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Sent time: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 10:45:40 AM
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Subject: FW: 10-18-11 Education Round Up

FYI – have a great day!

Sincerely,

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From: Etters, Cheryl
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 9:32 AM
Subject: 10-18-11 Education Round Up

Florida Department of Education News Clips

October 18, 2011



[Manatee teachers union turns down superintendent's request](#)
(Bradenton Herald © 10/18/2011)

ataylor@bradenton.com MANATEE – Superintendent Tim McGonegal's request to forgo a special magistrate and allow school board members to have first crack at settling contract disputes, has been rejected by teachers union President Pat Barber. Barber sent a two-page letter responding to McGonegal's request. In the letter, Barber itemizes the reasons why the Manatee Education Ass...

[Board of Ed meets to consider new pre-k standards](#)
(Bradenton Herald © 10/18/2011)

The Associated Press The Florida Board of Education will meet in Miami to discuss adopting new learning standards for students participating in the state's voluntary pre-kindergarten program. The meeting Tuesday is being held at Miami Edison Senior High School, one of three low-performing schools in Miami-Dade County granted waivers over the summer to stay open. Education Commissioner Gera...

[Orange County working on teen dating violence curriculum](#)

(Central Florida News 13 © 10/18/2011)

ORLANDO – Dating violence education is about to take a bigger chunk of a students' curriculum. State law now requires school districts to teach the subject every year from the 7th grade until they graduate. On Tuesday, the Orange County School Board will have to decide how to best incorporate the topic into the classroom during a board worksh...

[Higher ed groups to examine college completion](#)

(CommunityCollegeTimes © 10/18/2011)

The nation's six main higher education associations announced on Monday that they will convene a commission to examine how to help students stay in college and succeed. Each of the associations—including the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)—nominated members to the new Commission on Higher Education Attainment. Four community college CEOs will serve on the 18-member commission, ...

[Rick Scott, cabinet visit to KSC today to listen to job ideas](#)

(Florida Today © 10/18/2011)

Gov. Rick Scott and his cabinet today plan to visit a Brevard County mourning the end of NASA's shuttle program and struggling with an unemployment rate hovering near 12 percent. The state's executive management team will meet at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex to conduct some official business, then listen to suggestions from aerospace executives and tour some Cape Canaveral launch faci...

[Job market likes liberal arts degrees](#)

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 10/18/2011)

There has been a lot of recent talk about the economic viability of university degrees in the humanities and social sciences. Why should the public fund fields of study that lack obvious market value? This would be a good question, if the assumption that a liberal arts education is a ticket to the unemployment line were true. But it is not true. There is ample evidence that the liberal arts pro...

[Proposed FCAT changes could mean fewer A schools in county](#)

(Independent Florida Alligator © 10/18/2011)

Emily Morrow, Alligator Writer The Independent Florida Alligator | 0 comments Elementary and middle school students may have a tougher time passing Florida's favorite standardized test next year. The Florida Department of Education proposed stricter scoring guidelines for the FCAT exams that would go into effect in 2012. The changes must be approved by the State Board of Education, which is expec...

[Charter schools erring on side of caution](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 10/18/2011)

LAKE WALES – School bus drivers who get points on their licenses risk not driving for Lake Wales Charter Schools. Under a policy adopted Monday by charter system's board of trustees, once a driver gets beyond a nine points on his or her license, that driver will either be reclassified or won't be working for them. Brian Fisher, chief financial off...

[In Cheating Cases, Teachers Who Took Risks or Flouted Rules](#)

(New York Times © 10/18/2011)

By SHARON OTTERMAN A charter school teacher warned her third graders that a standardized test question was "tricky," and they all changed their answers. A high school coach in Brooklyn called a student into the hallway and slipped her a completed answer sheet in a newspaper. In the Bronx, a principal convened Finish Your Lab Days, where biology students ended up copying answers for work they neve...

[Ocala sues School Board over fire fees](#)

(Ocala Star Banner © 10/18/2011)

The city of Ocala is suing the School Board for \$572,265 for fire service user fees and interest that have not been paid since January 2007. Whether the suit goes before a judge will depend on what happens during the mediation, which begins Monday. The city filed its complaint on Friday in circuit court. It asks that the board pay the fire service u...

[Ousted construction manager sues Orange school district](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/18/2011)

One of two managers cited for mismanagement in a controversial internal audit of Orange County Public Schools' construction department has sued the district after losing his job this summer. The school district declined to renew Manouchehr "Moe" Khosravian's contract after a nearly 20-year career. His lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Orlando claims he is a whistle-blower entitled to job...

[My Word: Debunking myths of tenure, merit pay](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/18/2011)

Many people misunderstand tenure and how faculty members are evaluated. I recently met with a prominent state legislator as a representative of the United Faculty of Florida, the state bargaining agent for professors at Florida's public universities. The first thing the legislator said was, "You are against merit pay." My colleague and I explained that our union has pushed for merit pay for years...

[Maloney resigns from school district; state appeal dropped](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/18/2011)

Former Palm Beach County elementary school principal Priscilla Maloney is no longer trying to get her job back, more than 10 months after her arrest on theft charges. On Monday, state Administrative Law Judge Jessica E. Varn signed an order canceling a hearing scheduled to begin on Nov. 7. On Friday, attorneys for Maloney and the School Board requested the cancellation because Maloney su...

[Palm Beach County Schools Superintendent Bill Malone leaving post early](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 10/18/2011)

Palm Beach County Schools Superintendent Bill Malone will be leaving his job earlier than expected. Malone began meeting with school board members on Monday to discuss his desire to leave his interim post before the next permanent superintendent is chosen. Malone, 68, cited health and family issues among the reasons he wanted to leave the superintendent position early. He had agreed to s...

[WFTV uncovers East River High School racial attack](#)

(Orlando-WFTV (ABC) © 10/18/2011)

ORANGE COUNTY, Fla. — WFTV has obtained an internal investigation detailing a disturbing case of school violence. In the report, three white East River High School

students tied up a black student, then tried to get pigs to stampede over him inside a barn. According to the investigation, the school's principal learned of the attack the day it happened in March, but failed to report ...

[Grant-funded school jobs up for approval](#)

(Palatka Daily News © 10/18/2011)

The Putnam County School Board will vote to create six new job positions using its recently awarded elementary and secondary school counseling grant at their 3:30 p.m. meeting today. District Finance Director Rhonda Odom said 77 percent of the \$395,863 first-year grant would be used to hire one coordinator, three social workers and two counselors for the district at \$305,000. "The money will cover t...

[Schools chief leaving early for health, family reasons](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/18/2011)

Palm Beach County Schools Superintendent Bill Malone will be leaving his job earlier than expected. Malone began meeting with school board members on Monday to discuss his desire to leave his interim post before the next permanent superintendent is chosen. Malone, 68, cited health and family issues among the reasons he wanted to leave the superintendent position early. He had agreed to stay as l...

[Former Delray Beach principal charged with stealing property signs deal to serve 18 months probation](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/18/2011)

Former Delray Beach elementary principal Priscilla Bowers-Maloney, who was arrested in January and charged with stealing school property, has signed an agreement that could keep her from being prosecuted. She also withdrew her appeal with the state over her termination from the Palm Beach County School District, and submitted a retroactive letter of resignation to Superintendent Bill Malone. Mal...

["Needs Improvement:" Congress Takes up Foster Care Student Report Cards](#)

(Public News Service (FL) © 10/18/2011)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - School report cards for children in foster care usually show they are behind their peers in almost every academic measure. A U.S. Senate committee takes a closer look at the problem today, and a national town hall is set for Wednesday, featuring George Sheldon, who used to head the Florida Department of Children and Families and is now an assistant secretary at the U.S. Departm...

[Third-graders shine in class-size debate](#)

(San Diego Union Tribune © 10/18/2011)

Elementary school strives to keep class size down amid challenges Written by Maureen Magee The case for small classes in public schools may never have faced so much opposition. School districts across the state and county have lifted class-size limits in the name of saving money to cope with California's relentless budget crisis. On top of that, business-minded education reformers have que...

[Governor posts university salaries FLORIDA: Is it transparency, or next step in his push for changes in education?](#)

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 10/18/2011)

Gov. Rick Scott wants Floridians to know more about university salaries as he pushes for major higher education reforms. Scott has posted a database online with salary information for more than 52,000 employees at Florida's 11 public universities. The governor's office said Monday that making the data more accessible is about transparency for taxpa...

[Joyner underscores challenges for school district](#)

(St. Augustine Record © 10/18/2011)

By MARCIA LANE Copyright 2011 . All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed. October 17, 2011 - 11:28pm Joyner underscores challenges for school district marcia.lane@staugustine.com Praises academic record, but outlines school battle plan St. Johns County School Superintendent Joe Joyner used his annual State of the Schools address on ...

[Alan Mathison: In Florida, changes must be made to the state's board of education, not the education commissioner.](#)

(Stuart News © 10/18/2011)

Sen. Joe Negron's proposal to eliminate the Florida Board of Education and return to an elected education commissioner has some merit, but for the most part, it is yet another attempt to inject politics into our educational system. The changes need to occur to who appoints the board of education. I wholeheartedly agree with Sen. Negron, R-Stuart, that the education commissioner should sit on the Fl...

[What "no excuses" model really teaches us about reform](#)

(Washington Post Answer Sheet Blog © 10/18/2011)

By Valerie Strauss This was written by Matthew Di Carlo, senior fellow at the non-profit Albert Shanker Institute, located in Washington, D.C. This post originally appeared on the institute's blog. By Matthew Di Carlo "Apollo 20" is a Houston pilot program in which a group of low-performing regular public schools are implementing the so-called "no excuses" education model common among hi...



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