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**Sent time:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 6:12:50 PM  
**To:** Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope; Walt Griffin <walt\_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us>  
**Subject:** FW: Education Roundup 2-15-12

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FYI –

Have a great evening!

Sincerely,

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**From:** Mongiovi, Jamie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2012 8:55 AM  
**Subject:** Education Roundup 2-15-12

## Florida Department of Education



[SCF joins USF in objecting to proposed budget cuts](#)  
(Bradenton Herald © 02/15/2012)

[chawes@bradenton.com](mailto:chawes@bradenton.com) MANATEE – State College of Florida and the University of South Florida Sarasota/Manatee are united in their belief that proposed drastic cuts to USF's Tampa campus would be devastating to the Bradenton/Sarasota area. Lars Hafner, president of SCF, and Arthur Guilford, regional chancellor for USF Sarasota/Manatee, said the proposed \$129 million bite out of USF&#x...

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[Charter school funding dies in Fla. House panel](#)  
(Bradenton Herald © 02/15/2012)

The Associated Press A proposal to give charter schools a guaranteed share of public school tax dollars for maintenance, rent and other capital outlay has died in a House appropriations subcommittee. The panel Tuesday refused to add it to a bill (HB 903) setting new accountability criteria for charter schools. The amendment failed on a tie vote

but the underlying bill was approved. Rep. Ja...

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### [Schools in danger of losing water, power](#)

(Central Florida News 13 © 02/15/2012)

Ocala – The city could cut off water and electricity to nearly two dozen Marion County schools if the district doesn't pay up. Now, Marion County's school board has filed a temporary injunction to keep the lights on and water flowing for its 20,000 students and staff members. The city of Ocala has asked the county school district to pay...

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### [Florida Panhandle's top STEM Scholars to be honored in Orlando](#)

(Chipley Bugle © 02/15/2012)

The Scholars event started as a simple science and math competition in 1997 and has evolved into a program designed to recognize Florida's top high school STEM students and recruit them to pursue their post secondary education in Florida – increasing the likelihood that they will join Florida's future workforce. Each school district selects and names one 11th grade scholar based on established cri...

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### [FCAT 2.0 test anxiety hits Brevard School Board](#)

(Florida Today © 02/15/2012)

Bracing for the impact of more difficult passing scores for the FCAT 2.0, a Brevard County School Board member drew a comparison Tuesday to natural disasters. "It's like a tsunami is coming," board member Michael Krupp said. "The earthquake has already happened. Now, we're just waiting for the wave." More Brevard students are expected to fail the reading and math assessments this year, based on...

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### [Funding measure fails to get on charter school bill](#)

(Florida Tribune © 02/15/2012)

An effort to funnel more money for maintenance and construction projects to charter schools was left off legislation that would increase the number of charter schools that can be built. The amendment failed Tuesday when members of the House PreK-12 Education Appropriations Subcommittee voted it down. The measure, offered as an amendment to HB 903, would have sent 80 percent of money collected by ...

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### [For some incoming freshman class, an innovative experiment](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 02/15/2012)

Inverness high school senior Brooke Perry was among students who found out Friday that they were accepted to the University of Florida, but with a twist. She won't be among the 6,400 students starting during the late summer and fall, the traditional time for incoming UF freshmen to begin. Instead, Perry is among 500 students beginning next spring and barred f...

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### [New State Legislation Increases Difficulty For Those Seeking Adult Education](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 02/15/2012)

LAKELAND | Hoping to get a second chance, Belinda Bell decided to enroll in the West Area Adult School. But getting in wasn't easy. Bell, 34, couldn't just show a Social Security card or a driver license to enroll. She had to prove she has lived in the area for 12 consecutive months. Although it was frustrating, she knew from experience that obtaining her General Education Development d...

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### [Contest would focus on teacher quality](#)

(Miami Herald © 02/15/2012)

The Obama administration is hoping competition combined with cash will encourage states and school districts to improve the nation's teaching corps. Education Secretary Arne Duncan planned to announce details of the administration's proposed \$5 billion program for a new Race to the Top-style competition, with states and districts competing for grant dollars to improve teacher quality, during a town...

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### [Schools consider policies for teachers and students on Facebook and Twitter](#)

(Miami Herald © 02/15/2012)

In the real world, students are expected to follow along with their teachers, and if they like them even better. But in the virtual world of social media, should principals and school districts know when students "like" their teacher's profile page on Facebook, or "follow" them on Twitter? The question is up for discussion as Miami-Dade and Broward lay the groundwo...

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### [Collier Schools officials begin preparations for tougher FCAT](#)

(Naples Daily News © 02/15/2012)

Collier County School District officials plan to increase communication with parents and set benchmarks for success as students and teachers prepare for a more difficult Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test this spring. School board members heard a presentation during their Tuesday board meeting, acknowledging the difficult year ahead for Florida educators and students. The state Board of Educa...

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### [Pre-K and VPK applications for 2012-13 being accepted](#)

(Ocala Star Banner © 02/15/2012)

The Marion County School District is now accepting applications for the prekindergarten and voluntary prekindergarten (VPK) programs operated by the Title One Office. This full-day program takes place during the normal 2012-2013 school year and is not related to Summertime VPK programs. Applications are available at participating school sites, the Title One Office (306 NW 7th Ave. in Ocala) and ...

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### [4-day school week killed](#)

(Ocala Star Banner © 02/15/2012)

The Marion County School Board officially ended its quest to implement four-day school weeks for 2012-13, voting unanimously Tuesday night to remove the radical calendar off its books. Superintendent of Schools Jim Yancey will soon issue a five-day calendar, and the board will likely vote on the mainstream calendar on Feb. 28. Board member Bobby ...

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### [Editorial: There's more to life than a career](#)

(Ocala Star Banner © 02/15/2012)

"The unexamined life is not worth living." — Socrates In the increasingly politicized debate over liberal arts vs. STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), it is easy to lose sight of the fact that a higher education has never been, nor should it ever be, exclusively about career-preparation. As institut...

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### [Seminole drops school-closing plans amid furor](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 02/15/2012)

SANFORD — Bowing to pressure from parents and state lawmakers, the Seminole County School Board on Tuesday abandoned plans to close two elementary schools. With a couple of hundred parents in the audience applauding, the board unanimously accepted Superintendent Bill Vogel's recommendation to drop any consideration of closing additional schools for the coming school year. The board is looki...

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#### [Proposed budget cut to USF stirring opposition](#)

(Saint Petersburg © 02/15/2012)

Members of the House and Senate pushed back Tuesday against a Senate budget cut to higher education that would hit the University of South Florida hardest — payback, opponents say, for the university's coolness toward independence for its Lakeland campus, reports Brandon Larrabee of the News Service of Florida. The Senate budget would slice \$400 million from the state's univers...

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#### [Budget bull for USF](#)

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 02/15/2012)

Budget bull for USF When it comes to an outlandish state Senate proposal to gut the University of South Florida's funding, it's hard not to be suspicious of the motives. Whatever is behind the measure, the cuts should be summarily rejected by cooler heads. Sen. J.D. Alexander, the powerful budget chairman from Polk County, is b...

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#### [Senate plans would cripple USF](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 02/15/2012)

The Florida Senate has unleashed a two-pronged attack that, if allowed to stand, will damage higher education and cripple the University of South Florida. The first salvo was the latest twist on the plan to transform USF Polytechnic in Lakeland into the state's 12th independent university, initiated by Senate Budget Chairman JD Alexander last year. The Board of Governors, while acknowledging the ...

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#### [Science fair is good for future of students, country](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 02/15/2012)

Recently, my wife and I volunteered as judges for the Hernando County Science and Engineering Fair's medicine and health entries. After a lapse of almost 15 years, I returned to judging and was pleasantly surprised to note the enthusiasm and passion among students to do science projects hadn't diminished. It was, indeed, a heartwarming experience as we met and talked to the many bright young stu...

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#### [For USF Bulls' Hugh Robertson, the point is defense](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 02/15/2012)

TAMPA — Points and rebounds are wonderful, really, but what Hugh Robertson is really looking for when handed the stat sheet after a USF game is an ugly night for whatever star Stan Heath has asked him to shut down. "I love it. Every game, Coach lines me up with the best player, and I accept the challenge," said Robertson, a 6-foot-6 senior guard from Macon, Ga., who has started every Big Ea...

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#### [Boy genius' book reveals life in college at age 8](#)

(Tampa Bay News 9 © 02/15/2012)

LOS ANGELES — One thing 14-year-old Moshe Kai Cavalin dislikes is being called a genius. All he did, after all, was enroll in college at age 8 and earn his first of two Associate of Arts degrees from East Los Angeles Community College at age 9. Now, at 14, he's poised to graduate from UCLA this year. He's also just published an English edition of his first book, "We Can Do." The 100...

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[More absurdity](#)

(Tampa Bay Online © 02/15/2012)

Please forgive us for our fascination with the looming train wreck facing the Pasco County School District and the Florida class-size amendment. It is so mesmerizing because it is playing out seemingly according to a script written by masters of irony, surrealism and satire such as Joseph Heller, Franz Kafka, Kurt Vonnegut Jr. and the Marx Brothers; Groucho, Harpo, Chico, Gummo, Zeppo and Karl. ...

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[Bay District School Board Facing More Budget Cuts](#)

(WJHG NBC News 7 Panama City © 02/15/2012)

Bay District School Board members are looking at another lean budget year in 2012-2013. The state legislature has promised to give 1.2 billion dollars back to education this year. But board members say that doesn't cover the 1.3 billion dollars they cut last year. ...

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[FL ban on lawmakers working as college employees dies](#)

(WTXL ABC Channel 27 Tallahassee © 02/15/2012)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – A bill banning Florida lawmakers from working at community colleges or universities has died in a Senate committee. Democrat Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda has been representing a portion of the Big Bend in the Florida House for four years. But even longer, since the 1980s, she's been a full time professor at Tallahassee Community College. But the new measure woul...

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Have a lovely day!

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