

INDEPENDENTS

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Inside this issue

Page 1

Executive Director
Letter

Page 2

FCIS Convention 2012

Page 3

FCIS Convention 2012

Page 4

Convention Underwriters
S. Bogdan Legal Webinar
Other Workshops

Page 5

VISNET
Prospective Heads'
Heads' Luncheons

Page 6

Accreditation Corner

Page 7-8

School News

from the executive director...

The 2012 year has flown by, and it has brought several significant changes to FCIS. In April 2012, the FCIS Board of Directors signed a partnership with the North Carolina Association of Independent Schools (NCAIS) to join the Virtual Independent School Network (VISNET). This network partners independent schools from North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina, and Florida to provide quality electronic resources at a reduced rate. Second, in June 2012, FCIS was awarded a matching grant of \$50,000 from the Edward E. Ford Foundation; this grant along with contributions from member schools, other associations, and individuals has been used to start the Dale D. Regan Leadership Institute. The Leadership Institute is comprised of three programs – Prospective Heads Institute (PHI), FCIS New Heads Institute (FNHI), and the Experience Heads Institute (EHI). There are 23 participants in the 2012-13 PHI, and the first FNHI will be held July 25 – 27 at the Sheraton Sand Key Hotel. We are excited about the new possibilities that these changes bring to our association.

As a matter of note, we now have 160 schools in membership. Join me in welcoming our newest members, The First Academy in Orlando and Salah Tawfik Elementary and Middle School in Sunrise.

News

FCIS. The 57th Annual Convention, hosted by our Orlando schools, was a tremendous success, breaking the attendance record for conventions held in the central part of our state with 1740 attendees and 131 schools present. I want to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to our convention co-chairs, Warren Hudson of Lake Highland Preparatory School and Craig Maughan of Trinity Preparatory School, and all of the convention committee members who made this event possible. We are already making plans for the 58th Annual Convention, which will be held on November 7 and 8 again at the Orlando Hyatt Re-

gency International Airport Hotel. Co-chairs for this event are David Mahler of The Out-of-Door Academy and Kevin Plummer of Tampa Preparatory School. The Tampa Schools will be joining together to host this event, so mark your calendar now for what promises to be an outstanding convention!

At the Annual Business Meeting, FCIS officers and new directors were elected. Officers of the FCIS Board include David Mahler, Head of The Out-of-Door Academy as President; Tony Paulus, Head of Canterbury School as Vice-President; Mike Sligh, Head of Lakeland Christian School as Secretary; Kevin Plummer, Head of Tampa Preparatory as Treasurer; and Craig Maughan, Head of Trinity Preparatory School, as Immediate Past President. New directors elected to the FCIS Board include Dr. Dana Markham, President of Pine Crest School, and Martha Milton, Head of Grace Episcopal School in Orange Park. A special welcome to both of our new directors!

ISM has just compiled its results from the ISM Faculty and Management Compensation Survey, 2011-12, after surveying a random sample of *Ideas and Perspectives* subscribers from independent day schools across the nation. The mean salary for school heads of day schools in 2011-12 was \$181,969. Salaries varied depending upon three factors: geography, school enrollment, and current operating budget. The mean head's salary for the South Atlantic, including Florida, was \$176,057.

CAPE. A new report has just been released on charter schools indicating that of 60,000 charter school students in New York state came from 18,000 came from catholic schools. The cost to New York taxpayers is approximately \$320 million per year. On a national level, enrollment in Catholic schools went from 2.5 million students in 1990 to 1.9 million in 2010. Enrollment in charter schools has gone from zero students in 1990 with the first charter school opening in 1992 to over two million students today.

Barbara H. Hodges, Ed.D.
Executive Director

Upcoming FCIS Events

Prospective Heads' Institute

Jan. 16-17, 2013
Mission Hill Resort,
Howey-in-the-Hills/Orlando

Evaluation Academy

Jan. 24, 2013
Lake Mary Prep, Lake Mary

David Sousa

Jan. 27, 2013
Cornett Preparatory School of IDS,
Tampa

Are You Prepared For The Unexpected?

Feb. 7, 2013
B. Krizner and J. Markham
Bolles School, Jacksonville

the quest for balance

tradition & innovation

Convention 2012 * November 8-9, 2012 * Orlando, FL

The 57th annual FCIS Convention was held on November 8 and 9 at the Orlando Airport Hyatt Regency Hotel. Hats off to Warren Hudson and Craig Maughan, co-chairs of this year's successful event! Warren and Craig, along with a hard working steering committee, put together a motivating and thought-provoking program with a large variety of speakers and topics. An extremely successful addition to the program was an all day Pre-convention workshop on "Internal Marketing Strategies" with speakers from Independent School Management - Simon Jeynes and Bill Simmer.

Over 1700 people were in attendance during the two day convention, with 131 schools represented. Keynote speakers Barbara Kellerman on Thursday and Michael Thompson on Friday drew rave reviews and a very crowded ballroom. Thursday luncheon speaker Mark Matheis from the Disney Institute reminded educators that creativity resides in all of us and the conference theme of "Tradition & Innovation" is timeless and ubiquitous! Friday luncheon speaker Lonnie Moore shared personal teaching stories and related how Dr. Stephen Covey's "7 Habits of Highly Successful People" philosophy transcends all fields and applies to education.

We also want to thank all the speakers from our member schools who shared their knowledge and expertise on Thursday and Friday. From technology to athletics to curriculum to governance and finance to admissions and marketing, we are proud to know that so many excellent procedures, programs and teaching strategies are happening within our independent schools.

Convention Speakers



Barbara Kellerman



Michael Thompson



Mark Matheis



Lonnie Moore

*Mark Your Calendars—FCIS 2013 Convention
November 7-8, 2013*



Special Thanks To Our Generous Convention Underwriters

**Independent Colleges and Universities Benefits Association
(ICUBA)**

FCIS Board of Directors' Dinner

ICUBA, Balfour/Taylor Publishing and Southern Teachers
Contributions to the Welcome Reception

Tuition Management Systems and prepGATE
Contributions to the Business Officers' Dinner

TADS

Contribution to the Admission Directors' Dinner

Lenovo, Laptop.com and Conferencing Advisors, Inc./LifeSize
Contribution to the Technology Directors' Dinner

Independent School Management (ISM) and Verizon Wireless
Contributions to the FCIS President's Reception

Educational Records Bureau (ERB)
Keynote Speaker Contribution

Legal Webinars with Suzanne Bogdan

Wed, Jan. 9, 2013—Criminal Background
Checks

Tues Feb. 12, 2013—FHSA

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

Cost: **Free** for member schools

Register at www.fcis.org.

Other Workshops

NAIS

Annual Conference 2013, Feb. 27 - Mar. 1 PA

www.nais.org

NBOA

Annual Meeting Feb. 24 - 27 PA

www.nboa.net

ISM

Summer Institute June 23-July 20 VT

www.ism9.com/si



We wish you a happy and safe holiday season!
From: The FCIS Office
Dr. Barbara Hodges, Karen Mathews, Keara Danger,
Jam Nguyen and Carol Lee Curtis



FCIS-VISNET News

FCIS was delighted to host Dr. Linda Nelson, Executive Director of NCAIS and Carol Keenan, VISNET Director, at the recent FCIS Convention. Many educators attended the Friday session and/or visited the VISNET information booth to find out more about how VISNET can supplement and enhance 21st Century Teaching in our schools. FCIS schools that wish to join VISNET second semester will pay a pro-rated fee. This would be an excellent opportunity to test the many resources VISNET has to offer before committing for a full year.

Upcoming VISNET events for all FCIS schools:

Webinar Wednesdays – Hosted by VISNET; highlighting a different provider each month

- January 16 – Casenex and Epsilon
- January 30 – Ed2Net and haiku
- February 13 – eDynamic Learning and EPSCO Host
- February 27 – Carone Fitness and Brown University
- March 6 – CWRA and Starrmatica Learning Systems



VISNET Book Club; hosted by Carol Keenan, VISNET Director

- *The Connected Educator* by Sheryl Nussbaum-Beach
- Four online meetings beginning January 10, 2013

For additional information as well as pricing and registration information, go to <http://fcis.vis-network.org/>. Contact Karen at kmathews@fcis.org for additional information.

Prospective Heads Institute *Have you ever thought about becoming a head of school?*

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

Future events include:

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.

2013 Heads' Luncheons

Save the date cards and/or invitations will be sent for the following area Heads' Luncheons. Please feel free to contact another "area host", if you are unable to attend your area luncheon.

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Tallahassee Area

Hosted by: Peter Klekamp, Holy Comforter Episcopal School

Friday, April 26, 2013

Orlando Area

Hosted by: Cindy Moon, Park Maitland School

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Tampa/St. Petersburg/Sarasota/Naples Areas

Hosted by: Kevin Plummer, Tampa Preparatory School

Thursday, May 2, 2013

Boca Raton/Ft. Lauderdale/Coral Springs Areas

Hosted by: Karen Feller, Donna Klein Jewish Academy

Friday, May 3, 2013

Miami Area

Hosted by: Dr. Gregory Blackburn, St. Philip's Episcopal School

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Jacksonville Area

Hosted by: Cathy Hardage, St. Mark's Episcopal School



Accreditation Corner

By Karen Mathews, Associate Director for Accreditation

Upcoming Events and Announcements from the FCIS Accreditation Office!

Workshops:

Evaluation Academy – For Heads of School, Administrators and Steering Committee Chairs

- Thursday, January 24, 2013; 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Lake Mary Preparatory School, Orlando area
- Cost: \$50
- Registration form available online at www.fcis.org

Summer Evaluation Academy for Heads of School

- June 12-13, 2013, following Annual Heads' Retreat
- Hammock Beach, Palm Coast
- Training for Heads who wish to serve as a Chair of an FCIS Accreditation team
- Contact Karen – kmathews@fcis.org for additional information

“Preparing for an Evaluation” – for Administrators and Steering Committee Chairs

- Administrators' Retreat - July 28-30, 2013
- In-depth session available Monday afternoon
- Sand Key, Clearwater

Standards Webinars - If your Head of School was unable to attend the live webinars on Financial Standards or Governance Standards, archived copies are available on the Head's Portal. Pertinent in-depth information was reviewed during these webinars.

Accreditation Reminders

- Please send a hard copy of the completed self-study to the FCIS Office and financials to the chair at least two weeks prior to your visit.
- When booking hotel rooms for the evaluation team, remember that proximity to school and comfort are of utmost importance! Please book well in advance of the team's arrival.
- Please follow the self-study templates available on the FCIS Accreditation resources website. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Karen.

Announcement for 2013-14 Review schools:

The FCIS Board has determined that schools that qualify for the Five Year Review must hold their evaluation visit between **September 15, 2013 and January 30, 2014**. As you begin planning for the accreditation visit, please begin with an evaluation visit date in mind. Qualifying schools were notified in July 2012. Please contact Karen at kmathews@fcis.org with any questions.

If you are serving on an accreditation team this spring and were unable to attend the Accreditation session at the convention or would like a "refresher" course, please join Karen for this upcoming webinar:

"Serving on an FCIS Evaluation Team"
Tuesday, February 5, 3:30—4:30 p.m.
Registration Available at FCIS website

School News

Hillel Academy of Tampa was featured on Fielding Nair International's website. FNI is *the* global leader for educational facilities planning and architectural design. FNI plans and designs school facilities for today and tomorrow with one primary goal in mind — to improve learning.



Out-of-Door Academy's Marcus Buffett '14 and Janum Trivedi '14, turned an all-nighter into the development of a personal finance app and an app development company. Combining their interest in computer programming and their own experiences managing their own personal stock portfolios, they saw a need for an easy to use app to manage personal finances. Check out Bankr App<<http://getbankr.com/>>, "a powerful, beautiful personal finance manager designed to make it easy to track your spending, follow budgets, and keep tabs on your money."



St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School's Girls' Varsity White Volleyball team ended the season with a win. Congratulations on the winning the League Championship.

Mr. Tent Strauch, St. John's Middle Division Math Teacher, visits Krispy Kreme every Thursday to purchase doughnuts for his Form X homeroom students but it was not your typical Thursday, Oct 23rd. President Obama happened to be at Kripsy Kreme that morning. President Obama mentioned Mr. Strauch's math tie, and when Mr. Strauch told him he teaches math, the President said "He's buying doughnuts for his kids. So that whole math-doughnut connection is the key to school reform, because I know his kids are doing great."



Canterbury School of Florida has been chosen as one of two schools in Florida to pilot a program for a science-based prescription drug abuse education effort.

Jacqueline Egli, Executive Director of **Bridges Academy**, has created an email group for the FCIS special education schools who want to be involved in planning for collaborative professional development. If you are interested in joining this "e-group", please email your name, school, phone number and email address to Jacqueline (jegli@bridgesacademy.net).

Montverde Academy Senior Michael Lucas was selected by the South Lake Chamber of Commerce as "Student of the Month", Oct. 2012. This prestigious Florida county award selects their candidates based on numerous criteria that include a student's G.P.A. and overall school record leading up to their senior year. Congratulations Michael!



On Nov. 16, **The Weiss School** students competed at Florida Atlantic University's Math Day. Out of 18 teams, the team came in first place in the math trivia competition. Congratulations to The Weiss School students and their math teacher Marc Weisbrot for a successful competition.



International students at the **Vanguard School** used their artistic skills to honor the traditions of India on Nov. 13, the beginning of Diwali. Rangoli is an ancient art form made on the floors of front patios or courtyards during Hindu festivals. Students from Chandra Henry's history and social studies classes participated in the project, which took several class periods to complete.



Congratulations to VISNET...Winner Of a 2012 Transformation Award

K12, a leading provider of online education, recently announced VISNET as a winner of the K12 Transformation Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize a person, school, organization, or program whose innovative practices are helping to transform education.

K12 acknowledged VISNET as being an effective and unique national educational consortium designed to provide member schools with high-quality professional development and online resources.

VISNET is honored by this award and proud that this national educational consortium is serving North Carolina, Virginia, **Florida**, and South Carolina independent schools!

School News

On Dec. 1, **Tampa Preparatory School's** Robo Terrapins (Middle school Division) scored an overall 2nd place in points and won the trophy for best robot performance.



They will be competing in the

FLL Regional's on Feb 2nd, 2013 at UCF. Tampa Prep junior Rasmus Skyærpe took the state title in swimming by winning the 200 meter freestyle. Congratulations Rasmus!



Maclay School's long time Athletic Director Bruce Irvin retired on December 21st. Bruce came to Maclay in 1976 and spent the last 38 years creating and supervising the very successful athletic program at Maclay. He most recently was nominated for the 2013

Coach/AD of the Year by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association and will attend the awards ceremony in Iowa next June. Under Irvin's direction, Maclay School has 34 state championships and ten "Athletic Program of the Year" honors.

On Nov. 30th, **Montverde Academy** held its "Winter Wonderland" fundraiser. The evening's festivities raised \$2,909 that will be donated to the New Beginnings Women and Children's Shelter in Clermont. MVA Lower-school raised \$1,233.19 in the "Change Challenge" to support the Faith Neighborhood Center of Groveland. MVA Boys' Varsity Basketball team has been ranked #2 in the most recent USA TODAY *High School Sports Super 25* high-school hoops poll for the week of Dec. 10th. Congratulations.

