

**From:** Smith, Kevin  
**Sent time:** Thursday, March 08, 2012 5:12:27 PM  
**To:** Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>; walt\_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope  
**Subject:** FW: Education Roundup 3-8-12

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FYI – have a great afternoon!

Sincerely,

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**From:** Mongiovi, Jamie  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 08, 2012 8:28 AM  
**Subject:** Education Roundup 3-8-12

## Florida Department of Education



**[Furlough days for Manatee teachers began Wednesday](#)**  
(Bradenton Herald © 03/08/2012)

MANATEE Unpaid furlough days for Manatee County teachers began Wednesday afternoon and caught some teachers off-guard. District officials had sent out word to principals on Friday that the furlough days would likely begin this week, said Scott Martin, the district's assistant superintendent for human resources. But a formal agreement on the furloughs with the Manatee Education Association, the ...

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**['Parental trigger' not the solution](#)**  
(Citrus County Chronicle © 03/08/2012)

THE ISSUE: Parent Empowerment Act. OUR OPINION: Proposed legislation would cripple public education. Between federal, state and local funding ... Between federal and state mandates — funded or unfunded ... Between standardized testing ... Between the state Department of Education and local school boards ... Between Parent-Teacher Associations, te...

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### [Students attend school on Saturday to prepare for FCAT](#)

(Collier Citizen © 03/08/2012)

Lexey Swall/Staff Lely High School student, Jasper Nicklow, 15, takes a practice test in reading and comprehension during a Saturday class at Lely High School. About 720 students throughout the district committed to attending school for eight Saturdays to receive extra help studying for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT)...

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### [Digital Storytelling Breathes New Life Into Lessons](#)

(Education World © 03/08/2012)

EducationWorld is committed to bringing educators the practical tools they need to make good decisions, engage in effective leadership and implement strategies that work. To further this commitment, we have formed a content partnership with Stenhouse Publishers. EducationWorld is pleased to feature a variety of book excerpts as part of this collaboration. Check back frequently as we feature additi...

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### [State budget calls for 3.2% rise in funding for Alachua County schools](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 03/08/2012)

TALLAHASSEE — Florida school districts will see a 3.6 percent increase in funding in the next school year under the \$70 billion state budget headed for final approval Friday. In Alachua County, the potential school funding would rise 3.17 percent, from \$164.5 million to \$170 million. Per-student funding would rise by 2.82 percent, or \$173.61. ...

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### [Agency: Florida Polytechnic Accreditation Could Take 6 Years](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 03/08/2012)

LAKELAND | It could take as long as six years for the proposed Florida Polytechnic University to become an accredited school, according to an accrediting agency, and that would create a variety of problems, including that its students couldn't receive federal aid during that time. That news came in a recent letter from Belle Wheelan, president of the Southern Association of Colleges and S...

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### [Schools Would Get 3.6% Hike in Funds](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 03/08/2012)

TALLAHASSEE | Florida school districts will see a 3.6 percent increase in funding in the next school year under the \$70 billion state budget headed for final approval Friday. (In Polk County, the potential school funding would rise 3.44 percent, from \$580 million to \$600 million. Per-student funding would rise by 2.71 percent, or \$165.88.) Lawmakers pumped an additional \$844 million in s...

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### [Florida colleges and universities: pay more — get less](#)

(Miami Herald © 03/08/2012)

Pay more. Get less. That's the reality at the state's 11 public universities, where prices have gone up six years in a row. This year, an additional 15 percent increase is likely, and a bill making its way through the Legislature could allow certain top universities to charge even more in years to come so-called market-rate tuition. State leaders justify the increases by pointing out how cheap F...

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### [Fight over parent empowerment bill becomes latest litmus](#)

(Miami Herald © 03/08/2012)

The expected Senate vote on Thursday over giving parents the right to order turn-around programs at their struggling schools is less about parents and more about

undercutting the role of Florida's powerful teacher's unions, say labor organizers. After numerous assaults on them last year, they have banded together this year in a united front to persuade legislators — mainly the ...

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#### [YouTube coming to more Miami-Dade classrooms](#)

(Miami Herald © 03/08/2012)

The Miami-Dade School Board continues to revamp its social media and digital learning policy. The School Board unanimously voted Wednesday to direct school officials to create online tools so that teachers and students can gain easier access to educational resources and websites like YouTube. Board Member Raquel Regalado proposed the idea. In February, the School Board approved in an 8-1 vote a rela...

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#### [Parent trigger bill sparks fierce debate as vote nears](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 03/08/2012)

A proposal that could let parents decide the fate of failing public schools is sparking fierce debate as it heads to a final vote in the Florida Senate this week. The "parent trigger" bill has prompted an outcry from critics, who view it as a way to snatch power from local school boards and convince parents to turn public campuses over to private companies. Its supporters, including former Gov. ...

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#### [Insight: Public schools sell empty classroom seats abroad](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 03/08/2012)

REVILLO, South Dakota (Reuters) - There are just seven pairs of boots lined up outside the kindergarten classroom in this fading farm town. Just eight crayon drawings are taped to the wall outside second grade. Enrollment is dropping at the Grant-Deuel School, as at so many rural schools. Fewer students means less state funding and a slow extinction. But Superintenden...

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#### [Alexander, Grimsley strike late-night deals on health care, higher education & technology](#)

(Saint Petersburg © 03/08/2012)

Lawmakers struck a series of deals late Wednesday night on health care, higher education and technology as they moved toward a final agreement on a series of budget-related bills with the Friday end of the session looming. While a few details remain to be worked out, the compromise signed off on by Senate Budget Chairman JD Alexander, R-Lake Wales, and House Appropriations Chairwoman Denise Gr...

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#### [Fla. universities mull tuition hikes, program cuts](#)

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 03/08/2012)

Faced with \$300 million in state budget cuts, Florida universities are weighing such options as bigger classes, fewer degree programs, employee layoffs and tuition increases. For example, Florida Atlantic University, which operates seven locations from Fort Pierce to Dania Beach, could close one or more of its branch campuses to deal with a cut of \$24.8 million, or 19 percent of its state operati...

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#### [For-profit schools not the answer for Florida](#)

(St. Petersburg Times © 03/08/2012)

For generations, public education has been where the American dream begins. At a public school, all students no matter who they are, what skills they start out with or where they come from have a chance to learn and the opportunity to succeed. As longtime advocates for quality education and as parents of school-age children, we're alarmed that Florida politicians are chopping up our piece of...

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[Magnet schools spark interest](#)

(Tampa Tribune © 03/08/2012)

LAND O' LAKES – When the Pasco County school district surveyed parents and other community members to gauge interest in magnet schools, the responses were overwhelming. Now the school district is weighing its next steps, figuring out what kind of programs should be created and which schools will take the lead. Plenty of questions remain, including how to introduce innovativ...

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[After lost Scott emails flap, public records bill passes](#)

(Tampa Tribune © 03/08/2012)

TALLAHASSEE — Florida's next governor and other statewide elected officials will have to preserve and make public any documents and emails they send between their election and the time they are officially sworn into office. The Florida Legislature has unanimously passed a bill that was sparked by the embarrassing deletion of emails sent by Gov. Rick Scott and members of his transition team. Sc...

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