

# INDEPENDENTS

The Newsletter of the Florida Council of Independent Schools

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## *Upcoming FCIS Events*

### **January 12, 2012**

Evaluation Academy  
@ Parkway Christian  
Davie

### **January 29-31, 2012**

Academy for High  
Performing Educators  
@ IDS, Tampa

### **February 3, 2012**

Bill Krizner/Social Me-  
dia & Legal Implications  
@ Tampa Prep, Tampa

### **Spring Symposium**

### **April 23, 2012**

Technology with  
Nancy Wong

### **April 24, 2012**

Human Resource &  
Personnel with Suzanne  
Bogdan  
@ Lake Highland Prep  
Orlando

## *from the executive director...*

It is hard to believe that the year of 2011 is coming to a close. This has been a great year for the Florida Council! Despite the challenged economy, the Florida Council remains strong with 157 schools; our student population served has varied only a little over 300 students since 2008. I believe those statistics may be attributed to the quality programs that our schools offer. The Florida Council has continued to support member schools through outstanding professional development opportunities, including webinars on legal issues and other key topics.

Traveling the state, I am able to see firsthand the differences that we are making in the lives of our students. As an educator, I am moved by the fine work that is being accomplished by our FCIS schools to positively impact the lives of the students entrusted to us.

## *News*

**FCIS.** The 56<sup>th</sup> FCIS Annual Convention hosted by our South Florida schools was a huge success, with a record-breaking attendance of 1,984. I want to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to our convention tri-chairs, Dr. John Davies, Head of Miami Country Day School; Dr. Ann Marie Krejcarek, Head of Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton; and Sean Murphy, Head of Palmer Trinity School in Miami. We are already making plans for the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, which will be held on November 8 and 9, 2012 at the Orlando Regency Hyatt International Airport. Co-chairs for this event are Warren Hudson, President of Lake Highland Preparatory, and Craig Maughan, Head of Trinity Preparatory School. Mark your calendars now; it promises to be a great event!

The election of FCIS officers and new board directors took place at the Annual Meeting at the Convention. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new directors – Dr. Anthony Bryan, Head of Coral Springs Christian Academy; Suzanne Cooke, Head of Carrollton School of the Sa-

cred Heart; Nammie Ichilov, Head of Arthur I. Meyer Jewish Academy; Cynthia Moon, Head of Park Maitland School; and John Zeller, Head of The Community School of Naples. The new officers of the FCIS Board include Dale Regan, Head of Episcopal School of Jacksonville, as President; David Mahler, Head of The Out-of-Door Academy, as Vice President; Mike Sligh, Head of Lakeland Christian School, as Secretary; Sean Murphy, Head of Palmer Trinity School, as Treasurer; and Craig Maughan, Head of Trinity Preparatory School, as Immediate Past President.

**CAPE.** New enrollment trends have just been released in a report from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). According to the report, enrollment of school-age children increased 8 percent between 1995 and 2008; enrollment is expected to increase another 5 percent between 2008 and 2020. The enrollment varied according to school type. Public school enrollment increased 10 percent between 1995 and 2008, while private school enrollment decreased 4 percent. Between 2008 and 2020, public school enrollment is expected to increase 7 percent, while private school enrollment is expected to decrease another 8 percent.

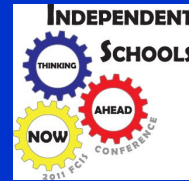
There are currently 55 million children enrolled in PK through grade 12 in 2011, and that number could increase to 58 million within the next nine years if the projections hold true. At the present time, 49 million children are enrolled in public schools, and 5.32 million are enrolled in private schools. Projected changes would indicate 53 million children in public schools and 5.27 million in private schools by 2020.

The percentage of school age children in private schools has ranged from 11.7 to 10.4 between the years of 1995 and 2008. In the years of 2009 to 2020, the range is expected to be between 10.0 and 9.1 percent.

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



## Convention 2011 November 17-18, 2011 Weston, FL



A tremendous ‘thank you’ to all our schools, and especially to those in South Florida for their overwhelming support of the annual FCIS Conference. We had 1,984 attendees registered, representing 121 member schools. An event of this size would not be possible without the help of many individuals who gave generously of their time and talent. Our steering committee, led by Co-Chairs John Davies, Ann Marie Krejcarek and Sean Murphy, assembled a program that was dynamic, exciting and diverse.

Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, began with our featured keynote speaker, the well-known author Ian Jukes, who invited us to look through “Windows on the Future”. Ian spoke about the far reaching implications of technology on our learning institutions, both now and in the future. Christina Drouin, Executive Director of the Center for Strategic Planning spoke at the luncheon addressing best practices in contemporary change management and earlier in the day, spoke on successful marketing concepts and practices. The day provided many interesting and thought-provoking breakout sessions from leading authorities in their fields.

The following day over a thousand teachers enjoyed a day of professional development with more than sixty five break-out sessions on the program. The day included brunch with our Friday keynote speaker, Mark Milliron. Mark is an award-winning leader, author, speaker and consultant. He served as the Deputy Director for Postsecondary Improvement for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and is the founder of Catalyze Learning International. He was recently named Chancellor of Western Governors University Texas. Mark presented a variety of issues pertaining to online learning, blended learning, social networking and personal learning networks, all having the purpose of helping students learn.

This year’s conference was the largest in FCIS history! We had to face some interesting challenges (off-site parking, rainy weather, nearly 2,000 people!) and our thanks go out to all those who attended. A VERY special thanks to Joe Markham, Executive Director of Transportation at Pine Crest School! Several months ago, Pine Crest had agreed to provide two buses for the shuttle service that ran between the Bonaventure Hyatt Regency and nearby Markham Park. When Friday morning arrived with dark skies and rain, Joe made the decision to send four buses so our teachers would have little or no “waiting” time.

Mark your calendars now for November 8-9, 2012! We’ll be in Orlando at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport.

Christina Drouin



Ian Jukes



Dr. Mark David Milliron









## Special Thanks To Our Generous Convention Underwriters

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

FCIS Board of Directors' Dinner

**Taylor Publishing and Hotwire**  
Contribution to the Welcome Reception

**Tuition Management Systems and Seitlin Benefits**  
Contributions to the Business Officers' Dinner

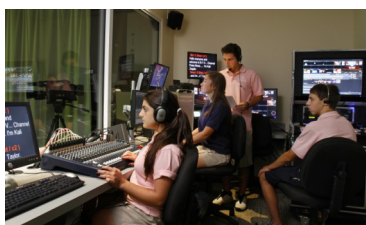
**Educational Records Bureau (ERB)**  
Contribution to the Admission Directors' Dinner

**CDW**  
Contribution to the Technology Directors' Dinner

**Independent School Management (ISM) and Sunshine Fashions**  
FCIS President's Reception

## School News

**The Benjamin School** unveiled its new state-of-the-art Television and Video Production Studio and its new film and broadcasting program at a recent ceremonial ribbon-cutting on the Upper School Campus.



Congratulations to Dr. Joan Lutton, Head of School at **The Cushman School** for being honored at the 5th Annual Barry University Distinguished Alumni Awards on November 12th.

**The Weiss School** held its 1st Annual Weiss School Pro-Am Tennis Tournament Nov. 16-18. The event benefited the scholarship program.

**Carrollwood Day School** Head of School, Mary L. Kanter, announced her intention to retire effective June 30, 2013.

Michelle McConnell from **Seacrest Country Day School** presented at the FCIS Convention. Join Michelle's follow-up forum on *Exploring Through Research!* Share ideas and thoughts on teaching students to use higher level thinking skills. [www.seacrest.org](http://www.seacrest.org)

**Montverde Academy's** Headmaster, Dr. Kasey Kesseling, received the Orlando Business Journal's distinctive recognition of the Top Ten Men to Watch 2011 at the Journal's Tenth Annual Most Influential Business Awards Celebration held Oct. 27th. Montverde Academy passed the Cum Laude Society academic examination and was awarded a chapter in 2011.

**The Bolles School** sophomore, Joseph Schooling, earned a medal at the Southeast Asia Games in November and junior, Ryan Murphy, earned a bronze medal at the Pan American Games in Guadalajara, Mexico. Congratulations! Bolles School has appointed Brian E. M. Johnson as their next Head of School beginning August 1, 2012.

**Admiral Farragut's** Varsity Football team defeats **Glades Day School** on Friday, December 2. AFA (12-1) becomes the first Pinellas County team to advance to a state final since 1995.

**The Cushman School** has announced Arvi Balseiro as their next Head of School. Congratulations Arvi!



## Florida Kindergarten Council Corner

### FKC Corner

**Reminder: Professional Staff standards 3.5.8 and 3.5.9 have been edited.**

Please go to [www.fkconline.org](http://www.fkconline.org) , Accreditation, and download the full FKC Standards 2011 and review these important changes. (Also see Sept/Oct. 2011 *Independents* newsletter for additional details on 3.5.9.)



### Accreditation Corner

*By Karen Mathews, Associate Director for Accreditation*

#### Accreditation Sessions

Over 90 teachers, administrators and heads of school attended one, or more, of the four accreditation sessions offered at the November FCIS Convention. Topics covered included Chair training, preparing your school for an FCIS/FKC or a joint FCIS-SAIS/SACS evaluation, preparing for a Five Year Review visit, writing the self-study and the logistics of the actual visit. Many educators attended the training session to learn more about serving on an evaluation team. Service on a team is an outstanding form of professional development and encourages FCIS peer educators to step outside their current role and look “with BIG and objective eyes” at other educational programs. There is hardly a better way to learn and grow as an educator!

Special thanks to Tracy Ross and Sheri Rentzepis from The Cushman School for their presentation on writing the self-study with the use of Google Docs. They made it look so easy!

If you were unable to attend the November sessions, FCIS is offering two additional training sessions next semester. The Evaluation Academy, January 12 at Parkway Christian School, is open to Heads and Administrators (see information below). Additionally, the Administrator’s Retreat, July 29-31 in Bonita Springs, will feature an afternoon workshop for schools preparing for their evaluation. I am also available to visit your campus to assist in any of the planning and preparation stages of the accreditation process! The Academy will also be offered in June, for Heads only, at the conclusion of the Heads’ Retreat, the more relaxed two-day session.

#### Evaluation Academy – Parkway Christian School, Davie - January 12, 2012

FCIS will offer a one-day session for Heads of School with the joint purpose of preparing heads to serve as a Chair for an Accreditation team as well as informing heads in greater detail about the overall accreditation process. This session is open to Steering Committee Chairs and School Administrators who are directly involved with the Accreditation Process.

Register: [www.fcis.org](http://www.fcis.org), Workshops & Events; Cost: \$50 for materials and lunch



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



## Creative Students Wanted to Help Promote Florida KidCare

The Florida KidCare Act-Out for Health Contest encourages students across the state to produce a 30-second video public service announcement (PSA), design a billboard advertisement, or write an essay describing the importance of eating and living well.

**Go to [www.actoutforhealth.net](http://www.actoutforhealth.net) for  
more Information.**

**Deadline: Friday, Jan. 6th**

## 2012 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.**

### Thursday, March 8, 2012

Tampa/St. Petersburg/Sarasota/Naples Area

Hosted by: Dr. Joyce Swarzman,  
Independent Day School, Tampa

### Thursday, March 15, 2012

Orlando Area

Hosted by: Craig Maughan,  
Trinity Preparatory School

### Friday, March 30, 2012

Jacksonville Area

Hosted by: Dr. John Trainer  
The Bolles School

### Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Tallahassee Area

Hosted by: Bill Jablon  
Maclay School

### Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Boca Raton/Ft. Lauderdale/Coral Springs Area

Hosted by: Dr. Anthony Bryan,  
Coral Springs Christian, Coral Springs

### Thursday, April 26, 2012

Miami Area

Hosted by: Suzanne Cooke, RSCJ,  
Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart

## WORKSHOPS

### FCIS

Evaluation Academy @ Parkway Christian	Jan. 12, 2012	Davie
Academy for High Performing Educators @ IDS	Jan. 29-31, 2012	Tampa
Bill Krizner/Social Media & Legal Implications @Tampa Prep	Feb. 3, 2012	Tampa
Spring Symposium Technology with Nancy Wong	April 23, 2012	Orlando
Human Resource & Personnel with Suzanne Bogdan @ Lake Highland Prep	April 24, 2012	Orlando
Heads' Retreat	June 19-21, 2012	Naples
Administrators' Retreat	July 29-31, 2012	Bonita Springs
New Teacher Institute	Sept 30-Oct 2, 2012	Oviedo
Convention 2012	Nov. 7-9, 2012	Orlando

[www.fcis.org](http://www.fcis.org)

### NAIS

Annual Conference	Feb. 29-Mar. 2	Seattle
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[www.nais.org](http://www.nais.org)

### SSATB

Annual Meeting	Sept. 19-22, 2012	Chicago
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[www.admission.org](http://www.admission.org)



## Legal Webinars with Suzanne Bogdan

January 25, 2012

Creation and Enforcement of  
Employment Contracts

February 16, 2012

FHSA Issues

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

Cost: **Free** for Member Schools

To Register contact Tam Nguyen,  
[tnguyen@fcis.org](mailto:tnguyen@fcis.org) for invitation.