

INDEPENDENTS

The Newsletter of the Florida Council of Independent Schools

Volume 04-12

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FKC Corner Webinars/Workshops

Upcoming FCIS Events

Apple Workshops
Sept. 13, 2012 -THL
Sept. 14, 2012 - JAX

Federal Reserve Bank of
Atlanta-Miami Branch
Sept. 20-21, 2012
Miami

New Teacher Institute
Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2012
Canterbury Retreat, Oviedo

VISNET Informational
Seminar @ LHPS
Oct. 11, 2012

Convention 2012
Nov. 7-9, 2012
Hyatt Regency, Orlando

from the executive director...

I hope that the 2012-13 school year has gotten off to a good start! FCIS is looking with great anticipation toward this new school year, rolling out new programs and enhancing existing programs to better serve our member schools.

FCIS, Recipient of an Edward E. Ford Grant

for \$50,000. FCIS has been awarded a grant of **\$50,000** on a matching basis of \$1 from the Edward E. Ford Foundation for every \$1 raised by FCIS. These funds will be used to begin a leadership institute, comprised of programs for **Prospective Heads, New FCIS Heads, and Experienced FCIS Heads.** The new institute will be named **The Dale Regan Leadership Institute**, in memory of our dear friend and colleague who lost her life this past March doing what we all aspire to and love – educating our students.

Information has been distributed on the **Prospective Heads Institute (PHI)**, and registration is now open. A panel of experienced heads, along with educational consultants, has committed to be a part of this program for the 2012-13 year. **PHI** will consist of an introductory fall **webinar** scheduled for **Thursday, September 13 at 10am**, a **session** at the Annual Convention on **November 8**, a seminar at the **Mission Inn Resort in Howey in the Hills** beginning with a reception/dinner on Wednesday, **January 16** and concluding on the afternoon of **January 17**, and a **concluding webinar** in the **spring of 2013.** Further information on PHI is included in this newsletter.

The first **New FCIS Heads Institute** is scheduled for **July 25 through 27, 2013**, at the **Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater Beach.** The event will begin with a reception/dinner on Thursday evening and conclude by

noon on Saturday. For those heads wishing to stay over, the **FCIS Administrators' Retreat** will be held in the same location **July 28 through 30.** In addition, programs will be planned for **Experienced FCIS Heads** throughout the year, **beginning in the 2013-14** school year to better equip heads to meet the demands of the headship, while preserving their health and well-being.

To date, **59 FCIS** schools and various individuals and associations have contributed to **The Dale Regan Leadership Fund** with a current total of **\$36,484.41.** It is **not too late to contribute**; every gift will bring us closer to making the match required by the Edward E. Ford Foundation. Similar to national averages, there has been an annual **10 percent turnover** of heads in FCIS for the past 5 years, resulting in **85 FCIS Heads with 0 to 5 years experience in Florida.** Granted that some of these heads had experience in other states, but many are first-time heads, and Florida has some unique challenges. This new leadership institute can only better prepare our current and prospective heads, as well as our association, for the years ahead.

FCIS/VISNET. On July 23, 2012, FCIS entered into a partnership with the North Carolina Association of Independent Schools (NCAIS) to offer **FCIS schools the exclusive** opportunity in the state of Florida to join the Virtual Independent School Network (**VISNET**). Further information is included in this newsletter.

FCIS Welcome. I would like to extend a special welcome to our **20 new FCIS Heads.** I am sure that our new Heads will quickly learn what a supportive association of heads we have in the state of Florida.

Barbara H Hodges, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Coming in the Fall!

Register now; www.fcis.org



Rethinking Learning: Engage, Create, Deliver!



September 13, 2012 – Holy Comforter Episcopal School, Tallahassee
8:30-11:30a.m. and 12:30-3:30p.m.

September 14, 2012 – Episcopal School of Jacksonville
8:30-11:30a.m. and 12:15-3:15p.m.

At the event, attendees will:

- Preview tools that schools are using to engage their students
- Experience how iPad, with apps and iTunes U content and courses, personalizes learning and increases engagement
- Create their own Multi-Touch books with Mac and iBooks Author
- See how courses and content are distributed through iTunes, and how your school can participate in this model
- Explore a variety of models for distributing content

Each attendee will have a hands-on experience with curriculum and creativity apps as well as experience the rich content that textbooks can offer when available on a digital device. Bring a leadership team to experience this environment!

Choose a location and either a morning or afternoon session. **Each session will be limited to 20 people.** iPads will be available for each participant's use with the latest software and apps. Cost: \$35.00 per person. Sign up early!!

FCIS and The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta — Miami Branch Present Two Information Workshops!

FCIS and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Miami Branch, located in Doral will partner to present two informative, relevant and very affordable workshops – one for elementary teachers and one for middle and high school teachers. Teaching students to survive and thrive in the challenging economy that faces them is more important today than ever before. They live in a culture that advertises \$275 sneakers, \$300 jeans, Smart phones, skiing trips and vacation homes! As adults, they will also face rising prices, mortgage payments, credit ratings and a challenging job market. Establishing sensible goals and learning to make informed decisions will give them a definite advantage as adults.

The program for elementary teachers will include: “The Kids Guide to Money”, how to make choices when resources are limited, supply and demand, learning to budget, the importance of saving, using money for ‘needs’, ‘wants’ and understanding the difference. There will be free resources, information, activities and lesson plans for kindergarten through grade 5.

The program for middle and high school teachers will cover: savings, investments, living on a budget, economic indicators, obtaining credit, identity theft, goal setting, checking & savings accounts and other personal finance concepts.

Both programs will provide lesson plans and free resources. A presentation on the structure and functions of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta with a guided tour of the cash department promises you to “Show you the money”. This workshop will include a light breakfast and lunch at the bank.

Lower School Teachers
Thursday, September 20, 2012
9:15am to 2:15pm
9100 NW 36th, Miami, FL 33178
\$35.00 Registration Fee

Upper School Teachers
Friday, September 21
9:15am to 2:15pm
9100 NW 36th, Miami, FL 33178
\$35.00 Registration Fee



Announcing FCIS-VISNET Partnership!
Brought to you by FCIS, in partnership with the
North Carolina Association of Independent Schools

FCIS has partnered with VISNET, a virtual school network created by the North Carolina Association of Independent Schools (NCAIS) with funds from the Edward E. Ford Foundation in 2009. Exclusive to FCIS accredited schools in the state of Florida, VISNET provides FCIS member schools with an array of professional development, online courses, blended learning resources and a rich content repository. After joining, VISNET schools will then have the opportunity to enhance 21st century learning resources – EPSCO, Brain-Pop, Middlebury Language Program, Haiku, Virtual Nerd and many more at discounted prices!

Some highlights include:

- Unique elective courses where a student is an “intern” in a Green Industry or studies Video game design, cartoon animation or Gothic Literature
- Virtual Nerd, a robust alternative to Khan Academy, with “live” teachers, diagrams, and examples that can be downloaded for easy reference
- Professional Development opportunities including a summer conference for 21st Century Teachers and access to Campus Outreach Services webinar series with topics such as Internet Safety, Mental health & Stress, Body Image and Alcohol risk
- EBSCO – library database and resources, already used in FL state Universities
- Middlebury Language Institute competency and fluency programs, with native speakers in real-life situations
- Carone Fitness Program, where students can complete PE and health requirements in an innovative and stimulating program

Schools have received introductory information, including a list of providers, fee structure for FCIS member schools to join and pricing for individual resources. Additionally, a webinar is scheduled for **Thursday, September 6, at 10 a.m.** which will provide member schools with detailed information. In the meantime, schools are invited to join VISNET now to begin using these resources.

Register for the webinar at www.fcis.org, Workshops & Events.

Prospective Heads Program

Have you ever thought about becoming a head of school?

Excellent opportunity for any Division Head, Assistant/Associate Head or Administrator to explore the facets, challenges and rewards involved in a headship.

Four part program consists of:

Webinar, September 13 at 10 a.m.

Gathering, FCIS Convention, November 8

Seminar, Jan. 16-17, 2013 - Mission Inn Resort & Club

Webinar, March 8, 2013 at 10 a.m.

Cost: \$275 includes webinars, seminar/meals at Mission Inn and seminar materials - Register now at www.fcis.org.



Accreditation Corner

By Karen Mathews, Associate Director for Accreditation

Upcoming Events from the FCIS Accreditation Office!

Webinars:

“FCIS and VISNET – an online partnership”	Thursday, September 6	10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
“Serving on an FCIS Evaluation team”	Monday, September 10	3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
“Understanding FCIS Financial Standards”	Thursday, October 18	10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
“Understanding FCIS Governance Standards”	Wednesday, November 28	10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Workshops/Seminars:

VISNET Information Sessions

- Thursday, October 11
- Location: Lake Highland Preparatory School
- 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. or 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

FCIS Annual Convention Friday, November 9

- “Preparing for an FCIS Evaluation”
- “Preparing for a joint FCIS-SACS Evaluation”
- “Serving on an FCIS Evaluation Team”

Evaluation Academy – For Heads of School and Steering Committee Chairs

- Thursday, January 24, 2013
- Lake Mary Preparatory School
- 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Legal Webinars with Suzanne Bogdan

Friday, Sept. 14, 2012—Student Interactions/Adult Responsibilities (Part 1)

Monday, Oct. 29, 2012—Student Interactions/Adult Responsibilities (Part 2)

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2012—Handling the Crisis

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012—Child Abuse

Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013—Criminal Background Checks

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2013—FHSAA

Time: 12:00 (noon) - 1:00pm

Cost: **Free** for member schools

Contact nguyen@fcis.org to register or visit www.fcis.org

School News

Creative Learning Academy has announced a major expansion and renovation project that will create 300 square foot of classroom space. Congratulations CLA!

Westlake Christian School has been recognized as a Blue Ribbon School. WCS will travel to Washington DC in November to accept the award. Congratulations!

Independent Day School has announced their school name change. IDS is now **Corbett Preparatory School of IDS**.

Tampa Preparatory School 8th grader, Evan Pittman, competed in the 2012 AAU Junior Olympic Games in July, tying a national and world record. He won gold in powerlifting for the fourth year in a row.

Berkeley Preparatory seniors divided up into groups and volunteered at Easter Seals, Metropolitan Ministries, Hudson Manor Assisted Living Facility, Layla's House, John's

Learning Center, Quantum Leap Farm and Glazer Children's Museum. Thanks to the Class of 2012 for giving back to your community!

Montverde Academy performed extremely well at the American Drug-free Powerlifting Federation in June. Jake Carter won four medals and Josh Arnold won gold. Kudos to Jake and Josh! Congratulations to Skyler Berk and Christy Morrison for their multiple awards of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place at their equestrian competitions this summer.

On August 24, children's author Bruce Hale will visit **St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School's Lower Division, Tampa**. An accomplished storyteller, Mr. Hale will read from his books for the Division (grades 1 through 4) and conduct a writing lesson with the School's Form VI (4th grade).

New Heads of School 2012-13

School	City	Head of School
Bayshore Christian School	Tampa	Melanie Humenansky
Boca Prep International	Boca Raton	Stan Daniel
Bolles School	Jacksonville	Brian Johnson
Community School of Naples	Naples	Dennis Grubbs, Interim
The Cushman School	Miami	Arvi Balseiro
Episcopal School of Jacksonville	Jacksonville	Charley Zimmer, Acting
Episcopal Day School	Pensacola	Judy Shelton
Good Shepherd Episcopal School	Tequesta	Jim Hoye
Grace Episcopal	Ocala	Don Raymond
Hendricks Day School	Jacksonville	Dr. Linda Johnson
Jacobson Sinai Academy	N. Miami Beach	Mollie Aczel, Interim
Lake Mary Preparatory School	Lake Mary	Glenn Chapin
North Broward Preparatory	Coconut Creek	Elise Ecoff
The Pine School	Stuart	Phyllis Parker, Interim
Providence School	Jacksonville	David Patterson
Saint Andrew's Episcopal	Boca Raton	William Moseley, Interim
St. Mark's Episcopal School	Palm Beach Gardens	Donna Bradley
Seacrest Country Day	Naples	Dr. D. John Watson
Westminister Christian School	Palmetto Bay	Peter Cabrera
Windermere Preparatory School	Windermere	Dr. Tom Marcy

Administrators' Retreat

July 29-31, 2012

Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Bonita Springs

How to describe this year's Administrators' Retreat? Beautiful resort, interesting speakers, great weather, delicious food and a wonderful group of FCIS administrators! Sunday, July 29th, fifty-nine administrators met at the Hyatt Regency at Coconut Point in Bonita Springs for three days of professional development, networking, and fun!

After lunch and introductions, Laura Walker, president and founder of Walker & Associates, led the first workshop on "Ethical Decision Making". She presented a variety of case studies which were analyzed and discussed in groups. That evening, Steve Garrett, the CFO at Tampa Prep, made a special presentation to Peter Shepley, retiring Associate Head at Tampa Prep, for "perfect attendance" at all the FCIS Administrators' Retreats, which began in 2001. If you happen to be in the neighborhood, stop by and have Peter show you this fantastic, museum-quality piece of art!



Steve Garrett and Peter Shepley

Monday morning, Dr. Scott Poland, Associate Professor and Co-Director of the Suicide and Violence Prevention Office at Nova Southeastern University, discussed the various aspects of dealing with school tragedies and emergencies. He outlined ways to improve communication, establish an emergency plan and suggested individuals who should serve on a crisis team.

In the afternoon, Karen Mathews, FCIS Associate Director for Accreditation, spoke to administrators who were interested in learning more about preparing their school for an FCIS visit. She reviewed the standards, the self-study and answered questions. For schools scheduled for an upcoming visit, this session was filled with helpful information.

On Tuesday, Simon Jeynes, Senior Consultant with ISM, presented two workshops. In the morning the focus was on creating and maintaining a healthy/high performance faculty culture. Mentoring, coaching, guidance and providing training and support were discussed as well as some innovative ways to observe and evaluate teacher performance. In the afternoon, Simon discussed interesting research studies which could serve to improve planning of the school calendar as well as the daily schedule for elementary, middle and upper schools.

Mark your calendars now for July 28-30, 2013, next year's retreat at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort in Clearwater!



Dr. Scott Poland

Simon Jeynes

Dr. Barbara Hodges

Laura Walker



Florida Kindergarten Council Corner

FKC Convention 2012

Friday, October 12, 2012
6:30pm-8:00pm Meet and Greet

Saturday, October 13, 2012
8:00am –3:30pm Convention



Doubletree @ Seaworld, Orlando
10100 International Drive



Bena Kallick is well known for her work in curriculum, instruction and assessment with an organizational focus on change. Her publications, with a focus on thinking and the habits of mind, include: *Assessment in the Learning Organization*, *Assessment Strategies for Self-Directed Learning*, *Learning and Leading with Habits of Mind*, and *Habits of Mind Across the Curriculum* (all co-authored with Art Costa).

Guest Speaker: Bena Kallick, Habits of Mind

Registration now available @ www.fkconline.org

NAIS StatsOnline

August 20, 2012

All surveys open for data entry

October 5, 2012

All surveys close

October 29, 2012

2013 data available through benchmarking

Other Workshops

NAIS

Annual Conference 2013

Feb. 27 - Mar. 1

Philadelphia

www.nais.org

SSATB

Annual Meeting

Sept. 19-22

Chicago

www.admission.org

SSS By NAIS

Financial Aid Conference

Nov. 13-14

Baltimore

www.sss.nais.org

FCIS Annual Report Form

Deadline: September 14

Go to www.fcis.org, school resources,
“annual report form” to complete today!