

**From:** Smith, Kevin  
**Sent time:** Thursday, October 13, 2011 1:40:46 PM  
**To:** Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>; elefsky@cfl.rr.com; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope; Walt Griffin <walt\_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us>; Tart, Suzanne  
**Subject:** FW: 10/13/11 Education Round-Up

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FYI – have a great afternoon!

Sincerely,

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**From:** Higgins, Deborah  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 13, 2011 11:01 AM  
**Subject:** 10/13/11 Education Round-Up

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**[When times are tough, some dig deeper](#)**  
(Boca Raton Tribune © 10/13/2011)

By Skip Sheffield BOCA RATON — Times are tough, but there are some bright spots right here in Boca Raton. At the recent annual awards reception at Royal Palm Yacht Club, the George Snow Scholarship Fund gave out a record \$433,000 to 63 deserving Florida scholars. It began with a tragedy: the 1980 helicopter crash that took the life of teacher-turned builder-developer George Snow. Nea...

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**[County teachers' association reaches tentative contract agreement](#)**  
(Boca Raton Tribune © 10/13/2011)

The Palm Beach County Classroom Teachers Association has reached a tentative agreement on a new contract. It must be ratified by teachers and then adopted by the School Board before it goes into effect. Under the tentative agreement: \* The teachers' salary schedule is increased \$500 across the board effective May 1, 2011 and remains effective throughout the 2011-2012 school year. ...

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### [Manatee schools superintendent asks teachers union to forego impasse hearing](#)

(Bradenton Herald © 10/13/2011)

ataylor@bradenton.com MANATEE – One day after district officials declared an impasse halting teachers' 2011-12 contract talks, Superintendent Tim McGonegal asked union leaders to forego selecting a special magistrate to settle their differences. Instead, McGonegal wants teachers union representatives to OK a public hearing where the school board acts as a legislative body to settle ...

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### [Scott Lays Out 2012 Jobs Agenda](#)

(CBS 4 Miami © 10/13/2011)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (CBSMiami.com) – Florida Governor Rick Scott outlined his 2012 job creation agenda Wednesday morning and it includes several of the hot button conservative issues being pushed in both Washington and Tallahassee. Governor Scott said that he wants to streamline business permitting and eliminating rules and regulations on businesses. So far, Scott's office said he currently has 1,...

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### [Group increasing meals to help feed homeless students](#)

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

BRADENTON – The number of homeless children in Manatee County schools continues to grow, but so is the effort from one group to make sure those children are fed. About a year ago, the Bradenton Elks #1511 started 'Elks Feeding Empty Little Tummies'. The program provides meals over the weekend for homeless children through a backpack...

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### [180 Private Colleges Fail Education Dept.'s Latest Financial-Responsibility Test](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education © 10/13/2011)

By Kelly Field Washington A total of 150 private nonprofit colleges failed the U.S. Department of Education's most recent financial-responsibility test, which covers the 2010 fiscal year, according to data released by the department on Wednesday. More than half of them scored so low that they will be required to post letters of credit to remain eligible to participate in the federal student-aid p...

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### [Math remains a major hurdle for students](#)

(CommunityCollegeTimes © 10/13/2011)

If the U.S. is to remain competitive through a skilled workforce, it must develop better ways to help students learn math, according to a panel of federal officials. On Wednesday, the National Journal magazine held a discussion with leading federal lawmakers as well as representatives from the U.S. Department of Education, for-profit colleges and industry. On the topic of education reform and job...

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### [Volusia board rejects online charter school bid](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 10/13/2011)

SOUTH DAYTONA – Citing shortcomings in six areas, the Volusia County School Board on Wednesday turned down an application for a virtual charter school whose organizers want to serve up to 500 students starting next summer. School Board Chairman Stan Schmidt said it was "sort of shocking" to find several places in the application that didn't comply with state law or rules, especially because K12...

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### [Haskell employees mentors Andrew Jackson High students](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 10/13/2011)

Haskell Architects and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida announced Wednesday the most aggressive mentoring partnership with any of Duval County's intervene schools. Fifty-three Haskell employees are pairing up with students at Andrew Jackson High School in the first of a three-year commitment to the school. The mentoring initiative is part of Big Brothers' Beyond School Walls progr...

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#### [Court rules that Florida Legislature, not college governing board, can set tuition](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 10/13/2011)

TALLAHASSEE - An appellate court says the Florida Legislature has ultimate authority to set tuition rates at state universities. A three-judge panel of the 1st District Court of Appeal ruled Wednesday. The unanimous opinion affirmed a trial court ruling that rejected a claim the Board of Governors - not lawmakers - had authority over tuition rates. That argument was made by a group that incl...

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#### [Editorial: Edison trustees should step up](#)

(Ft. Myers News Press © 10/13/2011)

The continuing turmoil at Edison State College under President Kenneth Walker threatens the best interests of the college. It is time for the board of trustees to take public steps to hold themselves and the college administration accountable and develop a strategy for building public confidence in the college. Trustees will get a chance to do so at their next public meeting on Oct. 25. It is...

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#### [Editorial: Yahoo Education](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 10/13/2011)

Charlie Johns wanted to drive the communists and homosexuals out of the University of Florida. Rick Scott will apparently settle for expelling the anthropologists. Not that Gov. Scott has a clue about what anthropologists actually do. He just knows that a comment like "Is it a vital interest of the state to have more anthropologists?" ...

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#### [Governor Scott Unveils Jobs Plan](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 10/13/2011)

ALTURAS - Florida Gov. Rick Scott unveiled a large and complex job creation plan Wednesday that he said will be his main priority in 2012. He made the announcement of his Job Creation and Economic Growth Agenda while visiting Metal Essence Inc., a precision metals and plastics fabricator in Longwood after visiting a Polk County grove to hear a live broadcast of the U.S. Department of Agriculture...

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#### [Editorial: Florida Gambling Proposal: Don't Waste Bet On Casinos](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 10/13/2011)

Florida Senate President Mike Haridopolos has stacked the deck in favor of expanding casino gambling in the state — and so has the gaming industry. The push for more casinos has become so intense, in fact, that someone in state government needs to slow the action and ask whether having more ways to gamble is really in Florida's best interest. Don't count on Haridopolos asking for time to r...

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#### [More FGCU students drawn to science, technology, engineering and math majors](#)

(Marco Island News © 10/13/2011)

a.inline\_topic:hover { background-color: #EAEAEA; } Gov. Rick Scott prioritized education in science, technology, engineering and math in his economic agenda Wednesday, which could have implications for Florida students from Kindergarten through college. He should have been preaching to the 500 undeclared or otherwise curious a.inline\_topic:hover { background-color: #EAEAEA; } Florida Gulf C...

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[Court: Lawmakers can set tuition rates](#)

(Miami Herald © 10/13/2011)

The Legislature does have the power to set tuition rates for state universities, an appellate court ruled Wednesday, siding against a group of plaintiffs led by former Gov. Bob Graham. A three-judge panel of the 1st District Court of Appeal agreed with a circuit court that the Legislature — not the Board of Governors of the state university system — has the power to set tuition and fe...

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[The Lima connection: How Coconut Grove charter school cuts red tape](#)

(Miami Herald © 10/13/2011)

MiamiHerald.com/columnists/Whatever else in the way of criticism gets heaped on local school boards — God knows they catch hell — board members do tend to live in the general vicinity of the school district. Which is to say, they don't live in Peru. Perhaps that's what charter school advocates mean when they talk of school governance untethered to the cumbersome regulation...

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[Parents, teachers watch changes to how FCAT is scored](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/13/2011)

As the state revamps the way the FCAT is scored, parents and educators are watching to see how the changes could affect school scores, teacher evaluations, course assignments and how many kids repeat the third grade. A state Department of Education workshop today at the Palm Beach County School District's Support Center let people comment on proposed changes to the scoring of the Florida Comprehe...

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[School board sets salary range, experience required for next superintendent](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/13/2011)

The next Palm Beach County School Superintendent could be hired as soon as Feb. 15, will have at least 10 years of experience and will make between \$225,000 and \$285,000, school board members decided today. The school board finalized the details of its superintendent search, allowing Florida School Board Association Executive Director Wayne Blanton to start advertising the job opening in educati...

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[PBSC hires law firm to help with \\$4.5 million land buy](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/13/2011)

LOXAHATCHEE GROVES By KEVIN D. THOMPSON Palm Beach Post Staff Writer Palm Beach State College's board of trustees on Tuesday unanimously agreed to hire a local law firm to help it finalize the \$4.5 million purchase of 75 acres in Loxahatchee Groves, where the school wants to build its fifth campus. Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. will provide legal advice and help with any development app...

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[Despite cutbacks, English classes flourish at Jupiter's El Sol](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/13/2011)

Long after most employers have stopped by the El Sol labor center to hire workers for the day, the center at Indiantown Road and Military Trail is still bustling with workers. They are seated at tables in the hiring hall, talking one-on-one with volunteers. They are seated in rows of desks on the mezzanine, pencils in hand, and at desks in two smaller rooms on the second floor. They are learning...

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### [Scott seeks to cut more Florida taxes and rules, but on more modest scale](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/13/2011)

Gov. Rick Scott unveiled his latest pitch Wednesday for reviving Florida's sputtering economy, calling on lawmakers to cut regulations, trim business taxes and create new job-training requirements for some unemployed workers. But Scott's new approach appears far less combative than Year 1, when he sought \$1.7 billion in business and property tax cuts, while slashing jobless benefits. "What...

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### [PBC School Board meetings soon to be aired on county's PBC TV](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 10/13/2011)

In an effort to share resources and provide more access to county residents interested in the goings-on of the Palm Beach County School Board, the school district is partnering with Palm Beach County to present live coverage of all school board meetings and workshops on the county's PBC TV channel. Beginning with the school board meeting next week on Oct. 19, the county's TV station,...

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### [New kindergarten standards implemented in Florida](#)

(Panama City News Herald © 10/13/2011)

PANAMA CITY — Bay District Schools, along with other Florida districts, are implementing the first phase of the Common Core Standards for the 2011-2012 kindergarten class. Kindergarten students will have additional material taught in the areas of language arts and mathematics. For example, students will learn to count to 100 by tens and one, instead of counting to 20. The language arts co...

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### [STATE: May be part of deeper shake-up in store for Florida's higher ed](#)

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 10/13/2011)

In the midst of Florida's economic malaise, State College of Florida workers were among the few public-sector workers to receive a pay raise this year. But now, that 3 percent increase may be rolled back mid-year by SCF's new Board of Trustees, six of whom were hand-picked this year by Gov. Rick Scott following face-to-face interviews. The move cou...

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### [Scott's education view](#)

(Sarasota Herald-Tribune © 10/13/2011)

Gov. Rick Scott criticized certain academic programs this week and suggested that Florida's economy would be better served if state universities spent less time teaching social sciences such as anthropology, and focused more on engineering, math and technology. Here's a sampling of what you are saying: Shaping what is taught Gov. Rick Scott apparen...

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### [Should Broward school money go to Performing Arts Center renovations?](#)

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 10/13/2011)

Those are some pretty fancy renovations on the drawing board for the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, including a courtyard café with retractable awnings and something called the Premier Level, where swells can sip cocktails while overlooking the stage. Is it appropriate for the Broward School Board to contribute \$6 million toward the \$44 million project? That's the thorny question f...

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### [Board stands up to Scouts' discrimination](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 10/13/2011)

Sometimes lone voices inveighing against conventional, if misguided, wisdom finally are heard. After a decade of being on the losing side in opposing a Boy Scouts of America-affiliated school character education program, Pinellas County School Board member Linda Lerner finally prevailed Tuesday when the board rejected state funding for

the program. The vote validates Lerner's lonely crusade to de...

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#### [Board members hold fast to rejecting program affiliated with Boy Scouts](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 10/13/2011)

Boy Scouts, a private group, could exclude homosexuals. Tuesday was the first time she got enough support to remove the program: Williams, Janet Clark and Terry Krassner all voted with her. By late Wednesday afternoon, the board had received 30 e-mails, many opposing the board's decision but some supporting it. "Shame on you!" read the subject header in one e-mail from a sender who interpreted...

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#### [Loopholes In Florida Law Mean Little Oversight of Charter Business Deals](#)

(State Impact Florida © 10/13/2011)

People who want to start up their own charter school must go through a rigorous application process. But after that initial hurdle, the school founders get a lot of freedom over how to run their publicly-funded schools and who to hire. And because of loopholes in Florida statues, a lot of taxpayer dollars can end up in the hands of one person. For the first installment in StateImpact Florida's...

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#### [Students skeptical of independent USF Poly](#)

(Tampa Tribune © 10/13/2011)

USF Polytechnic Chancellor Marshall Goodman outlined his vision of the school as an independent university to a group of students today, but several were unconvinced. One student, Don Black, said he wants to meet with the community leaders who started the push nearly three months ago to find out if they have the commitment to sustain a stand-alone university in Polk County. "Students are ext...

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#### [Students Report Sexual Encounters with EMS Instructors](#)

(WCTV-TV © 10/13/2011)

A medical student training in Gadsden County says an EMS employee forced her to watch porn. Another student says she had sex with an EMS worker while he was on duty. Posted: 7:15 PM Oct 12, 2011 Reporter: Deneige Broom Email Address: deneige.broom@wctv.tv ----- Students Report Sexual Encounters with EMS Instructors...

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#### [FCAT to get harder as state works to nationalize its curriculum](#)

(WFSU Newsroom © 10/13/2011)

The state of Florida is upgrading its standardized tests and rolling out new end-course exams. Lynn Hatter reports the Department of Education is looking for suggestions on what the passing scores for the new exams should be. That score will be used for several things, like whether a student gets promoted to the next grade or graduates. The new test scores will help determine whether a teacher i...

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#### [Scott unveils complex job creation plan](#)

(Winter Haven News Chief © 10/13/2011)

ALTURAS – Florida Gov. Rick Scott unveiled a large and complex job creation plan Wednesday that he said will be his main priority in 2012. He made the announcement of his Job Creation and Economic Growth Agenda while visiting Metal Essence Inc., a precision metals and plastics fabricator in Longwood after visiting a Polk County grove to hear a live...

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[Loopholes in Florida Law Mean Little Oversight of Charter Business Deals](#)

(WUSF Tampa © 10/13/2011)

Miami-2011-12-10 - People who want to start up their own charter school must go through a rigorous application process. But after that initial hurdle, the school founders get a lot of freedom over how to run their publicly-funded schools and who to hire. And because of loopholes in Florida statues, a lot of taxpayer dollars can end up in the hands of one person. Progress reports in Miami-Dade ...

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Have a great day!

*Deborah*

