

**From:** Smith, Kevin  
**Sent time:** Thursday, March 01, 2012 7:10:01 PM  
**To:** walt\_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us; Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope  
**Subject:** FW: Education Roundup 3-01-12

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FYI – have a great evening...

Sincerely,

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**From:** Mongiovi, Jamie  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 01, 2012 8:16 AM  
**Subject:** Education Roundup 3-01-12

## Florida Department of Education



**[Chardon High School Community: Our Hearts, Thoughts and Prayers Are with You](#)**  
(American Federation of Teachers © 03/01/2012)

Our Hearts, Thoughts and Prayers Are with You – WASHINGTON – American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten released the following statement on the tragic shootings and deaths at Chardon High School in Ohio: "These deaths are tragic and senseless. The victims are beloved sons and brothers, daughters and sisters, students, friends and classmates, and their loss leaves us with a sad and..."

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**[Gulf Coast State College receives \\$500,000 grant](#)**  
(Chipley Foster Folly News © 03/01/2012)

Panama City, FL – Gulf Coast State College was awarded a \$500,000 grant from the State of Florida to provide training to biology teachers in 13 Northwest Florida counties. The primary goal of the Northwest Florida Teacher Preparation Partnership Grant is to increase both content knowledge for high school biology teachers and their students. Other goals are to provide high quality professional deve...

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### [Educators: New Florida standards make getting top grades tougher for schools](#)

(Daytona Beach News-Journal © 03/01/2012)

Changes to the state's school accountability system that will make it tougher for schools to earn top marks yielded mixed reviews from local administrators. Volusia Schools Superintendent Margaret Smith said she and other staff members "always want to be increasing standards and reaching for them" but schools must be given the time and resources to do that. She expected to see many of her school...

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### [School Board's minutes sparse on meeting deciding on leader](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 03/01/2012)

Duval County School Board members Wednesday defended the vaguely worded minutes taken at the meeting in which they decided to replace Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals. The board believes it not only abided by the letter of the state's Sunshine Law but met the spirit of the law as well. The board's minutes for the Feb. 20 meeting, in which it decided not to renew Pratt-Dannals' contract, do not ...

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### [School bus advertising measure clears House](#)

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 03/01/2012)

TALLAHASSEE - The Florida House has passed legislation that would permit some advertising on the sides of Florida school buses and require the online posting of legal notices. The school bus bill (HB 19) was passed 108-7 on Wednesday. Supporters say the state requires cash-strapped school districts to transport students but doesn't fully fund that service. They add that schools have allowed adver...

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### [Same Numbers. New Calculations](#)

(Inside Higher Education © 03/01/2012)

While the conversation about paying for college has a familiar unhappy ring to it every year, families of students at a few private colleges can at least use the same numbers this time. Mount Holyoke College announced Wednesday that it would not increase tuition for the 2012-13 school year – an uncommon step, particularly for an elite college such as Mount Holyoke, which faces no shortage of d...

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### [Homeless Student Policy Is Tabled By Lake Wales Charter System](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 03/01/2012)

LAKE WALES | Lake Wales Charter System trustees recently tabled a draft for a homeless-students program policy because of questions about transportation for homeless children who move out of the Lake Wales area. Facts Lake Wales Charter System tabled the matter until March 19 because of concerns about transportation for students who move out of the area. Robin Gibson, general...

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### [Florida's higher education mired in the mud](#)

(Miami Herald © 03/01/2012)

Who needs higher education? We've got the Redneck Yacht Club. Thousands made the pilgrimage to the bemired retreat in rural Charlotte County this past weekend and turned the occasion — known as the world's largest mud festival — into a sodden demonstration of Florida's radically downsized scholarly aspirations. The epic moment came as the driver of a camouflage-painted van w...

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### [State Changes School Grading Methods](#)

(North Escambia.com © 03/01/2012)

March 1, 2012 The state Board of Education has approved a series of changes to Florida's process for grading schools. The changes come after the federal government allowed the state to break free from the No Child Left Behind school accountability law. The exemption means that Florida can use its own school accountability system, its A-through-F school grades, to rate the state...

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#### [Proposed legislation could change high school sports in Florida](#)

(South Florida Sun-Sentinel © 03/01/2012)

Companion bills making their way through the Florida Legislature could change the dynamics of high school sports in the Sunshine State and many school administrators aren't happy about it. Critics worry the legislation—House Bill 1403 and Senate Bill 1703—will weaken measures that keep schools from recruiting high school athletes and would allow potentially ineligible athletes to cont...

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#### [Florida Tuition Deal Reached](#)

(Tallahassee-WCTV (CBS) © 03/01/2012)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) – Florida lawmakers are signing off on a plan to raise college tuition. House and Senate budget negotiators on Wednesday have agreed to raise tuition by 5 percent for students who attend one of Florida's 28 state colleges. Legislators would not order a tuition hike for the state's 11 universities. But the budget anticipates the Board of Governors will approve in...

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#### [Pasco school district touts clinics](#)

(Tampa Tribune © 03/01/2012)

LAND O' LAKES – Pasco school district employees are making even greater use than anticipated of three on-site wellness clinics that opened last year, prompting the district to consider opening a fourth clinic. "Darn close to half of our insured employees have used the health center at least once," Mary Tillman, the district's director of employee benefits and risk management,...

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#### [Parent angry over unique FCAT prep program](#)

(WFTX Fox 4 (Ft. Myers) © 03/01/2012)

CAPE CORAL - A unique new approach that's supposed to prepare high school students for the FCAT is under fire. Karen Taylor turned to Fox 4 upset over a program called "Fast ForWord," which includes a series of repetitive matching games. But Taylor says the only thing her son's getting out of the program is a headache. "I was able to stay in there for 20 minutes," said...

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