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Sent time: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 8:17:10 AM
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Subject: FW: Education Roundup 1-28-12 through 1-30-12

FYI – have a great day!

Sincerely,

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From: Mongiovi, Jamie
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 8:06 AM
Subject: Education Roundup 1-28-12 through 1-30-12

Florida Department of Education
News Clips
January 28-30, 2012



[Ranking reflects well on schools](#)
(Citrus County Chronicle © 01/30/2012)

By Chronicle Editorial Board THE?ISSUE: Citrus County School District No. 14 in state. OUR?OPINION: Excellent work. The Citrus County School District once again has proven it is an exemplary organization after being ranked in the top quartile of Florida's school districts. The Florida Department of Education recently released its list of top districts, and Citrus was ...

[Colleges need accurate, real-time labor market data](#)
(CommunityCollegeTimes © 01/30/2012)

Accurate labor market data is "extraordinarily important," said John Dorrer, program director at Jobs for the Future. "If you get it wrong, you impose a high penalty on individuals," who might end up with a huge debt load and limited career prospects. Traditional labor market information "does a good job looking in the rear view mirror," but

does not do so well accurately projecting future tren...

[A-Plus money for schools spurs division among some](#)

(Florida Today © 01/30/2012)

I am writing about the A-Plus recognition money the state awards to public schools each year. I believe when a school is given this award, the school as a whole should promote education, nutrition, physical education and the mental well-being of a child. Unfortunately, any time money is involved in any such circumstance, the reason for winning it in the first place goes by the wayside. About 96...

[School officials must help kids left behind](#)

(Florida Today © 01/30/2012)

There is too much politics in our school system. We read in the papers and see on TV all the negative things our young people do. Yes, some of it is true and we as a community should be looking for answers and ways to change this serious negative trend. How do we do that? Schools administrators and board members need to be more pro-active with understanding the youth, as they have the best plat...

[Bus beating victim's mom wants stronger charges filed](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 01/30/2012)

The mother of the girl who was beaten by schoolmates during a Jan. 6 bus ride says the criminal charges against the seven accused attackers are not strong enough. The five girls accused of being involved in the beating were each charged by the State Attorney's Office with one count of battery and disorderly conduct. Two boys were also charged R...

[Stargel Bill to Grade Parents: Parental Intrusion, Revised](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 01/30/2012)

Last year, state Rep. Kelli Stargel, R-Lakeland, filed a bill to require public schoolteachers in prekindergarten to grade parental involvement on student report cards. That bill limited the classes to kindergarten through third grade. Stargel's 2011 bill failed, but not before it gained publicity in Florida and across the nation. She appeared on NBC's "Today" show, CNN and other televisi...

[Analysis: La. education debate mired in rhetoric](#)

(Orlando-WFTV (ABC) © 01/30/2012)

BATON ROUGE, La. — With nearly two months before lawmakers even consider a single education bill, the rhetorical fight is hot and heavy between Gov. Bobby Jindal and the teacher unions who oppose his plans. Both sides accuse the other of offensive remarks, demeaning parents or teachers depending on the perspective. Both sides accuse the other of going too far in the rhetorical debate, off...

[Parent Empowerment Act](#)

(Tallahassee-WCTV (CBS) © 01/30/2012)

Tallahassee, FL – January 24, 2012 – To hold public schools accountable this group of lawmakers and education advocates wants parents to have more power. "They really don't think their involvement counts that much," said former state senator Al Lawson. ...

[Manatee gets A+ for career academies](#)

(Bradenton Herald © 01/29/2012)

chawes@bradenton.com MANATEE – At just 18 years of age, Mark Molyneaux has more computer software certifications – 10 – than most people twice his age. Though he's still attending Braden River High School, he's earning the equivalent of an above-average, full-time wage by providing computer design work for a local manufacturing company. Once the sad child of a mother who d...

[Nicholas D. Kristof: How a teacher changed a life](#)

(Bradenton Herald © 01/29/2012)

New York Times News Service If you want to understand how great teachers transform lives, listen to the story of Olly Neal. A recent study showed how a great elementary schoolteacher can raise the lifetime earnings of a single class by \$700,000. After I wrote about the study, skeptics of school reform wrote me to say: Sure, a great teacher can make a difference in the right setting, but not...

[Pros, cons to Flagler's shorter school days](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 01/29/2012)

By the numbers Number of hours students spend in school each day (except for early release days): Flagler Elementary: 6.5 Middle, high: 6 Volusia Elementary: 6.2 or 7.2 Middle schools: 6.75 High schools: 7.25 PALM COAST – Walk into the Flagler County Youth Center after school hours and you'll find dozens of teens surfing the Internet, playing ta...

[School funding formula shortchanges Volusia students](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 01/29/2012)

Robert Moll, of DeLand, is assistant superintendent of finance for the Volusia County School District. There is certainly no shortage of commentary regarding public education. Does anyone doubt education's role in the preparation of young minds before they venture into full-time mainstream society? One can observe the constant bantering on both sides of the argument regard...

[Charters offer more opportunities to fit all kids' needs](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 01/29/2012)

Twenty years ago, there weren't many charter schools around. Today, however, they're a common sight. Indeed, the 10 states that have failed to permit the operation of charters are the laggards of a growing school-choice movement. Charters remain instrumental in the growth of school choice generally. Many states are now moving to provide families with a vast array of educational options. More and...

[Discipline in Duval's public schools: Are students really behaving better?](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 01/29/2012)

Suspensions of Duval County public school students have dropped dramatically over the past four years in a trend administrators attribute to the effectiveness of the district's alternative discipline programs but which some teachers say reflects pressure to turn a blind eye to student misconduct. Out-of-school suspensions for middle and high school students — historically the most common offende...

[Thrasher not falling on sword for conversation starter ethics bill](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 01/29/2012)

When lawmakers try to pass a bill, they often will play it coy. It's not good to be overconfident, but downplaying its chance is also not the norm. The pitch will rarely sound like this one from Sen. John Thrasher. "We will get it out of its Rules [Committee] and see how much further we want to go with it," the St. Augustine Republican said of his wide-ranging ethics bill. Despite being spon...

[Immokalee grad always ready for next test](#)

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 01/29/2012)

A day before she'd return to Immokalee after taking nephew Aaron Henry to the University of Wisconsin in June 2007, Rhoderica Washington burst out crying. After being around the campus and coaches and Madison, Wis., she had a good feeling, but the uncertainty made her emotions raw. For Henry, the tears soon followed, but Washington never would see them. ?I didn't realize I was on my own until s...

[Bad idea to grade parents](#)

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 01/29/2012)

Those educationally challenged state legislators are meddling again. House Bill 543, which cleared its first committee Wednesday by a 10-3 party-line vote, would have pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade teachers grade parents as well as students. A teacher would rate a parent on a scale of satisfactory to unsatisfactory based on attendance, signing emergency contact forms and response to reques...

[Apple taking on textbooks is a good thing](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 01/29/2012)

Rewrite the book on the computer industry — check. Revolutionize the way music is heard, produced and sold — check. Replace the modern camera and multiply its users exponentially — check. So, is there much doubt that Apple will make good on its recent initiative of flipping the textbook business on its head? Sure there will be d...

[Schools tally up bullying](#)

(Hernando Today © 01/29/2012)

BROOKSVILLE — When it comes to bullying, Fox Chapel Middle School stood out compared to all others last school year with double digit incidents recorded compared to all other schools with single digits. But Principal Barbara Kidder said that's a sign that school officials are tackling bullying complaints head on — not that bullies run rampant in the school. According to school ...

[School bus ads may aid riders](#)

(Hernando Today © 01/29/2012)

BROOKSVILLE — Allowing advertising on school buses could mean again providing busing to students living within two miles of their school — perhaps one day. However, the House and Senate bills still need to clear the legislature and one school board member said there's still the risk that lawmakers could view advertising revenue as an excuse to cut district-level transportation f...

[Haines City high schoolers create community book club](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 01/29/2012)

HAINES CITY - At Haines City High School, the students in one English teacher's class love to read and they want to share it with the community. They are hosting the first community book club called the "Big Reads." The ninth-grade IB students will lead a book discussion on "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. The 11th and 12-grade students will read "Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Z...

[Parents scramble for magnet schools](#)

(Miami Herald © 01/29/2012)

Securing a spot in Broward County's most selective public schools isn't a task for the faint of heart. Some parents agonize over the decision years before their child is old enough to enroll, calling principals, touring schools and questioning other parents. One mother made a tearful plea to the School Board last week, bringing a framed photograph of her 5-year-old son. Others have lob...

[School closings in Seminole may force thousands at other campuses to switch](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 01/29/2012)

SANFORD — Closing two schools in Seminole County could trigger a wave of rezonings that would affect thousands of students and half of the elementary schools in the district. Parents who thought they had nothing to worry about quickly could be drawn into a controversy that will expand far beyond the two closed schools. All 17 Seminole elementary schools east of U.S. Highway 17-92 a...

[Low district ranking demonstrates need for School Board to focus on better learning](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 01/29/2012)

The state last week announced academic performance rankings of Florida school districts, and Lake County was tied with two other counties for the illustrious spot of No. 44 of 67. That puts Lake at the top of the bottom third of a public school system that for years has been the butt of jokes across the nation. Lately, Florida's public schools have risen in rankings by the respected publication ...

[Several apply to be Seminole's new schools chief](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 01/29/2012)

SANFORD — The first applications for superintendent of Seminole County schools are in and the list includes several candidates who also have applied to be superintendent of Orange County schools. John Reichert, Seminole's director of human resources, has forwarded nine applications to a committee of community leaders that will recommend a handful to the School Board. Applications are being ...

[Bake sale held to save Oviedo school](#)

(Orlando-WKMG (CBS) © 01/29/2012)

OVIEDO, Fla. - Students at a Seminole County elementary school held a bake sale on Saturday as an effort to make up for the school district's budget shortfalls. Stenstrom Elementary School in Oviedo could close because of a district budget deficit of \$20 million. Parents are worried about the affects of losing the school would have on the community. "A school closing in a communi...

[Two superintendent candidates from Lee County, where students can pick schools](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 01/29/2012)

Two of the four finalists for the Palm Beach County School District superintendent's job come from a district that is only 125 miles to the west but in many ways is a different world. James Browder and Constance Jones hail from Lee County Public Schools. It is a "school choice" district, which gives students far more latitude in deciding which schools they attend than Palm Beach County do...

[Pulling the 'trigger'](#)

(Panama City News Herald © 01/29/2012)

Two bills in the Florida Legislature would provide parents with the ammunition they need to force major changes in their children's failing public schools. House and Senate committees last week approved the so-called "parent trigger" bills (HB 1191 and SB 1718) that would allow parents to select a "turnaround plan" for schools that repeatedly fail to meet minimum aca...

[Viewpoint: Data doesn't tell the whole story](#)

(Pensacola News Journal © 01/29/2012)

Recently, a succinct 1-67 ranking of all school districts in Florida was released by the Florida Department of Education. These rankings were based upon a series of calculations directly tied to the administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test in each county. Some districts, like St. Johns (south of Jacksonville) and Santa Rosa (ranked No. 1 and No. 2, respectively) have much to be...

[To boost spending, cutting spending](#)

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 01/29/2012)

To boost spending, cutting spending TALLAHASSEE - Higher tuition for college students. State worker layoffs. Cuts to hospitals. Yet at the same time, boosts in funding for public schools as well as money to cover the state's popular back-to-school sales tax holiday. Those details were included in a nearly \$69.2 billion proposed ...

[SCF and job training](#)

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 01/29/2012)

SCF and job training Too often, community colleges have been the odd man out in the education debate. The public and the political leaders tend to focus either on kindergarten through 12th grade or on traditional universities, leaving community colleges in a scholastic twilight void of both attention and adequate funding. But al...

[Chamber awards SFCC Business of the Year](#)

(Sebring News Sun © 01/29/2012)

SEBRING -- Dozens of laughs, numerous shout-outs and plenty of conversation filled the packed dining room at the Island View Lakefront Restaurant in Sun 'n Lake Thursday evening during the annual Sebring Chamber of Commerce Banquet. The big winner of the night was South Florida Community College, which received the Business of the Year honor. According to Dr. Michael McCloud, the chamber's inc...

[Governor's new school rating system flawed](#)

(Sebring News Sun © 01/29/2012)

How do you measure the success of your education system? For the Florida Department of Education, and Gov. Rick Scott, it now comes from rating system. A system built on a flawed test, the FCAT. Ask any middle school kid and you will discover that the FCAT only measures how much time teachers spend on preparing the students for the FCAT. Ask a teacher, and they will tell you the testing is...

[Parents scramble to get children into Broward's top public schools](#)

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 01/29/2012)

Securing a spot in Broward County's most selective public schools isn't a task for the faint of heart. Some parents agonize over the decision years before their child is old enough to enroll, calling principals, touring schools and questioning other parents. One mother made a tearful plea to the School Board last week, bringing a framed photograph of her 5-year-old son. Others have lobbied to ch...

[Guest column: Reading at grade level isn't easy for some students](#)

(St. Augustine Record © 01/29/2012)

By CRAIG A. DAVIS PhD staugustine.com Copyright 2012 St. Augustine Record. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed. January 29, 2012 - 12:35am Guest column: Reading at grade level isn't easy for some students St. Augustine Reading at "grade level isn't that difficult" is one of the most misleading comments from a state legislator I hav...

[Support for Thrasher's ethics bill low](#)

(St. Augustine Record © 01/29/2012)

By Matt Dixon staugustine.com Copyright 2012 St. Augustine Record. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed. January 29, 2012 - 12:45am Support for Thrasher's ethics bill low Morris News Service When lawmakers try to pass a bill, they often will play it coy. It's not good to be overconfident, but downplaying its chance is also not the n...

[St. Johns County School District faces \\$9 million shortfall, to consider cuts](#)

(St. Augustine Record © 01/29/2012)

By MARCIA LANE staugustine.com Copyright 2012 St. Augustine Record. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed. January 29, 2012 - 12:45am St. Johns County School District faces \$9 million shortfall, to consider cuts marcia.lane@staugustine.com St. Johns County education officials say the district will be \$9 million in the hole even with ...

[There's something to learn from higher student performance in Citrus County](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/29/2012)

Troll through demographic statistics — which, oddly, I enjoy — and you'll have a hard time finding two communities more alike than Citrus and Hernando counties. Both are medium-sized, not particularly diverse counties with a sizable percentage of retirees. Household incomes are higher in Hernando, but only by a couple of thousand dollars on average, and the percentage...

[Nuance is absent in ranking of Florida's school](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/29/2012)

I am totally on board with the state's idea of a public ranking of Florida's school districts. It has the whiff of transparency. The appearance of accountability. It has a user-friendly format that takes a complex issue and reduces it to the mathematical equivalent of a sound bite. I mean, what's not to like? Sure, if you want to get picky, you could say the rankings are based on a tiny ...

[Hillsborough students slip behind peers in Florida, analysis shows](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/29/2012)

TAMPA — Hillsborough County school officials are seeing the flip side of living by the numbers. They can make you look spectacular. Or they can mask a world of complications. In recent months the district has sent parents mass emails and created colorful website displays about its 84.3 percent graduation rate, the 93 percent of high schools that got A's and B's from the state, and top mar...

[College presidents wary of Obama's cost-control plan](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/29/2012)

WASHINGTON — Fuzzy math, Illinois State University's president called it. "Political theater of the worst sort," said the University of Washington's head. President Barack Obama's new plan to force colleges and universities to contain tuition or face losing federal dollars is raising alarm among education leaders who worry about the threat of government overreach. Particularly sharp word...

[Increasing number of charter schools in Pinellas can be a burden to the district's resources](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/29/2012)

Like most of Florida, Pinellas County is welcoming more charter schools to its school district. That means more work for school officials, who must monitor each charter school from the application phase to FCATs. Four charter schools opened last fall, bringing the total to 17 with some 4,000 of the district's 101,000 students enrolled. Another three charter schools are set to open in Augu...

[Pinellas students slip behind peers in Florida, analysis shows](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/29/2012)

Little by little, Pinellas is losing ground to other Florida school districts. Over the span of a decade, no big district made less progress in reading than Pinellas, and only one, Hillsborough, made less progress in math, according to a Tampa Bay Times analysis of FCAT scores in the 12 biggest districts. Compared to other districts, the trend lines for black students in Pinellas are especia...

[Byron Dobson: Hazing won't stop haunting Florida A&M](#)

(Tallahassee Democrat © 01/29/2012)

One has to wonder how many more cases of hazing involving Florida A&M University's Marching 100 band will surface. I suspect many more. The Tallahassee Police Department announced last week that it is investigating "a possible hazing" case referred by Florida A&M University police. I'd say it's a safe bet that the allegations have some substance and the incident probably occurred off campus, whic...

[Students At Liberty City School Get Free Laptops](#)

(CBS 4 Miami © 01/28/2012)

MIAMI (CBS4) – Dozens of students sit patiently in their school auditorium for what looks and sounds like the start of a typical school assembly, but these students are about to receive something special. "A laptop, and it's special because it can help us with our education and have fun while we are learning," T'Sipporah Amores, an excited fifth grader explained to ...

[Florida House rolls out nearly \\$69.2B budget](#)

(Florida Today © 01/28/2012)

TALLAHASSEE — Higher tuition for college students. State worker layoffs. Cuts to hospitals. Yet at the same time, boosts in funding for public schools as well as money to cover the state's popular back-to-school sales tax holiday. Those details were included in a nearly \$69.2 billion proposed spending plan for 2012, released by the Republican-controlled Florida House on Friday. Heading int...

[House budget includes PECO patch](#)

(Florida Tribune © 01/28/2012)

The budget proposal rolled out by the Florida House includes revenue tweaks that would allow the state to continue funding education-related construction projects. The proposed General Appropriations Act released Friday would provide nearly \$380 million for construction and repairs at colleges, universities and charter schools, where state economic forecasters had previously estimated no money wo...

[House budget spreads cuts across agencies](#)

(Florida Tribune © 01/28/2012)

The Florida House of Representatives on Friday released a \$69.2 billion budget that frees up money for schools and avoids the deep cuts to hospitals proposed by Gov. Rick Scott. The full budget released Friday, along with related bills discussed this week in committees, would address funding shortfalls for state courts, school construction and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. It wou...

[FL lawmakers propose school changes](#)

(Ft. Myers-WINK (CBS) © 01/28/2012)

LEE COUNTY, Fla. - Two pieces of education legislation are on the table in Tallahassee. Under the Parent Empowerment Act, parents would have the power to fire school staff if they feel the school is not up to par. Under the Parental Involvement and Accountability in the Public Schools Bill, teachers would actually grade parents on their involvement in childrens' schooling. Senator Lizbeth Benacqu...

[Raw FCAT County Ranking: Use Best Data](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 01/28/2012)

If Gov. Rick Scott's and state Education Commissioner Gerard Robinson's goal in ranking Florida's 67 school districts based on their latest FCAT scores was to start a dialogue, they have succeeded. The problem is, the conversation so far has had little to do with how to improve the state of education in Florida, but rather has focused on how unfair and unscientific the ranking is. The rea...

[Obama 'Putting Colleges On Notice' for High Tuition](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 01/28/2012)

ANN ARBOR, Mich. | President Barack Obama fired a warning at the nation's colleges and universities Friday, threatening to strip their federal aid if they "jack up tuition" every year and to give the money instead to schools showing restraint and value. Obama can't proceed, though, without the OK from Congress, where the reaction of Republican lawmakers ranged from muted to skeptical. Hi...

[Obama Encourages Financial Aid Sheets](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 01/28/2012)

NEW YORK | President Barack Obama wants to make it easier to size up the cost of college. As part of his broad plans to make college more affordable, Obama said Friday that he would push for financial aid "shopping sheets" that make it easier for families to comparison shop between schools. Federal education officials say the goal is make adoption of the form mandatory for schools to mai...

[Editorial: Trapped in debt](#)

(Ocala Star Banner © 01/28/2012)

In his State of the Union address Tuesday night, President Obama presented a forceful case for keeping a college education affordable for all Americans. "At a time when Americans owe more in tuition debt than credit card debt, this Congress needs to stop the interest rates on student loans from doubling in July," Obama said. His recomme...

[Playing the game](#)

(Osceola News-Gazette © 01/28/2012)

The news about Herzing University opening a nursing school in St. Cloud with 112 students initially and up to 16 faculty members is certainly welcome, as our community will be enhanced by the addition of this institution of higher education in terms of the jobs and opportunities it will provide. At Monday's Osceola County Commission workshop, it was mentioned that the \$650,000 capital investme...

[Still misguided on schools](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 01/28/2012)

The Legislature can't decide how it feels about parents. This week, committees advanced bills (HB 1191, SB 1718) to let parents seize control of a failing school and even farm it out to a for-profit company. But a House panel also acted on the sentiment that many parents need a jolt, approving a bill (HB 543) that would require elementary teachers to grade parents "satisfactory," "need..."

[Should teachers be able to grade parents?](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 01/28/2012)

Education experts long have said that parents are as important as teachers in determining whether a child succeeds in school. Students already get grades, and the Florida Legislature also has ordered new teacher evaluations. Now, a Florida lawmaker has proposed that some parents also receive a grade from their child's teacher. Rep. Kelli Stargel, R-Lakeland, introduced HB 543, Parental Involve...

[Santa Rosa, UWF plan joint school project](#)

(Pensacola News Journal © 01/28/2012)

The Santa Rosa County School Board on Thursday discussed several initiatives to improve training opportunities for future and current district educators. Bill Evans, director of the University of West Florida's School of Education, introduced a program called "Teachers Teaching Teachers" to the school board. The fast-track program will be a joint venture between UWF and Santa Rosa County School...

[Urine leaks at Palm Beach County high schools lead to costly repairs](#)

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 01/28/2012)

Palm Beach County public schools decided to go green several years ago to help protect the environment and save on energy bills. But the switch to waterless urinals in numerous boy's bathrooms has become a costly mess on some campuses. Copper pipes behind the walls in at least two bathrooms at Spanish River High in Boca Raton corroded, leading to urine flowing across floors and students holding t...

[Lighthouse helps the visually-impaired](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/28/2012)

Close your eyes for a few seconds and imagine what your life would be like if that darkness became permanent. Imagine a baby born without eyesight, perfectly normal otherwise, destined to live for many decades without ever seeing how anything looks. This is a fact of life for many even though the great majority of us take our eyesight for granted. Without proper eyesight, people lose most of their...

[Busting STEM stereotypes](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/28/2012)

Seventeen-year-old Kyla Kolb is busting stereotypes. A senior at Lakewood High in the school's Center for Advanced Technology, she is a computer programming whiz with a 4.2 weighted grade point average. Kyla learned recently that she won an award sponsored by Bank of America and the National Center for Women & Information Technology. The award recognizes 35 young women in high schools nationw...

[Behind the FCAT numbers, a need to improve](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/28/2012)

Rising FCAT scores show a larger portion of Florida public school students have mastered reading and math at grade level than just a decade ago. But a look behind those numbers by the Tampa Bay Times education team also suggests public school students in Tampa Bay aren't improving as fast as their peers statewide. The trend is particularly noticeable in Pinellas and Hillsborough counties which e...

[Thumb up: Martin County School District posts impressive showing in Florida's first-ever district rankings](#)

(Stuart News © 01/28/2012)

HIGH MARKS: There are 67 school districts in the Sunshine State. In the first-ever district rankings released this week by the Florida Department of Education, the Martin County School District posted an impressive showing. How impressive? The district ranked No. 3. The numerical ranking is based on each school's total points derived from scores on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test taken...

[House spending plan would give Treasure Coast school districts at least another \\$100 per student](#)

(Stuart News © 01/28/2012)

TALLAHASSEE — House budget leaders have one-upped Gov. Rick Scott's request for another \$1 billion in next year's schools spending plan, and their proposal would arm Treasure Coast districts with at least another \$100 per student in 2012-13. In the \$69.2 billion budget plan the House released Friday, pre-kindergarten-through-12th-grade schools get a \$1.1 billion bump that would put Treasure Coa...

[School fund may be replenished](#)

(Tampa Bay Online © 01/28/2012)

TALLAHASSEE — Florida House Republicans are rolling out a plan to replenish the state's depleted school construction account. A House panel on Thursday approved a bill that would shift money that now goes to other parts of the state budget into the special account that is used to pay for new school buildings and to repair roofs and air conditioners. The initial House budget fo...

[Kind of blue](#)

(Tampa Bay Online © 01/28/2012)

To steal a title from a Miles Davis tune, "So What?" That is our reaction to this week's announcement that the Pasco County School District ranked 34th among Florida's 67 districts — more or less dead in the middle — on a Florida Department of Education ranking scaled based on results of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. The Department of Education, which eventually plans to rank every ...

[Rally in Tally for Lower Tuition](#)

(Tallahassee-WCTV (CBS) © 01/27/2012)

Tallahassee, FL — January 26, 2012 — Hundreds of college students are asking lawmakers to fund higher education. The students traveled from all over Florida today to rally at the state capitol. Alex Castro is a sophomore from Florida International University. Castro, like many other Florida students, says the legislature is making it hard for them

to pay for s...

Have a great week!

Jamie C. Mongiovi

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