

From: Smith, Kevin
Sent time: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 12:01:01 PM
To: Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>; Walt Griffin <walt_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us>; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope
Subject: FW: Education Roundup 1-31-12

FYI – have a great day!

Sincerely,

Kevin Smith,
Deputy Director,
Just Read, Florida! Office
Florida Department of Education
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 501
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-0503
(850) 245-5105 (Fax)
www.justreadflorida.com



From: Mongiovi, Jamie
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 8:11 AM
Subject: Education Roundup 1-31-12

Florida Department of Education



[State releases academic rankings](#) (Bradenton Herald © 01/31/2012)

Three schools in East Manatee rated the highest in their categories among Manatee County schools, according to new academic rankings released by the Florida Department of Education. Witt Elementary was rated the No. 82 elementary school in the state; Nolan Middle School was the No. 115 middle school; and Lakewood Ranch High School was the No. 78 high school. The lowest-ranked Manatee schools in ...

[District to staff: Find 10% to cut](#) (Bradenton Herald © 01/31/2012)

Special to the Herald BRADENTON – Manatee School District officials held another budget workshop Monday night in an effort to gain ideas about cutting expenses for the 2012-13 school year. The challenge: Find 10 percent to cut, should it be necessary. School Superintendent Tim McGonegal praised workshop participants for their efforts. "It was a great exchange of information," ...

[Education: States should do more to reach students](#)

(Bradenton Herald © 01/31/2012)

AP Education Writer In its initial review of No Child Left Behind waiver requests, the U.S. Education Department highlighted a similar weakness in nearly every application: States did not do enough to ensure schools would be held accountable for the performance of all students. The Obama administration praised the states for their high academic standards. But nearly every application was cr...

[Parents, community leaders fight to save Casselberry Elementary](#)

(Central Florida News 13 © 01/31/2012)

CASSELBERRY – More than 100 Casselberry parents and community members agreed to a few points during a community meeting held at Casselberry Community United Methodist Church Monday. The first being if Casselberry Elementary School is closed, it will have a ripple effect across Seminole County because thousands of students could be forced to transfer to...

[FDOE announces school rankings](#)

(Charlotte Sun Herald © 01/31/2012)

One week after announcing district rankings, the Florida Department of Education has released rankings of all 3,078 public and charter schools in Florida. Schools in Charlotte, Sarasota and DeSoto counties ranked all across the board. The rankings were broken down into categories of elementary, middle and high schools, as well as combination schools. The rankings were based mainly on test scores f...

[Volusia school grades mixed on new state report card](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 01/31/2012)

MORE: Complete list of Florida school rankings DAYTONA BEACH – Volusia County schools earned mixed results Monday on a new state report card ranking the performance of all Florida public schools, with two local elementary schools rated in the top 10 percent and others finishing near the bottom. Freedom Elementary in DeLand and Sweetwater Elementary in Port Orange tied f...

[Flagler schools fair to middling in state rankings](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 01/31/2012)

MORE: Complete list of Florida school rankings BUNNELL – Most Flagler County schools placed near the middle of a new set of school rankings that rate the performance of all Florida public schools. Overall, the traditional schools in the north end of the county did best. Indian Trails Middle School in Palm Coast was the county's highest-ranking school, placing 141st amon...

[Focus on education at Legislature](#)

(Fernandina Beach News Leader © 01/31/2012)

Week two of the legislative session was filled with a focus on education. Tuesday morning began with an 8 a.m. meeting of the PreK-12 Appropriations subcommittee. The Auditor General's office presented the findings of an audit of the Early Learning Programs and related delivery systems. The School Readiness Program was created to prepare children for school while enabling parents to work and becom...

[State: Duval has lowest performing high school](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 01/31/2012)

Academically struggling Andrew Jackson High ranked last for student achievement among Florida's high schools while Stanton College Preparatory was fifth, according to a state education department rating released Monday. Jackson was among six Duval high schools in the bottom 15 of the high school rankings. The others were Raines, Forrest, Ribault, Englewood and Ed White. Duval County's poor ran...

[Six Brevard schools score big with state's new ranking system](#)

(Florida Today © 01/31/2012)

Six Brevard schools are among the best in the state, according to new school rankings released Monday by the Florida Department of Education. West Melbourne Elementary was ranked the No. 1 elementary school in Florida, Freedom 7 in Cocoa Beach the third and Indialantic the ninth. For combination high schools, West Shore in Melbourne was ranked second, Edgewood in Merritt Island third and Cocoa Be...

[Sanibel School No. 1 in state](#)

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 01/31/2012)

The Sanibel School is the best place to get an elementary/middle school education in the state, according to Florida's first-ever school rankings released Monday. The state Department of Education posted its best-to-worst ranking of Florida's 3,078 public schools, and the Sanibel Island school was the only Lee and Collier County institution to get a top-10 ranking. Sanibel was the top-ranked comb...

[Not Out of the Woods Yet](#)

(Inside Higher Education © 01/31/2012)

While 2011 endowment returns make it look like investing is back to the good old days, colleges and universities aren't in the clear yet. College and university endowments returned an average of 19.2 percent in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2011, a rate that more closely resembles pre-recession levels than those of the preceding two years, according to an annual survey compiled by the N...

[Dreaming of the Ideal Student](#)

(Inside Higher Education © 01/31/2012)

Each month, the writers at University of Venus share their answers to a question we pose for the higher education sector. This month's question comes to us from Denise Horn. Denise has asked us to describe our ideal student and in so doing, we reveal our dreams for the future of education. Bonnie Stewart (Canada) My ideal student seems to change every few years, as my teaching does. I...

[More help for homeless kids](#)

(Lake City Reporter © 01/31/2012)

S&S Food Stores donated \$6,250 to the Columbia County School District Homeless Education Program at Tuesday night's school board meeting. Pictured are Michael Millikin, Columbia County School District superintendent; Keith Brown, vice president of marketing for S&S Food Stores; Dana Huggins, homeless education liaison; Lisa Gandiana, district supervisor for S&S; and Steve Nelson, ...

[State releases rankings of public schools](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 01/31/2012)

LAKELAND -- Lincoln Avenue Academy, Lawton Chiles Middle, Lakeland High School and McKeel charter schools got the top marks for Polk County in a numerical ranking of Florida's public schools released Monday by the state Department of Education. The goal of the rankings is to make it easier for parents to understand schools' performances. Out of 1,795 elementary schools statewide, Lincoln...

[Editorial: Valuable job training](#)

(Ocala Star Banner © 01/31/2012)

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 all that is changing — at least we hop...

[Data: Bright Futures not just for rich](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 01/31/2012)

Florida's Bright Futures scholarships may be perceived as financial aid for the elite, but 40 percent of the recipients come from families making \$50,000 or less, according to data released Thursday. The scholarships, funded by the Florida Lottery, are based on merit, not financial need. As the state has faced shrinking revenue, questions have been raised about whether the state should change how...

[Are virtual schools right for K-12 students?](#)

(Orlando-WKMG (CBS) © 01/31/2012)

(CNN) - It's a Tuesday morning in January, and seventh-grader Katerina Christhilf is learning algebra. But it's no ordinary class. This one takes place entirely online, led by a teacher a few miles away. As part of her training to become a ballerina, Katerina takes dance lessons four times a week, including up to eight hours on Fridays. All that training makes it hard to go to a...

[Beach school ranked among state's best](#)

(Pensacola News Journal © 01/31/2012)

Pensacola Beach Elementary School Principal Jeff Castleberry was not surprised to hear on Monday that the charter school is in the top 25 elementary schools in the state, based on standardized test scores. "My students never surprise me at how well they do," he said. "They love school, they love to learn, and they know the importance of it." On Monday, the Florida Department of Education release...

[Sarasota Schools Rank High in State](#)

(Sarasota Patch.com © 01/31/2012)

Several Sarasota schools are faring well compared to their counterparts across the state, according to ratings released by the Florida Department of Education. Gifted and talented school, Pine View High, claimed the No. 1 spot for Combination Schools with High School elements, according to the state. Fifty-five schools are in that category. "Floridians care about education, and it is...

[Parent trigger bad policy](#)

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 01/31/2012)

It's understandable that parents who have seen little improvement in their children's poor-performing Florida schools would have itchy trigger fingers. So what does the Legislature propose? Putting a powerful weapon in the hands of untrained parents. Last week, state House and Senate committees endorsed so-called "parent trigger" bills that would empower 51-percent parent majorities to select a "...

[Fla. Lawmakers Face Big Hurdles In Trying To Revamp State University System](#)

(University Business © 01/31/2012)

Amid a clamor to overhaul a state university system lawmakers say isn't cutting it, Sen. John Thrasher wants to ban lawmakers from holding jobs with public colleges and universities they fund. Given past scandal, Thrasher said it's best to eliminate the "conflict of interest." But Thrasher is the same lawmaker who, as house speaker in 2000, helped secure a new medical school at Florida State U...

[Parents say FAIR test is anything but](#)

(WJXT Channel 4 Duval County © 01/31/2012)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - Parents gathered Monday night to learn about a type of testing they may have found confusing. Starting this year, kindergarten through 2nd grade students will have to take an assessment called FAIR, or Florida Assessment for Instruction in Reading. "If we can get parents to buy in and understand what it means we're going to have a more literate city," said ...

[Gadsden elementary schools celebrate top honors](#)

(WTXL ABC Channel 27 Tallahassee © 01/31/2012)

Quincy, Fla. (WTXL)-- Gadsden County School leaders were excited to hear two of their elementary schools were ranked in the top 25 among the more than 2,600 state schools. Gadsden Magnet Elementary was ranked 10th, while Stewart Elementary was ranked number 25. Both schools received A's by in the grades given by the Florida Department of Education. education, Gadsden County...

Have a wonderful day!

Jamie C. Mongiovi

Office of Communications & Public Affairs

Florida Department of Education

jamie.mongiovi@fldoe.org

(850) 245-0413