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Upcoming FCIS Events

**FCIS Pre-Conf. (ISM)
FCIS Pre-Conf.
(Business Officers)**
November 2, 2016
Hyatt Regency, Miami

**FCIS Annual
Convention**
November 2-4, 2016
Hyatt Regency, Miami

**Prospective Heads'
I, II, & III**
January 11-12, 2017
Mission Inn Resort,
Howey-in-the-Hills

**Academy for High
Performing Educators**
January 22-24, 2017
Corbett Prep at IDS,
Tampa

**Winter Symposiums:
Enrollment Management &
Legal Issues
Symposium**
February 7, 2017
Technology Symposium
February 8, 2017
Shorecrest, St. Petersburg

from the executive director...

Fall has officially arrived in Florida, although the temperatures don't always seem to support that. Even with the warm temperatures, it is the time of year when our schools have settled in and are making assessments and planning initiatives for the year ahead. Just like our schools, FCIS is assessing member data and is deeply involved in programs and initiatives to support our member schools. Our aggregate enrollment is once again up, following an upward trend over the past six years. Sixty percent of our schools have increased in enrollment since 2010, and forty percent of our schools have decreased in enrollment. Our state association enrollment trend is similar to the national trend, as reported in the 2015-16 NAIS Trendbook. That trend is indicative of the progress that our FCIS schools are making as they continue to reassess and re-envision the educational programs needed to prepare our students for the future they will experience

New FCIS Standards and Evaluation Process: As reported at the November 2015 Annual Meeting, FCIS has been piloting a new evaluation process for the past two years. This new process focuses on school improvement and encourages schools to identify essential questions on which schools seek feedback from visiting teams. As we have been piloting and refining this process, the FCIS Board of Directors has simultaneously been working to revise the FCIS Standards. The new standards, which become **effective July 1, 2017**, were approved by the FCIS Board at their September meeting. There will be more information on these new standards at the upcoming 2016 Annual Meeting at the **FCIS Convention on November 3-4 in Miami**. This is an important meeting for all member schools to attend.

FCIS Annual Convention – Along with the presentation of new standards, the FCIS Convention Steering Committee has planned an outstanding program at the **Hyatt Regency Orlando Miami**. Special thanks go to Elise Ecoff, Head of School of North Broward Preparatory School, and Bob Goldberg, Head of School at The Benjamin School, and all of the Miami-area FCIS schools for chairing and host

ing this important event. Thursday keynote speakers include **Paul Tough**, Journalist, Speaker, and Author of *How Children Succeed*; and **Dr. Amishi Jha**, Director of Contemplative Neuroscience, UMindfulness Initiative, at the University of Miami. On Friday, **Kristen Hadeed**, Millennial Engagement Expert and Entrepreneur, will kick off the faculty day, followed by thought-provoking sessions and an inspiring luncheon keynote given by **Michael Baiamonte**, Voice of the Miami Heat. New this year, there will be two pre-conference offerings on **November 2**. Once again, ISM will provide a day-long workshop, but new to the lineup will be a pre-conference workshop presented by nationally recognized **Howard Teibel**, who will present on "The Changing Tide of Leadership". This convention is not to be missed.

CAPE – The **SAT** mean scores for **2016** graduates from independent schools exceeded the previously set College and Career Readiness Benchmark of 1550. The mean combined score for **independent school seniors** was **1645**, as compared to **public school seniors** with a mean combined score of **1453**. On the **2015-16 SAT National Scores**, the mean score for writing was 536 for independent schools, 525 for religious schools, and 472 for public schools. The reading mean score was 530 for independent schools, 532 for religious schools, and 487 for public schools; the math mean score was 579 for independent schools, 537 for religious schools, and 494 for public schools.

FCIS SAT SCORES 2014-15 – The mean combined score for FCIS schools was 1662, 17 points over the independent school mean. The mean score for FCIS schools in **writing** was **548**, surpassing the national average for independent schools, as compared to **462** for the state of **Florida**. The **reading** mean score for FCIS schools was **549**, again surpassing the national average for independent schools, as compared to **481** for all **Florida** schools. The **math** mean score for FCIS schools was **565**, as compared to 579 nationally for independent schools, and **475** for all Florida schools.

Barbara H Hodges, Ed.D.
Executive Director

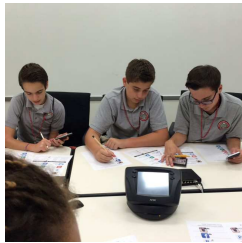
School News



In July, **Tampa Preparatory School's** Director of Technology, Mr. Chad Lewis, was awarded the Nonprofit CIO of the Year by the *Tampa Bay Business Journal*. This inaugural program honors IT executives and emerging leaders who have shown excellence in leading information technology in the Tampa Bay region. Congratulations,

Chad!

Carrollwood Day School announces two community partnerships. The first is a project with the University of South Florida that supports the research recommendations by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and is entitled "*Using Improvement Science to Transform STEM Curriculum*". The second partnership is with Nielsen, a global information and measurement company with leading market positions in marketing and consumer information, cross-platform media measurement, and digital intelligence. Carrollwood Day School received a Certificate of Appreciation on October 20 from the Environmental Protection Commission for their innovative athletic field design. The CDS final site plan minimized wetland impacts by combining their athletic needs into one location and a Conservation Easement to SWFWMD will be recorded for 20.53 acres of nearby property to remain preserved in perpetuity. The Envi-



ronmental Protection Commission applauds CDS for their commitment to the environment, as well as to education. Carrollwood Day School is very proud and thankful for this certificate.

Iconic lifestyle magazine, *Southern Living*, named **The Bolles School** as one of "The South's Most Beautiful High Schools" in a late-September online travel section. Bolles is one of only eight schools in the country to make the listing and is the only school in Florida to appear in the special feature. "One of the most outstanding qualities of our School community is the beautiful setting in which we live, learn and work," said President and Head of School Dave Farace. "While it is not a surprise some of the country's top publications take note of Bolles' allure; it is always a wonderful honor to receive the acclaim".



All Saints Academy students in the *Reimagining the Shopping Cart* studio visited the Spirit Lake Crossing Publix to meet with Industrial Engineers from Publix's Strategy Support team. Their conversation centered around technical questions that will help them put first things first in their quest to create an even better shopping cart that will ultimately make shopping even more of a pleasure.



Prospective Heads' Institute I, Institute II & Institute III *Have you ever thought about becoming a head of school?*

This program provides an opportunity to learn about the personal and professional qualities needed to lead effectively in the 21st century. If you are currently serving in an administrative role and you have given any thought to becoming a head of school or learning more about the responsibilities of a head of school, come and explore the many facets, challenges and rewards involved in a headship.

Program consists of:

Opening Webinar, September 22 at 10:00 a.m. (recorded)
Legal, Financial and Governance Webinars
Gathering, FCIS Convention, November 3
Seminar, Mission Inn Resort & Club, January 11-12, 2017
Closing Webinar, March 14, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Cost: \$395 (includes webinars and two-day seminar at Mission Inn)

Mission Inn Resort Hotel Room: \$114

Hotel Deadline: December 12, 2016

Register at [www.fcis.org, events](http://www.fcis.org/events)

Program Registration Deadline: December 12, 2016

FCIS Professional Development Calendar

Mark your calendars for these upcoming professional development opportunities.

2016-17

<p>FCIS Pre-Conf. (ISM) FCIS Pre-Conf. (Business Officers) November 2, 2016 Hyatt Regency, Miami</p> <p>Gathering for New & Prospective Heads November 3, 2016 Hyatt Regency, Miami</p> <p>FCIS Annual Convention November 2-4, 2016 Hyatt Regency, Miami</p> <p>Prospective Heads' Institute I, II & III January 11-12, 2017 Mission Inn Resort, Howey-in-the-Hills</p> <p>Academy for High Performing Educators January 22-24, 2017 Corbett Prep at IDS, Tampa</p>	<p>Winter Symposiums: Enrollment Management & Legal Issues Symposium February 7, 2017 Shorecrest, St. Petersburg</p> <p>Technology Symposium February 8, 2017 Shorecrest, St. Petersburg</p> <p>Business Officers' Conference May 7-9, 2017 Renaissance Hotel, Orlando</p> <p>FCIS Chair Training June 12, 2017 Hammock Beach Resort, Palm Coast</p> <p>Heads' Retreat June 12-14, 2017 Hammock Beach Resort, Palm Coast</p>	<p>21st Century Learning Academy June 21-23, 2017 Corbett Prep at IDS, Tampa</p> <p>New Heads' Institute July 27-29, 2017 Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater</p> <p>Finance Institute July 28, 2017 Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater</p> <p>Fundraising Institute July 29, 2017 Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater</p> <p>Administrators' Retreat July 30-August 1, 2017 Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater</p>
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FCIS Webinars

<p>Understanding FCIS Governance Standards Nov. 16, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>Serving on an FCIS Evaluation Team Jan. 25, 2017 @ 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Prospective Heads' Program Conclusion Mar. 14, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m.</p>
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Legal Webinars with Suzanne Bogdan

<p><i>Criminal Background Checks & Proper Documentation to Reduce Claims</i> Nov. 17, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Conducting an Appropriate Workplace Investigation</i> Dec. 12, 2016 @ 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Sexual Misconduct: Standards Have Changed</i> Jan. 19, 2017 @ 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Claims Brought Against Independent Schools</i> Feb. 22, 2017 @ 12:00 p.m.</p>
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Leadership Partners through Principles of Good Governance

September 25-26

On September 25-26, a group of Heads and Board Chairs met at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport for the *FCIS Leadership Partners through Principles of Good Governance* workshop. Dr. Barbara Hodges and Dr. Jan Pullen, Head of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Day School in Bradenton, teamed up to design the program and lead each of the sessions. The workshop offered strategies for strengthening the partnership, support and collaboration between Heads and Board Chairs. Topics included: *The Relationship Needed for Good Leadership, Leadership and Effective Communication, Issues Facing Independent Schools Today, Strategic Planning and Board Expectations*, and *Effective Governance*. Each topic led to many informal discussions that carried over into Sunday evening's dinner and Monday's lunch. Time was also allocated for questions, candid observations and brainstorming. A major factor in a school's success is a healthy Head-Board Chair relationship, and participants took full advantage of their time together to share goals and challenges facing their individual schools, as well as the broader independent school community.

FCIS New Teacher Institute 2016

September 18-20

The New Teacher Institute welcomed 60 enthusiastic, new and nearly new independent school teachers at the beautiful Mission Inn, just north of Orlando. On Sunday, teachers from over 20 different FCIS schools gathered to spend almost two full days together. They participated in a wide variety of workshops designed to strengthen and enhance their teaching and learning. Topics included: independent school culture and tradition, parents as partners, classroom and time management, lesson planning and assessment, differentiated learning, technology and innovation, and bringing joy into the classroom. Lori Smith, an Orlando attorney, presented a session on professionalism; how to be an asset, not a liability, to your school; and other important legal issues relating to independent schools. After spending several weeks in the classroom, new teachers were eager to reflect on their experiences so far, to ask questions, and to discuss and expand their knowledge of best practices. They also took full advantage of connecting with educators from peer schools and enjoyed learning from each other and building the foundation for professional learning networks for ongoing collegial support.

Special thanks to our dedicated teaching faculty: Mike Jakubisin, Director of Upper School, Lake Highland Preparatory School; Dr. Luci Higgins, Director of Curriculum and Middle School Principal, The First Academy; Suzanne Otero, K-5 Curriculum Specialist, The Pine School; Dr. Joyce Burick Swarzman, Head of School, Corbett Preparatory School of IDS; Jennifer D'Andrea, Associate Director of Upper School, Lake Highland Preparatory School; Steve Krueger, English Department Chair, Trinity Preparatory School; and John Weaver, 8th Grade Math Teacher, Lake Highland Preparatory School.



Florida Kindergarten Council Corner

Mark Your Calendars—FKC Convention 2017

Friday, February 3, 2017

6:30-8:00pm Meet and Greet

Complimentary Beverages and Hors D'oeuvres

Saturday, February 4, 2017

7:30am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:00am - 3:30pm General Meeting/Sessions/Lunch

Registration Opening Soon!

The DoubleTree Sea World Orlando

10100 International Drive

Orlando, FL

800-327-0363



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 4, 2017

Tallahassee/Panhandle Area
Hosted by: Peter Klekamp
Holy Comforter Episcopal School

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Orlando Area
Hosted by: Dr. Steve Whitaker
The First Academy

Friday, April 21, 2017

Tampa/St. Petersburg/Sarasota/Naples Areas
Hosted by: Dr. Joyce Swarzman
Corbett Preparatory School of IDS

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Miami Area
Hosted by: Patrick Roberts
Palmer Trinity School

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Boca Raton/Ft. Lauderdale Areas
Hosted by: Dr. Dana Markham
Pine Crest School

Friday, May 5, 2017

North Palm Beach Area
Hosted by: Bob Goldberg
The Benjamin School

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Jacksonville Area
Hosted by: Martha Milton
Beaches Episcopal School