NDEPENDENTS

The Newsletter of the Florida Council of Independent Schools

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Inside this issue Page 1

Executive Director Letter

Page 2 Legislative Update

Legislative Update

Page 4 School News

Page 5 School News Spring Symposium

Page 6 Workshops

Page 7 Accreditation Corner FKC Corner

Page 8 Ads

Upcoming FCIS Events

> Apple Workshop May 3, 2012 Pine Crest School Ft. Lauderdale

Apple Workshop May 11, 2012 All Saints' Academy Winter Haven

Heads' Retreat June 19-21, 2012 Waldorf Astoria, Naples

Evaluation Academy June 21-22, 2012 Waldorf Astoria, Naples

from the executive director...

delivered by Bill Gates, who acknowledged the difas a graduate of Lakeside School in Seattle, Washington. Some of Bill Gates' key points were that the classroom by assigning online lectures for homealso a documentary filmmaker, playwright, singer, songwriter, photographer, and editor for Write Bloody Publishing. One of the most inspiring speakvated the NAIS audience as he shared, "My teachers, were able to defeat SB 1704. not just teaching the child in front of me, I am reaching through time and teaching the children of the future." The conference ended with a presentation by Hymn of the Tiger Mom. Amy shared her experiences of attempting to raise her children for success in a traditional Chinese way and was very transparworld transforming some of her thinking.

2013 has been released, and it features an increase of \$1.7 billion in education spending. In response, U.S. strengthen the American workforce, we must con- ending around noon on June 22. tinue to invest in education."

CAPE also has reported on other national educational trends. One trend that has been noted is that charter schools are having a significant impact on

NAIS: The 2012 NAIS Annual Conference was religious schools. In New York State alone, enrollheld on February 29 through March 2 in Seattle, ment in Catholic elementary schools has plummeted Washington. The theme was Innovation: imagine/ 43% in the last 10 years, and charter schools have invent/inspire/dream. The conference featured sev- been cited as a significant factor. To complicate this eral outstanding speakers, with the opening session further, schools are having to raise tuition for remaining students to offset the revenue loss. Other ference that independent schools had made in his life trends emerging include more states passing bills allowing tax credits for contributions made to not-for -profit organizations offering private school scholartechnology can promote personalization of learning ships. Virginia has joined the ranks. In Arizona, the in the classroom, can give students a venue to share Governor signed a bill on February 29 to double the their work, can extend the school day, or even flip amount of donations allowed to support such scholarships.

work and giving students time to work during class FHSAA: On March 8, 2012, HB 1403, a bill on periods. The first day ended with an inspiring presen- Florida High School Athletics, passed the House and tation by Sarah Kay, a spoken word poet, who is the Senate. This bill addresses student transfers, due process, and athletic investigations with regards to student eligibility for participation in high school sports. FCIS fought hard to defeat a similar bill, SB ers during the entire conference was **John Hunter**, 1704, which would have created in Florida statutes an award winning teacher who developed World the Sunshine Independent Athletic Association Peace Game. A documentary entitled "World Peace (SIAA) as the private high school athletic associaand Other Fourth Grade Achievements" has been tion. With the help of our lobbyist Brenda Dickinson produced featuring John and his students. He capti- and the proactive responses from our schools, we

I stand on their shoulders...These teachers are in **Heads' Retreat:** Please plan to join us for the 2012 me....It is my teachers speaking through me....I am Heads' Retreat at the Waldorf Astoria in Naples on June 19 through 21. This year's theme is "The Leader as a Change Agent" and will feature Pat Bassett, President of NAIS, and Dr. Anabel Jensen, a full Amy Chua, a Yale Law Professor who wrote Battle professor and department chair at Notre Dame de Namur University and Co-founder of Six Seconds, The Emotional Intelligence Network. The program promises to be outstanding, and it will be a great ent regarding how childrearing has been a learning time to network and spend time with colleagues. In experience for her with parenting in the Western addition, there are activities planned for our "Focusing on Families", which was kicked off last CAPE: President Obama's proposed budget for year at this same time. Once again, the second night will feature a barbeque with families welcome. An Evaluation Academy for Heads of School will follow Secretary Arne Duncan commented, "If we want to the retreat beginning the afternoon of June 21 and

> Barbara H Hodges, Ed.D. **Executive Director**



Legislative Update By Barbara Hodges, Ed. D.

Bright Futures Scholarship Program Changes

http://myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=_h5201er.docx&DocumentType=Bill&BillNumber=5201&Session=2012

- Clarifies that students enrolled in the Spring/Summer University of Florida pilot program who are eligible for a Bright Futures scholarship are eligible to receive the scholarship award during the summer term, with not more than two semesters in any Fiscal Year.
- Requires students who entered into a state university or college for the first time and maintain continuous enrollment for the 2009 -2010 and 2010-11 academic year will pay 50 percent of tuition for excess credit hours above 120 percent of the credit hours required for their degree, with graduated enforcement.
- Shortens the length of time that a student is eligible to accept an initial Bright Futures Scholarship award from 3 years to 2 years after high school graduation for student graduating from high school in the 2012-13 academic year and thereafter, with the exception of a student who enlists in the US Armed Forces.
- Clarifies that students are required to annually submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for initial award eligibility as well as renewal award eligibility.
- Reduced Bright Futures awards were reduced 1% per credit hour for the 2012-2013 academic year.

House Bill 5103 Summary: School Readiness Programs

http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?FileName=485907.docx&DocumentType =Amendments&BillNumber=5103&Session=2012

(Note: The red highlight is the issue FCIS was interested in and the underlined working is new language.)

- Clarifies school readiness programs to be operated full-time and part-time.
- Defines terms for purposes of the School Readiness Act.
- Prioritizes services to eligible children from birth to kindergarten.
- Requires definitions for expenditures and reports for direct expenditures for services to children, administrative costs, non-direct expenditures and quality.
- Requires the Office of Early Learning to adopt a list of approved curricula, identify a pre-assessment and post-assessment, adopt a statewide standardized contract to be used by coalitions with each school readiness provider.
- Revises procurement requirements and requirements for the expenditure of funds by early learning coalitions.
- Requires coalitions to merge if they are unable to comply with expenditure requirements.
- Allows the Office of Early Learning to provide a waiver for merging coalitions for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 years if justifictions for excess expenditures are provided.
- Incorporates existing licensing guidelines which are identified in other areas of statute.
- Revises the eligibility criteria for the enrollment of children in the school readiness program and provides the following priorities by which children are enrolled:
- Provides for the allocation of school readiness funds as specified in the General Appropriations Act.
- Requires the Office of Early Learning to submit by May 31, 2012, a recommended allocation of School Readiness Program funds, including standardized provider payment rates, Gold Seal premium rate percentage, and a parent co-payment percentage to the School Readiness Allocation Conference for review.
- Requires quarterly recalculation of the funding allocations by the Office of Early Learning.
- Deletes provisions for the establishment of an allocation formula by the Office of Early Learning.
- Defines and limits expenditures for administrative activities, quality activities and non-direct activities.
- Provides for fraud investigations and provides penalties for school readiness providers and parents who knowingly submit false information related to child eligibility and attendance in a school readiness program.
- Creates the School Readiness Allocation Conference, whose duties are to review allocation recommendations by the Office of Early Learning.
- Establishes a due date for school readiness providers to submit market rates to be used as part of the prevailing market rate schedule.
- Clarifies that non-public schools are exempt from licensure and specifies that the statutes that apply. House Bill 5103 Vetoed by Governor on Friday, April 20, 2012.



Legislative Update, Con't

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten

http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx? FileName= h5101e2.docx&DocumentType=Bill&BillNumber=5101&Session=2012

- Requires providers and schools to implement pre and post assessments for students in the voluntary prekindergarten program.
- Limits the mandatory period for the reporting of FTE for payment to providers and schools by early learning coalitions for the voluntary prekindergarten program.

VPK allocation for the school year program shall be \$2,383 and for the summer program shall be \$2026

Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program

http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?
FileName= h0859er.docx&DocumentType=Bill&BillNumber=0859&Session=2012

- Removes prior public school enrollment requirement for students entering grades 1-5.
- Increases tax credit cap amount to \$229 million in the 2012-13 state fiscal year.
- Allows private schools to voluntarily offer & administer the FCAT at the private school at no cost to the school and provides the conditions for administration.
- Authorizes DOE to make site visits at any time to a school that has received a notice of noncompliance or a notice or proposed action within the previous 2 years.

House Bill 1403 -- High School Athletics

http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Documents/loaddoc.aspx?
FileName=_h1403er.docx&DocumentType=Bill&BillNumber=1403&Session=2012

- Mandates that the FHSAA may not deny or discourage interscholastic competition between its member schools and non-FHSAA
 member Florida schools, including members of another athletic governing organization, and may not take any retributory or discriminatory action against any of its member schools that participate in interscholastic competition with non-FHSAA member
 Florida schools.
- Prohibits the FHSAA from unreasonably withholding its approval of an application to become an affiliate member of the National Federation of State High School Associations submitted by any other organization that governs interscholastic athletic competition in this state
- Requires the FHSAA to adopt bylaws relating to transfers. The bylaws shall allow the student to be eligible in the school to which the student has transferred during the school year if the transfer is made by a deadline established by the FHSAA, which may not be prior to the date authorized for the beginning of practice for the sport. These transfers shall be allowed pursuant to the district school board policies in the case of transfer to a public school or pursuant to the private school policies in the case of transfer to a private school.
- Requires the FHSAA to adopt bylaws relating to recruiting violations and sanctions of the school, coaches or adult representatives.
- Establishes certain requirements and prohibitions relating to investigations; determinations of eligibility; provides requirements relating to appeals.

HB1403 was signed by Governor Scott on Friday, April 27, 2012.

For more detail, go to www.fcis.org, "In the News".

School News

A Madison Academy third grade student was recently Achievement business strategies in Biztown's simulated Districts' (NACD) Soil to Spoon booklet, which is dis-cover letters, seventh graders engaged in mock employ-"Farmer Scotty" Wynn working with his family on their plan competition. farm in Hamilton County, Florida. To view a video of On May 17, Pierre Yves Cousteau, youngest son of late Wynn, visit www.nacdnet.org/education/resources.



ITS Competitions.

lege Mathlympics!

Ms. Arvi Balseiro. Ms. Balseiro will replace Dr. Joan ida on March 10. Lutton who retires after 31 years as Head of School.

The Downtown Tampa sky lit up red and gold as the keting claimed three awards SunTrust Tower ziggurat honored the **Tampa Prepara**- in the 2012 Council for Adtory Terrapins' TWO State Champion teams: Boys Soc- vancement and Support of cer and Boys Basketball. The Varsity Boys Soccer team Education (CASE) District earned its fifth State Championship title since 2005 and III Awards program. Bolles the Varsity Boys Basketball team brought home the was the only independent team's first State Championship trophy. Congratula- school in the state of Florida tions!

Ceremony for the Thunder Baseball Concession Building and Scorer's Booth on Feb. 21. The new facilities include a state-of-the-art scorer's booth, concession stand,



performed the swearing-in ceremony of student mayor on March 16th. Reese Kline. Sixth graders implemented Junior

featured in the National Association of Conservation display of industry store fronts. Armed with resumes and tributed nationally to second and third grade students. ment interviews with community leaders, while eighth The booklet contains a full-color layout of photos of graders pitched their team start-up clubs in a business

underwater explorer Jacques Cousetau, will be the spe-Montverde Academy's basketball team competed in the cial guest at the Canterbury School of Florida's rededi-ESPN National High School Invitational at Georgetown cation of its Marine Studies Education Center as the Prep in Bethesda, Maryland. MVA Head Coach Kevin Cousteau Center for Marine Studies. On May 18, follow-Boyle has been selected to lead the US against the World ing the building dedication, Pierre Cousteau will join stu-Team in the USA Junior National dents from Canterbury's newly formed Venturing Crew Select Team at the 15th Annual for a SCUBA dive in Tampa Bay.

Nike Hoop Summit basketball Congratulations to The Pine School's Director of Fine game being held in Portland, Ore- Arts, Marcus Rabb, for receiving the Excellence in Arts gon. MVA's Thespian Society Education Award from the Arts Council of Martin obtained "Excellent" scores at Jr. County. This high honor, which has been given since MVA re- 2003, is the top award given to arts educators by the ceived First Place in the Lake Sumter Community Col- group each year. Senior Grant Mortell, was selected to play in the Florida Athletic Coaches Association's Boys' The Cushman School announced new Head of School, Soccer All-Star Classic at the University of South Flor-

The Bolles School Office of Communications and Mar-

to win an award. Congratu-



The Out-of-Door Academy held its Grand Opening lations to Rachel Sorrells, Bolles senior. among the first group of winners announced in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship program.

> Creative Learning Academy celebrates Preschool success during the school's 40th year. CLA's Preschool Program is well knows for its highly effective blending of Montessori methods. Congratulations on 40 years!

On March 22, The Carrollwood Day School 2nd grade restrooms, locker room, and storage areas. Student Brit- class had a wonderful opportunity to participate on the tany Wenger, Class of 2013, was selected as a runner-up Today Show as part of the One Bottle, One Dream Profor the 2012 NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Comput- ject created by Stephanie Armenia. The 2nd graders became involved in the project from their Primary Years The Benjamin School hosted more than 50 community Programme Unit of Inquiry on Recycling. Seniors Adam and parent volunteers with its Middle School Career Day Hall and Michael Valdez were named "Best Duet Acon Feb. 24. Palm Beach Gardens Mayor David Levy tors" at the Florida State International Thespian Festival

School News, Con't

For the second consecutive year, Maria Elena Grimmett of The Weiss School was awarded First Place in the Environment Sciences section at the 57th annual Florida Science and Engineering Fair.



Admiral Farragut Academy 7th graders had the oppor- dents at Maclay. tunity to Skype with scientists aboard the JOIDES IODP St. Mark's Episcopal Day Expedition 340 research vessel. On April 19, thirty stu- School in Jacksonville is proud to announce the completered women in Clearwater with kids affected by domes- cation ceremony at

Berkeley Preparatory School announced the receipt of Commons. a major leadership gift from the David A. Straz, Jr. 10,000 square foot Foundation. In recognition, Berkeley will name the soon-building features a to-be-completed Straz Family Field House ("The Straz"). full scale perform-Twenty-one Berkeley Preparatory students were recog- ance stage nized by the National Merit Scholarship Program and professional lightfour students received the National Hispanic Award, ing and sound, a gymnasium with sport flooring, and a Congratulations!

Legacy breakfast initiates a new tradition at Maclay

School. The Maclay Alumni Association recently held a special event for 81 current parents who are alumni and their 119 children who are stu-



dent from Admiral Farragut donated their completed tion of four major construction projects on the St. Mark's bears from Build-a-Bear to The Haven, a shelter for bat- campus. On April 22, the community attended the dedi-

> The Lori Schiavone The



commercial kitchen.

Spring Symposium

Shaping the Future with Technology April 23, 2012

April 23 was an exciting day for 75 participants who attended an all day technology workshop at Lake Highland Preparatory School in Orlando! Nancy Wong, math liaison from The School at Columbia University in New York, opened the day by sharing a variety of learning experiences that can be enhanced by the use of technology. She reminded participants that technologists must work closely with teachers to ensure that classroom technology is "meaningful technology". Nancy offered Google Apps 1.0 and Google Apps 2.0 for schools to incorporate Google Apps in their school communities. Felix Jacomino, Technology Director at St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School in Miami presented a session on the use of Mobile Devices in Education and a presentation entitled "No Teacher Left Behind". As the world becomes more 'connected' and information readily available to all, educators must be more than lecturers; they should be preparing our students for 21st Century jobs! "Flipping the Classroom" is a hot topic everywhere! Many schools are researching ways to incorporate some or many of the techniques associated with Khan Academy. Susan Bearden, Matthew Suttles and Aaron Pishalski from Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy in Melbourne, offered their experiences using teacher made instructional videos.

Emerging Issues for Independent Schools April 24, 2012

In a continuing effort to provide FCIS schools with-up-to date, relevant legal information, we have offered several workshops and webinars this year. With new legislation and changes in existing laws, it's important to stay current! On April 24, Suzanne Bogdan, a partner with Fisher & Phillips law firm, provided a program of valuable and worthwhile information for school heads, administrators, business officers and human resource directors. With her colleague, Candice Pinares-Baez, they reviewed family and medical leave issues; changes in definition for ADA related disabilities, and student-teacher interactions which included social networking and person-to-person communica-Joe Markham, Executive Director of Transportation, Safety, Security and Crisis Management for Pine Crest School led a session on emergency preparedness: formulating a plan, dealing with the media, partnering with local law enforcement, staff training, security checks, neighborhood awareness and parent notification. Wayne Black, a security consultant and founder/owner of Wayne Black and Associates,

assisted with this presentation. "It could never happen here" no longer applies to schools, churches, or any public or private institutions.



Special thanks to Warren Hudson, President of Lake Highland Preparatory School for being such a gracious host and making his school available as a site for two days of professional development. We want to also thank Kathy Taylor, Special Assistant to the President for Curriculum, PK-12, for coordinating all the arrangements for space and catering.

Coming in the Fall

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.

Elementary Teachers Thursday, September 20, 2012 9:15am to 2:15pm 9100 NW 36th, Miami, FL 33178 Middle and High School Teachers Friday, September 21 9:15am to 2:15pm 9100 NW 36th, Miami, FL 33178



There is Still Time to Register! Apple Workshop



Rethinking Learning: Engage, Create, Deliver!

At this interactive event, participants will have an opportunity to experience how they can transform learning with innovative new tools for engaging students, creating, and delivering content.

May 3, 2012 – Pine Crest School, Ft. Lauderdale 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:15 – 3:15 p.m.

May 11, 2012 – All Saints' Academy, Winter Haven 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Choose a location and either a morning or afternoon session. <u>Each session will be limited to 20 people.</u> iPads will be available for each participant's use with the latest software and apps.

Cost: \$35 per person. Go to www.fcis.org, events for registration.



Florida Kindergarten Council Corner

FKC Corner

Standard 3.5.9 Clarification Update

At their February FKC Board meeting, standard 3.5.9 was updated to include the following language.

- _____3.5.9 18 months through Prekindergarten Three: Instructional personnel of the 18 month, two and three year-old children will comply with ONE (1) of the following:
 - A bachelor's degree; if the degree is not in Early Childhood education, 12 semester hours and/or its equivalent** in early childhood education must be obtained.
 - *An associate's degree in early childhood/child development or at least a CDA credential. (By July 1, 2014, a CDA credential will no longer meet the standard; a minimum of an associate's degree in early childhood will be required.)
- * NOTE: CDA certified faculty members hired prior to the 2011-12 year will be grandfathered in; all faculty members hired after 2011-2012 must meet this standard.
- ** Equivalent is the following ratio: 20 inservice or workshop hours = one college credit hour

FKC Convention 2012

Friday, October 12, 2012 6:30pm-8:00pm Meet and Greet Saturday, October 13, 2012 8:00am –3:30pm Convention

Doubletree Hotel, Downtown Orlando 60 South Ivanhoe Blvd

If you are interested in presenting at the FKC Convention go to www.fkconline.org to complete the Proposal Form.

Exhibitor information now available at www.fkconline.org!



Accreditation Corner

By Karen Mathews, Associate Director for Accreditation

FCIS will offer two accreditation workshops this summer:

- 1. Evaluation Academy 2012 for Heads of School only *Following the Head's Retreat *June 21-22 at the Waldorf Astoria, Naples
- 2. "Preparing Your School for an FCIS Evaluation" for FCIS administrators and Steering Committee Chairs

*During the Administrator's Retreat on July 30 at The Hyatt Regency, Bonita Springs

If you are interested in the above accreditation workshops, contact Karen Mathews at kmathews@fcis.org or 813-287-2820.

Heads' Luncheon Hosts

- Dr. Joyce Swarzman, Tampa/St Pete
- Craig Maughan, Orlando
- Dr. John Trainer, Jacksonville
- Bill Jablon, Tallahassee
- Dr. Anthony Bryan, Coral Springs/Ft Lauderdale
- Suzanne Cooke, RSCJ, Miami

Thank you for hosting the 2012 Heads' Luncheon in your area.

Winners of the 2012 DeWitt E. & Vera Hooker Grant Winners

\$1000 to H. Quincy Brown from Creative Learning Academy for *Hooked on Nooks*

\$500 to Carolina Gray and Shannon Nunley from San Jose Episcopal for On Cloud 9! Using Cloud Technology

\$500 to Annette Brinson from Riverside Presbyterian Day School for *This Land Belongs to You and Me*

\$800 to Joanne Barrett from The Out-of-Door Academy and Chad Lewis from Tampa Preparatory for Using iPad Technology in the (6-12) Classroom.

Congratulations to our new FCIS 2011-2012 Accredited School

Discovery Montessori School

Kim Bednarek, Head of School Jacksonville Beach

WORKSHOPS

FCIS		
Apple Workshop @ Pine Crest	May 3	Ft. Lauderdale
Apple Workshop @ All Saints' Academy	May 11	Winter Haven
Heads' Retreat	June 19 - 21	Naples
Evaluation Academy	June 21 - 22	Naples
Administrators' Retreat	July 29 - 31	Bonita Springs
Preparing Your School for a	July 30	Bonita Springs
FCIS Evaluation		
New Teacher Institute	Sept 30 - Oct 2	Oviedo
Convention 2012	Nov. 7 - 9	Orlando
www.fcis.org		
FHSAA Compliance Summer Workshops		
West Broward High School	Aug. 9	Pembroke Pines
Winter Spring High School	Aug. 10	Winter Springs
www.fhsaa.org		
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		











Certification Renewal

Florida Professional Certificates expiring June 30, 2012

- Renew online at www.fldoe.org/edcert
- Contact Keara Danger, kdanger@fcis.org, to submit your master inservice to the DOE on the CT-111.

Master Inservice Coordinator

All master inservice must be Submitted by July 31, 2012