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Sent time: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 8:04:15 AM
To: Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>; walt_griffin@scps.k12.fl.us; Lee, Laurie; Colle, Hope
Subject: FW: Education Roundup 2-28-12

FYI – have a great day!

Sincerely,

Kevin Smith,
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From: Mongiovi, Jamie
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 7:09 AM
Subject: Education Roundup 2-28-12

Florida Department of Education



[Manatee County schools need more money, fewer critics](#)
(Bradenton Herald © 02/28/2012)

Schools need more money, fewer critics Lately, a lot of negatives have been targeted at the School Board of Manatee County for their decisions. As a citizen of Manatee County, I have praise and full confidence in the school board, whether they vote pro or con. Master chefs, they are not. We hand them one onion, a pail of water and expect they make a good onion soup. There is talk about replacing...

[Teaching profession becoming thankless in Manatee County](#)
(Bradenton Herald © 02/28/2012)

"If you can read this, thank a teacher." It is evident that our local school board has a much different way of "thanking" the teachers! How can they justify cutting salaries by 1.75 percent, increasing health insurance, asking them to take two furlough days and reducing the benefits of the DROP program? I taught in this county for 37 years, retiring after getting the advantag...

[School chief search defined](#)

(Florida Keys Keysnews © 02/28/2012)

Monroe County's first hired schools chief will arrive via a national search, but candidates must have experience in Florida education administration, School Board members said Monday. The hunting season for school superintendents is now, the board agreed, setting its sights on mid-June for a hire date and a salary range of \$100,000 to \$135,000. The district pays Jesus Jara, the current supe...

[EDUCATOR HONORED DURING BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION](#)

(Florida Sentinel Bulletin © 02/28/2012)

Mrs. Frances Alexander, President of the Tampa Bay Branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), and its members held their annual Black History Celebration at Sligh Middle Magnet School on February 22, 2012. This year, the organization paid tribute to Dr. William Bernard Robertson, a local educator who has continuously given his time and energy for the bett...

[Duval superintendent search begins](#)

(Florida Times-Union © 02/28/2012)

Duval County schools Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals pledged Monday morning to assist the School Board in whatever capacity it wants in the nationwide search for his successor — a process likely to cost tens of thousands of dollars. The board notified Pratt-Dannals on Friday afternoon it would not be renewing his \$274,000-a-year contract when it expires Dec. 31. Meeting with the news me...

[Guest opinion: Talented young minority duo serve as role models to their peers](#)

(Ft. Myers News-Press © 02/28/2012)

As we celebrate the last days of Black History Month, I wanted to share with you the stories of two young outstanding African-American students in Lee County. I met both of these student leaders in October of last year, when their school principals picked them to represent their schools on a trip to Washington, D.C., for the unveiling of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. statue on our National Mall....

[Higher-Education Value: Apply Business Sense](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 02/28/2012)

For a bunch of politicians who say they want to run ?government like a business, our state legislators seem woefully ignorant of one of the chief truisms for success in business: You have to spend money to make money. Recently, the Board of Governors released an economic impact statement for the State University System. Among the high points: The system has a total annual economic outpu...

[Proposal to Change School Grades Would Increase Number of 'F' Schools](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 02/28/2012)

MIAMI | The number of Florida schools given an 'F' could increase dramatically under a proposal the Board of Education will consider today. Facts "If all their work amounts to an F, to a stigma of failure, when in fact they have accomplished prodigious intellectual feats, this will not meet the state's goal of improving academic performance." ROSA CASTRO FEINBERG, member of the...

[Number of 'F' schools could surge under changes](#)

(Lakeland Ledger © 02/28/2012)

MIAMI - The number of Florida schools given an 'F' could increase dramatically under a proposal the Board of Education will consider Tuesday. The proposed changes to the school grading calculation have met with heavy opposition from superintendents, parents, and advocates for disabled students and English language learners. Under the changes, schools where less than 25 percent of student...

[Some kids cut off from bus service](#)

(Leesburg Daily Commercial © 02/28/2012)

Published: Saturday, February 25, 2012 Gerbasi, Chris LEESBURG CHRIS GERBASI | Staff Writer chrisgerbasi@dailycommercial.com A group of parents is upset that Lake County Schools will no longer provide transportation for their special needs children to a charter school in Orlando. The district...

[My Word: Bill would keep parents better informed](#)

(Orlando Sentinel © 02/28/2012)

As a parent, I want more choices when it comes to my children's education. So I'm supporting The Parent Empowerment Act, a bill with bipartisan support working its way through the Florida Legislature. This bill requires that school districts inform us when our children's teacher has been declared ineffective or if the entire school is failing. Parents want that information, in order to make a bet...

[Local school districts' budgets to be cut, despite what lawmakers, governor say](#)

(St. Augustine Record © 02/28/2012)

By Matt Dixon staugustine.com Copyright 2012 St. Augustine Record. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed. February 27, 2012 - 10:38pm Local school districts' budgets to be cut, despite what lawmakers, governor say Record Tallahassee Bureau TALLAHASSEE — From the earliest days of this year's Legislature, the conversation surrounding p...

[Florida board considering school grading changes](#)

(WFTS ABC Channel 28 Tampa © 02/28/2012)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - More failing schools are expected in Florida if the State Board of Education makes changes sought by Education Commissioner Gerard Robinson. The board will consider revamping Florida's A-to-F school grading system on Tuesday in Tallahassee. Critics say the changes would result in more schools being eligible for take-over by for-profit charter school companies. Robinson sa...

[Florida board considering school grading changes](#)

(Winter Haven News Chief © 02/28/2012)

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[Change for evaluations has teachers worried](#)

(Gainesville Sun © 02/27/2012)

Teachers and school administrators are working under new evaluation requirements spurred by the Student Success Act passed by the Legislature last year, but one piece of the puzzle has district officials worried: the use of a "value-added" model. It could be boom or bust, said Steven Stark, Alachua County Public Schools director of rese...

[**South Florida's colleges provide an economic jolt to the region**](#)

(Miami Herald © 02/27/2012)

Construction has long been a staple industry in South Florida, but the Great Recession and its associated housing crash made building cranes a rare sight in recent years. At the same time, unemployment among all economic sectors has hovered near record highs. But at the University of Miami, Miami-Dade County's second-largest private employer, the past few years have included both a burst of...

[**Task force provides ideas to boost black males' graduation rates**](#)

(Palm Beach Post © 02/27/2012)

The Palm Beach County School District needs to put its resources into more tutoring, getting students to take more Advanced Placement classes and hiring more black male teachers to bridge the racial gap in graduation rates and decrease suspensions of black males, a district task force has recommended. The graduation rate for black students in Palm Beach County public high schools, including chart...

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