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Subject: FW: 1-06-12 Education Round Up

FYI have a great weekend! ☺

Sincerely,

Kevin Smith,

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From: Champion-Mongiovi, Jamie
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2012 9:17 AM
Subject: 1-06-12 Education Round Up

Florida Department of Education

[Fiscal stick will hurt, but won't help](#)

(Citrus County Chronicle © 01/06/2012)

THE ISSUE: State may fine 35 school districts for violating class-size amendment. OUR OPINION: Monetary penalties will likely prove counterproductive. Despite implementation costs estimated as high as \$27 billion, 52 percent of Florida voters approved a hotly debated constitutional amendment in 2002 to cap class sizes at 18 students for grades K-3, 22 students for grades 4-8 and ...

[School board rejects step pay increase \(SLIDESHOW, DOCUMENTS\)](#)

(Destin Log © 01/06/2012)

NICEVILLE Despite a passionate crowd of more than 600 people, the Okaloosa County School Board voted Wednesday night to not give teachers a step increase for the 2011-12 year. The unanimous vote came after a nearly two-hour meeting intended to end a long-standing impasse between the school district and the Okaloosa County Education Association over whether teachers would receive their con...

[Local high school grades a mixed bag this year](#)

(Destin Log © 01/06/2012)

High school grades in Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton counties were a mixed bag this year. All three counties maintained their district-wide A-grades, but individual school grades fluctuated. Half the grades were based on the percentage of students who scored a 3 or above on the various FCAT tests. The second half was based on five criteria established last year that considered things such as en...

[Politics K-12 Blog: CCSSO to Congress, Obama: Write a Bipartisan NCLB Bill](#)

(Education Week © 01/06/2012)

With Republicans on the House education committee poised to release a GOP-only bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Council of Chief State School Officers is calling on education leaders in the House to come together to pass bipartisan legislation. "We hope that Congress and the administration will not miss the chance to focus on fundamental areas of agreement and...

[Bill Proctor says implementing merit-pay, higher education reform are education committee's top priorities](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 01/06/2012)

The biggest education-related food fight during the past two legislative sessions will dominate the agenda of the Florida Houses top education committee again this year. A controversial bill that, among other things, tethered teacher pay to student performance and put an end to tenure passed last session after former Gov. Charlie Crist vetoed a similar bill in 2010. In an interview this week, St...

[Duval school officials blasted over ousted principal](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 01/06/2012)

About a half-dozen people Thursday evening voiced their displeasure with Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals and Duval County School Board Chairwoman Betty Burney for the communication and handling of ousted Raines High School Principal George Maxey. Burney called Thursdays community meeting at Raines to discuss a new state exam that students will have to take, the plan in place for improving Raines ...

[Fla. Legislature could wrap up session early](#)

(Ft. Myers-WINK (CBS) © 01/06/2012)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) - Florida legislators start a 60-day session next week but the leader of the Florida Senate says the session may wrap up earlier than planned. Senate President Mike Haridopolos said Thursday that he remains worried that the state's finances are fluctuating and that lawmakers should delay until later this year a vote on a new budget. Ha...

[Minority teachers are hard to come by](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 01/06/2012)

When Juliun Kinsey recently volunteered as an instructor at Terwilliger Elementary School, the Santa Fe College graduate noticed something missing. The children, he said, had few teachers who, like him, shared their skin color. "Teachers should reflect the student body," Kinsey said. "If a majority of your kids are minority, but 90 percent of you..."

[More on the Importance of Tenure](#)

(Inside Higher Education © 01/06/2012)

There has been more hand-wringing over in the Chronicle about how tenure is becoming/has become obsolete. Its old arguments: tenure doesnt lead to innovative research, its too expensive, most tenure-track positions are for teaching so whats the difference, etc, etc, etc. Sigh. The comments are...interesting and revealing the way comments on the Chronicle always a...

[Students of Online Schools Are Lagging](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 01/06/2012)

The number of students in virtual schools run by educational management organizations rose sharply last year, according to a new report being published Friday, and far fewer of them are proving proficient on standardized tests compared with their peers in other privately managed charter schools and in traditional public schools. About 116,000 students were educated in 93 virtual schools &...

[Eight grader wins college scholarship for governor essay](#)

(Macclenny Baker County Press © 01/06/2012)

Shelbie Martin, an eighth grader at Baker County Middle School, won the 2012 Governors Recognition Scholarship Essay contest sponsored by Florida PrePaid College Foundation. Students in three Florida counties were asked to submit essays about one Florida governor. Ms. Martin is the daughter of Jeni and Shawn Martin of Glen St. Mary. As the winner, she receives a full scholarship to any state co...

[Explaining Floridas High School Grading System](#)

(NPR State Impact © 01/06/2012)

Yesterday we asked why there were so many A and B high schools, according to the latest grades. The folks at the Jacksonville Public Education Fund have an answer in the chart at right. Its because the state grades have very narrow ranges on a 1,600-point scale and many school found a way to quickly add points. School grades can rise if more students take accelerated courses, such as A...

[Our take on: High-school grades](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 01/06/2012)

Making the grade After a long delay, the Florida Department of Education finally announced its high-school grades Wednesday. For most Central Florida schools, the wait was worth it. Most brought home report cards that school officials weren't ashamed to deliver to parents. In Osceola and Seminole counties, every high school earned at least a B. In Orange, high schools also enjoyed banner years; ...

[Principals fired up about proposed grading change](#)

(Orlando-WFTV (ABC) © 01/06/2012)

ORLANDO, Fla. A meeting about major changes to how schools are graded has gotten local principals fired up. The new changes could make it tougher for schools to earn an "A" or "B" next year. Principals told WFTV's Daralene Jones that their students aren't prepared for the changes. The change is coming months before students take the FCAT. About 300 principals attended a meeting at ...

[Look deeper than schools' letters grades](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 01/06/2012)

Florida's grades for public high schools are finally out this week and generating plenty of attention. But there is a lot more to school quality than the letter grade issued by the state. In this season of shopping for schools for the 2012-13 school year, parents and students would do well to look beyond the blunt instrument of a school's grade to more specific and meaningful indicators of achieve...

[Has Governor Scott Forgotten Who He Works For?](#)

(St. Petersburg Weekly Challenger © 01/06/2012)

By: Roger Caldwell The Weekly Challenger Originally posted 1/5/2012 ORLANDO-Governor Scott is sticking to his platform, and he is refusing millions of dollars from the federal government. From the very beginning of his term, Scott refused to approve a \$2.3 billion high speed rail that was 90 percent funded by the federal govern...

[School Year to Start Earlier?](#)

(Tallahassee-WCTV (CBS) © 01/06/2012)

Tallahassee, FL – January 5, 2012 – One state legislator is looking to change who has a say in when your children start school. Local high school junior Alex Wood says, "I think it would be great if we started school earlier." ...

[The Gradebook: University presidents called before House education committee](#)

(Tampa Bay Times © 01/06/2012)

Higher education watchers, mark your calendars. Next Friday is sure to be an interesting day in Tallahassee. On the same day State University System Chancellor Frank Brogan will give a presentation to the Senate budget committee on a laundry list of questions posed by committee chair JD Alexander, the House education committee is expected to launch into its own discussion on the future of Flor...

[Randolph: A high school on the rise](#)

(The Florida Times-Union © 01/06/2012)

On the heels of an improved high school graduation rate comes more good news for the Duval County public schools. The number of D and F high schools dropped from 11 to three. This was due to a combination of factors: Better performance from the schools and broader criteria by the state for arriving at the school grades. Especially impressive was the performance of the districts two former skil...

[Area high schools learn their grades](#)

(The Tampa Tribune © 01/06/2012)

LAND O' LAKES – In a remarkable one-year turnaround, Anclote High School rocketed from an F to an A under the state's grading system, the Florida Department of Education announced Wednesday. Superintendent Heather Fiorentino said she was "absolutely delighted" by the improvement, but not completely surprised because of the goals Principal Monica Ilse set for herself and her staff. "Monic...

[Report: Education management sector expanding, particularly in area of online learning](#)

(Washington Post © 01/06/2012)

WASHINGTON A new report finds that even in a tough economy, companies that are contracted to manage charter schools and other public schools are expanding. The report out Friday is by the National Education Policy Center at the University of Colorado Boulder. 0 Comments Weigh InCorrections? inShare It says that much of the growth is in the area of online learning, known as virt...

[Big Study Links Good Teachers to Lasting Gain](#)

(Winter Haven News Chief © 01/06/2012)

WASHINGTON Elementary- and middle-school teachers who help raise their students standardized-test scores seem to have a wide-ranging, lasting positive effect on those students lives beyond academics, including lower teenage-pregnancy rates and greater college matriculation and adult earnings, according to a new study that tracked 2.5 million students over 20 years. ...

[Outraged Parents, Alumni Blast School Officials](#)

(WJXX ABC 25 Duval County © 01/06/2012)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – In a meeting held to help Raines High School move forward, a group of parents and community advocates forcefully told school officials they first needed closure on the past. A handful of people stood up to speak, asking school board member Betty Burney and Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals to address the forced resignation of former principal George Maxey. "It's almost as if...

Have a great day!

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