

From: Smith, Kevin
Sent time: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 11:06:32 AM
To: Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>; Moeller, Katie; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope; Walt Griffin <walt_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us>
Subject: FW: Education Roundup 2-08-12

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: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 8:23 AM
Subject: Education Roundup 2-08-12

Florida Department of Education



[Legislators send millions to groups with connections](#)
(Bradenton Herald © 02/08/2012)

The Washington Post WASHINGTON – Some members of Congress send tax dollars to companies, colleges and community groups where their spouses, children and parents work as salaried employees, lobbyists or board members, according to an examination of federal disclosure forms and local public records by The Washington Post. A U.S. senator from South Dakota helped add millions to a Pentagon pro...

[Flagler School Board reviews teacher evaluation method](#)
(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 02/08/2012)

BUNNELL – Flagler County schools are preparing to roll out a new data-based method for evaluating teacher performance. The system will be based largely on standardized test scores, Coordinator of Assessment and Accountability Shawn Schmidli told School Board members during a regular meeting Tuesday night. The formula will also consider other factors that affect students' performance "to level t...

[Number of public school employees declines](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 02/08/2012)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) – The number of employees in Florida's public schools has declined. The state Department of Education reports there were about 318,000 full-time employees at the start of the current school year. That's a nearly two percent decline compared to the previous year. Instructional staff, including teachers, counselors and librarians, accounted for 60 percent of all employees...

[Selecting new superintendent is School Board's most important decision](#)

(Florida Keys Keysnews © 02/08/2012)

By ANDY GRIFFITHS Monroe County School Board Monroe County voters decided in 2010 that we will now hire the superintendent of schools instead of electing them at large. Elected superintendents may or may not have expertise or experience relevant to running a school district. And now that we're joining the rest of the country in appointing a superintendent, it's time to actually begin the search...

[Sunshine Laws Raise the Stakes in USF Poly Search For New Regional Chancellor](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 02/08/2012)

LAKELAND | When University of South Florida President Judy Genshaft removed the leader of the Polytechnic campus from office, she knew hiring a new regional chancellor would be quite a project. Facts "References are typically written and submitted, which risks the real plus and minus assessment, since no one ... would say anything derogatory." Ted Muendel, Stanton Chase Internat...

[Senate Rolls Out Hike in Ed Funding](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 02/08/2012)

TALLAHASSEE | Florida lawmakers are closing in on a public school budget that will increase state spending by more than \$1 billion next year. But despite the boost, total school funding will remain relatively flat in the coming year, as local school districts will have to use the added state money to make up for the loss of federal funding, an increase in enrollment and a drop in local pr...

[Dan Marino Foundation plans downtown Fort Lauderdale college for the developmentally disabled](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 02/08/2012)

Posted: 7:14 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012 The Dan Marino Foundation's plans for a downtown college for the developmentally disabled could give students the real-world experiences they need to make it on their own. For the foundation started by the former Miami Dolphins quarterback in 1992 after his 2-year-old son Michael was diagnosed with autism, the first-of...

[Not the time to mess with tenure](#)

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 02/08/2012)

It's hard to see what benefit is to be gained by eliminating college faculty tenure, other than scoring political points. Yet, according to a Sun Sentinel story, some observers still think the idea is alive in the halls of the Florida Legislature, although no bills have been filed this session. The Legislature eliminated tenure for new K-12 teachers last year, and proposed ending it for communi...

[Teen stabbed during fight at school](#)

(St. Augustine Record © 02/08/2012)

MIAMI LAKES, Fla. — Authorities say a student was stabbed during a fight at a Miami Lakes high school. School officials say the fight occurred Tuesday afternoon at Barbara Goleman High School. According to the Miami Herald (<http://bit.ly/Aur4vX>), two male students got into a fight with a third student, who pulled a pocket knife. The third student then cut one of his two attackers in the back...

[What's slowing student achievement in Pinellas? Everybody has a theory](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 02/08/2012)

It's clear Pinellas County public school students are making less academic progress than their peers in nearly every other big school district in Florida. It's not clear why. A Tampa Bay Times analysis of a decade's worth of FCAT scores found none of the state's 12 biggest districts has made less progress in reading than Pinellas and only one, Hillsborough, has made less progress in math. A Time...

[With B+ Report Card, Have Florida Schools Hit a Wall?](#)

(Sunshine State News © 02/08/2012)

Gov. Rick Scott, Matt Ladner and Jeb BushA new national study provides more evidence that school improvements may have stalled in Florida – yet the overall grade appears to be incomplete. After a decade leading scholastic reform, the Sunshine State lost ground on the 2011 Education Performance and Policy Index compiled by the American Legislative Exchange Council. While Florida received an over...

[School calendar on hold](#)

(Tampa Bay Online © 02/08/2012)

LAND O' LAKES – An effort to give Pasco County school district students and employees a full week off at Thanksgiving may have fizzled. A district committee proposed a 2012-13 academic calendar that included that week off, but Superintendent Heather Fiorentino recommended on Tuesday that the school board approve a calendar that would keep the Thanksgiving break at the tradit...

[Schools worried about class sizes](#)

(Tampa Bay Online © 02/08/2012)

LAND O' LAKES – In an effort to reduce a \$4 million penalty, the Pasco County school district will submit to the state next week a plan for meeting class-size requirements in 2012-13. Already, though, district officials and school board members are worried about the cost of meeting the class-size mandate in the coming fiscal year, which is expected to be even more expensive ...

[Schools chairwoman rejects Muslim threat complaints](#)

(Tampa Bay Online © 02/08/2012)

TAMPA – Some wore neckties that resembled American flags. Some were parents or grandparents. One was not yet even a teenager. They all were united with a mission. And one by one, the speakers took the Hillsborough County school board to task Tuesday over what they said was the improper teaching of Islam in a high school classroom last year by the leader of the local Council on Am...

[Fla. Senate Proposes 3 Percent Tuition Hike For Community Colleges](#)

(University Business © 02/08/2012)

A higher education budget committee unveiled a spending plan today that calls for a 3 percent tuition hike for state colleges and community colleges and no increase for Florida's 11 public universities. Meanwhile, the House plan calls for an 8 percent tuition increase next school year. State Sen. Evelyn Lynn, chairwoman for the Senate committee, said she wants to try to keep the increase small...

Have a great day!

Jamie C. Mongiovi

Office of Communications & Public Affairs

Florida Department of Education

jamie.mongiovi@fldoe.org

(850) 245-0413