blvd. The policy changes would enable the district and schools to allow advertising on website...

[District: Charters could pose problems for Lewis School](#)

(Destin Log © 11/01/2011)

VALPARAISO — Two years ago, the Okaloosa County school district decided Valparaiso didn't have enough students to sustain two schools. Today officials are worried that a new effort to open two charter schools in the city eventually could cause the closure of Lewis School. "We don't have enough kids in the Valparaiso area to support two schools," said Lewis School Pr...

[Broad Foundation Announces New Prize for Urban Charters](#)

(Education Week/District Dossier © 11/01/2011)

By Christina Samuels on October 31, 2011 5:58 PM | No comments | No recommendations The Los Angeles-based Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation, which has sponsored a prize for the top urban public school districts for the past 10 years, is starting a similar award program for the nation's charter schools. The Broad Prize for Public Charter Schools will provide \$250,000 to the charter management...

[Sigsbee nets half-million-dollar military grant](#)

(Florida Keys Keysnews © 11/01/2011)

Sigsbee Charter School, which serves mostly children whose parents work at Naval Air Station Key West, has received a \$540,000 federal grant. The hefty grant arrives at the K-6 school one year after it left the Monroe County School District's supervision and was transformed into a charter school by locals, both civilian and Navy, who tore out the drywall, painted classrooms and stripped flo...

[Duval School Board agenda](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 11/01/2011)

The Duval County School Board's monthly meeting is at 6 p.m. today in the auditorium of the School Board Administration Building, 1701 Prudential Drive. The meeting will be televised live on Comcast Cable Channel 99 and WJCT Digital Channel 7.4. WJCT TV-7 will air a tape-delayed broadcast at midnight. Among the items to be considered: Item: Salary increase for board members What it means: T...

[UF proposes faculty raise, no sick leave payouts](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 11/01/2011)

By Nathan Crabbe Staff writer Published: Monday, October 31, 2011 at 11:07 a.m. University of Florida faculty would get a 3 percent raise in January but lose payouts for unused sick leave under the university's latest proposal to offset a requirement that state workers pay more toward their retirement plans. A state law that took effect on July 1 requires public employees in the Flor...

[LAUSD faces suit linking teacher ratings to student performance](#)

(LA Times © 11/01/2011)

The suit would demand that LAUSD comply with a 1971 California law requiring that student performance be part of the evaluations of teachers and principals. By Howard Blume, Los Angeles Times 8:24 PM PDT, October 31, 2011 Advertisement A group of parents and education advocates is preparing to sue the Los Angeles school district, demanding that it follow an arcane 40-year-old law that...

[USF Poly Chancellor Marshall Goodman Responds to Critique of Business Plan](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 11/01/2011)

LAKELAND | The regional chancellor for University of South Florida Polytechnic on Monday released a nine-page document addressing concerns about his business plan for the school's independence. An informal USF critique was conducted last week after Marshall Goodman released the financial projections for creating a polytechnic school separate from ...

[Exclusive: Merit pay era arrives for teachers](#)

(Lehigh News Star © 11/01/2011)

Part of Sara Kohlhuff's evaluation will be on the line when her fourth-grade students take the reading Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test this spring. The 9-year-olds' reading scores will also play a role in the professional reviews of other Pinewoods Elementary staff such as art teachers, counselors and librarians. The Lee and Collier county school districts are phasing in new teacher evalu...

[Celebrity chefs, students cook up bites to support Miami-Dade school programs](#)

(Miami Herald © 11/01/2011)

Shrimp ceviche with tostones and avocado. Sweet-and-sour wonton pockets. Pumpkin pot de crème with ginger biscotti. That's a small sampling of the menu planned for a fundraiser Tuesday, when South Florida celebrity chefs like Michelle Bernstein and Douglas Rodriguez will join culinary students from Miami-Dade County Public Schools. The event benefits the Foundation for New Education Init...

[Allegations of Exam-Tampering Soar](#)

(New York Times © 11/01/2011)

By SHARON OTTERMAN Complaints of tampering with state Regents exams have ballooned since Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg took control of New York City's schools, newly released data show, placing in stark relief the conflict between allowing teachers to grade their own students' tests and raising the stakes on the results. As the city and state turned test scores into make-or-break indicators of s...

[Students have online view of grades, much more](#)

(Ocala Star Banner © 11/01/2011)

Marion County Public Schools became one of the first districts in the state to offer its students an online portal to view their grades, class ranking, educational videos and Live@edu, all from one Web location. The Student Desktop, which was officially rolled out to high schools on Oct. 24, has become very popular among students, faculty and ...

[In need of money, Orange school district considers fundraising plan](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 11/01/2011)

With schools desperate for every penny, Orange County School Board Chair Bill Sublette is pushing the district to do a better job tapping the community for donations. To that end, he's asking the board on Tuesday to back the development of a "philanthropic strategic plan" that would give donors specific information on district plans for the money. The fundraising would be funneled through...

[Vero Beach School Closes Because Of Flooding](#)

(Palm Beach Gardens-WPBF (ABC) © 11/01/2011)

Heavy Rain, Flooding Target Vero Beach Embed this Videox * Email * Facebook * Digg * Twitter * * RedditDelicious Link VERO BEACH, Fla. – Flooding from the recent rain forced a Treasure Coast school to close Monday. A teacher uses a broom to sweep the water out of her classroom. Teachers at Osceola Magnet School in Vero Beach used brooms, vacuums a...

[When high schools game the system, other teams left with little chance to win](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 11/01/2011)

As he looked across the football field a year ago, Palm Beach Lakes High coach Alonzo Jefferson saw a distressing sight: Kids who should have been his students were playing for his rival. Those students helped Dwyer High's Panthers pound Jefferson's Rams 62-6. That lopsided matchup has become a common outcome in Palm Beach County's era of school choice. The system results in fabulously ...

[Many principals insist sports not a factor in how magnet schools pick students](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 11/01/2011)

Palm Beach County is reconsidering the wide latitude principals have to hand-select 20 percent of magnet students - including athletes - before a lottery. Alerted by The Palm Beach Post, school board Chairman Frank Barbieri said what began as a review for academic reasons also will consider whether top athletes use magnets and other programs to jump to powerhouse teams. Many principals insist sp...

[New signs of FCAT harm](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 11/01/2011)

In the dozen years since former Gov. Jeb Bush made the FCAT the center of his school accountability scheme, the test has not fulfilled its primary purpose of ensuring that Florida's high school graduates are college- or career-ready. The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, though, has had many unintended consequences. Recent Palm Beach Post stories highlight two of them. One explained that a ...

[Complaints of high school sports recruiting rarely result in penalties](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 11/01/2011)

Complaints that players have team-shopped and coaches have stockpiled talent by manipulating academic choice programs have a long history in the nation's 13th-largest school district, state athletic association records examined show. It's just that formal allegations are rare and hard to prove. At least 16 written complaints about recruiting were received by the Florida High School Ath...

[Palm Beach Post investigation: Magnets unleash high school free agency in Palm Beach County](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 11/01/2011)

High school 'free agency' is rampant in Palm Beach County, as detailed in a Palm Beach Post investigation. Here are all the stories in a three-part series by Post reporters Matt Porter, Jeff Greer, Charles Elmore and Joel Engelhardt. * * * DAY 1 ACADEMIC MAGNET PROGRAMS UNLEASH HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS 'FREE AGENCY' The high school playing fields of Palm Beach County are...

[Scott is right on higher ed](#)

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 11/01/2011)

I am writing in response to the Eric Ernst's opinion piece that ran Oct. 28, titled: "Scott's veiled threat toward professors." It is truly unfortunate that the majority of people misunderstand the governor's quest to improve the quality and cost of higher education. He is not attacking liberal arts classes. My understanding is that he is saying w...

[USF Poly responds to concerns about its plan to go solo](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 11/01/2011)

TAMPA — The University of South Florida Polytechnic defended its independence plan in writing Monday, responding to two dozen criticisms outlined by USF administrators last week. In a letter sent to the state university system chancellor Frank Brogan, USF Poly's leader, Marshall Goodman, said the school's enrollment projections — deemed

[Middle school leader tapped to run Gibbs High in St. Petersburg](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 11/01/2011)

A middle school principal is being tapped for the top job at Gibbs High School in St. Petersburg. Interim Pinellas Superintendent John Stewart is recommending that Stephanie Adkinson, the principal at Tyrone Middle School in St. Petersburg, replace Kevin Gordon, who is stepping down as Gibbs principal in November to become a provost at St. Petersburg College. The school board is expected to vote...

[Borrowing time for students](#) Editorial

(Tampa Tribune © 11/01/2011)

President Obama's plan to ease student-loan debt will no doubt help some individuals. But the benefits will be slight, and American taxpayers will likely pick up the tab. The issue also underscores the pitfalls of having the federal government control the student-loan business. Obama wants to improve the economic outlook for college students and graduates facing heavy loan payments, a worthy goal...

[New VPK rules toughen standards](#)

(Tampa Tribune © 11/01/2011)

TAMPA – Rule changes for the state's Voluntary Prekindergarten program are meant to ensure all students get the same education, regardless of where they go to school, but some providers say the new standards would judge them unfairly. Last month, the Florida Board of Education approved a proposal for new learning standards for the free preschool program, paid for by the state. Th...

[A needy investment in education](#)

(Tampa Tribune © 11/01/2011)

By KEN SCHATZ We have a problem: 67 million primary-school-aged kids in developing countries don't have that opportunity to go to school, and 74 million adolescents are not enrolled in school. It's in our interest that they get educated. While we take school for granted, many kids can't. A little boy in the second grade of a Senegal school that goes only to the second grade asked a visi...

[Civil Rights Group: Bullying of Minorities On the Rise](#)

(West Orlando News © 11/01/2011)

The Florida Civil Rights Association (FCRA) said Monday it has been receiving an increasing number of bullying and harassment complaints from minority students and parents and the association is currently conducting an inquiry into three recent bus incidents. The focus of the inquiry will be on the anti-bullying and anti-harassment training which school bus drivers receive, a statement from FCRA ...

[Polk Schools will now charge charity groups hosting after-hours events on school grounds](#)

(WFTS ABC Channel 28 Tampa © 11/01/2011)

POLK COUNTY, Fla. - Charities used to hosting events on school grounds in Polk County will now have to open up a checkbook. Earlier this year, the Polk County School District decided it will start enforcing a policy that has been in the books for years but never fairly applied. The policy requires community groups pay a fee to use stadiums or classrooms for events. Before, most schools would c...

[No new discounts for illegal immigrants](#)

(Winter Haven News Chief © 11/01/2011)

At a debate in September, GOP presidential hopeful Rick Perry said it's heartless to deny illegal immigrants the right to attend college at in-state tuition rates. We'd call it fair and fiscally prudent. As Texas governor, Perry signed a bill in 2001 that lets illegal immigrants pay the lower tuition cost for state residents at public colleges and ...

Happy Tuesday!



Please see the three articles below. *Deborah*

Tallahassee Democrat

Pace teacher says no way to comply with Fla. voting law

8:30 AM, Nov. 1, 2011

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Florida Panhandle teacher who may be fined \$1,000 for turning in student voter registration applications late says she was unaware of a new 48-hour deadline.

Dawn Quarles says there's no way she could have gotten them mailed to the Supervisor of Elections office in time.

The Pace High School teacher may be the first person fined for violating Florida's new election law. The old law gave third parties 10 days to turn in applications.

The Republican-sponsored law has drawn fire from critics who say it will suppress voting by minorities, young people and the elderly who often tend to vote Democratic.

Quarles agrees.

She called the new law "crazy" and said it's an example of why the United States has the worst voter turnout among the Western democracies.

Tallahassee Democrat

FAMU makes changes to president's contract

1:20 PM, Oct. 31, 2011 | [5Comments](#)

James H. Ammons is no longer Florida A&M University's "president for life."

FAMU's Board of Trustees, working with Ammons, has made a half-dozen changes to the president's contract, including the removal of an evergreen clause that allowed his contract to automatically renew every day.

The new contract, unanimously agreed to during a recent evening teleconference, changes the term of Ammons' contract to five years effective July 1, 2011. It can be renewed or extended by a two-thirds vote of the board.

Ammons' so-called evergreen clause was unique among presidents at Florida's public universities, and had drawn national attention from "The Chronicle of Higher Education."

Tallahassee Democrat

Children's Movement lays out its legislative battle plan

11:31 PM, Oct. 31, 2011

By Ashley Ames

The Children's Movement of Florida

With the quiet chatter of a prekindergarten class coloring in the background, David Lawrence, chair of the Children's Movement of Florida, leaned forward in his chair to explain the privately funded coalition's goals for the upcoming year.

With the quiet chatter of a prekindergarten class coloring in the background, David Lawrence, chair of the Children's Movement of Florida, leaned forward in his chair to explain the privately funded coalition's goals for the upcoming year.

"This is about children as a priority," he said. "That's what we are after."

The Children's Movement's 2012 legislative agenda was announced Monday at the Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend.

The event, the first of 11 that will take place across the state, began with students from a local child-care center being read aloud to from a huge, illustrated children's book — centered on who had stolen the cookies from a cookie jar. Mel Jurado, director of the Florida Office of Early Learning, Sen. Bill Montford, D-Tallahassee, and Dominic Calabro, president and CEO of Florida TaxWatch, were also present to discuss the movement's agenda.

The 2012 agenda items, determined after meeting with community leaders across the state, aligned with the five original goals of the movement: health insurance; availability of screening and treatment for children who may have special needs; improved VPK quality; and increased availability of high-quality mentoring and parent skill-building programs.

The movement's goals for the 2012 legislative session are:

- High-quality parent skill-building programs
- Developmental screening, diagnosis and treatment for children who may have special needs
- The use of research-based curriculum as well as pre- and post- assessment for voluntary pre-kindergarten
- Health care for Florida's uninsured children
- Support for high-quality mentoring initiatives

Compared to the \$300 million in the proposed legislative cost of the 2011 agenda, the movement calculated the total cost for this year's items at a drastically reduced \$28.5 million. The last two agenda items would be accomplished largely through a grassroots campaign and private sector partners.

That, Lawrence said, should be doable.

"That should be an achievable goal in anyone's budget for the year to come," he said, adding that the total legislative budget was normally around \$70 billion.

We serve over 7,000 families across seven counties. And there is a lot of need," said Lauren Faison, CEO of the ELC Big Bend. "So we support anybody's agenda that is going to push for better standards for our children and put the resources that are needed to help them be successful."

"It's getting education in people's hands, it's raising the standards, it's making those who are educating our children be accountable and that is extremely important," she said of the agenda.

Last year, the movement achieved an additional 19,000 slots in the Florida KidCare program.

Not to be confused with the Children's Campaign — a nonprofit, statewide advocacy group for children's issues — the Children's Movement was launched in 2009 and has since grown to a 28-member steering committee and email subscription list of 290,000. During the first year, the movement held rallies across the state that drew a total of 15,000 —including 1,200 in Tallahassee. The movement identifies itself as non-partisan and citizen-led, with a mission to inform the state and encourage the leaders and people of Florida to make children the highest priority.

"We work the process," Lawrence said. "We are people who believe in the system, but simply want the system to be more responsive to the people."