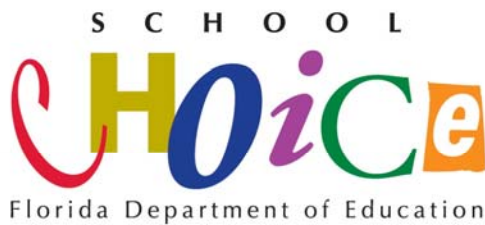


Summer 2011



Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice  
325 West Gaines Street • Suite 522 • Tallahassee, FL • 32399-0400 • 1-800-447-1636 • [www.floridaschoolchoice.org](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org)

## Private School Newsletter

### Private School Annual Survey

If your school has not yet completed the Private School Annual Survey for the 2010-11 school year, please log on to the School Choice website at [www.floridaschoolchoice.org](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org), to complete the survey. The survey must be submitted by mail, **postmarked no later than May 2, 2011**. Completing a Private School Annual Survey is a requirement outlined in Section 1002.42(2)(b), Florida Statutes.

Private schools that do not complete and submit a current Private School Annual Survey by mail, postmarked by the May 2 deadline, will be removed from the Private School Directory and will not be able to be listed again until a 2011-2012 Private School Annual Survey is completed and submitted by mail. The 2011-2012 Private School Annual Survey will be available September 1, 2011.

Removal of your listing from the directory may affect your school's ability to participate in other state and federal programs such as the Bright Future's Scholarship Program or the National School Lunch Program.

To verify that the Department has received your survey, please login as a private school administrator on the School Choice website. Under *Step One: Annual Private School Survey* a date will appear after the bold text stating "Hard-Copy Received." If there is no date, the Department has not received the signed and notarized hard-copy of the survey.

### Closing Requirements

Florida law requires all private schools that close to notify the Department of Education of the date of transfer of student records, the location of storage, the custodian of such records, and the number of records to be stored. Closed private schools are required to transfer all permanent information contained in student records to the public school district in which the private school was located or to the principal office of the private school system or association of which the private school is a member. It is important to comply with these requirements in order to facilitate access to academic records by former students seeking to continue their education or gain employment. If your private school is closing at the end of the 2010-11 school year, please contact the Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice at (800) 447-1636.

### Project 10

Project 10: Transition Education Network assists Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes. Project 10 serves as the primary conduit between the Florida Department of Education, specifically the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEES), and relevant school district personnel in addressing law and policy, effective practices, and research-based interventions in the area of transition services for youth with disabilities.

Project 10 is currently focusing on: Capacity Building, Interagency Collaboration, Transition Legislation and Policy, and Student Development and Outcomes. The project also supports transition initiatives developed through BEES and the BEES Transition Steering Committee.

Visit the Project 10 Web site for more information: <http://www.project10.info/>.

## **2011-2012 School Immunization Requirements**

All students who are entering, attending, or transferring to a public or private school in Pre-kindergarten through 12th grades must have a completed Florida *Certification of Immunization* Form DH 680, Part A, B, or C; or a Religious Exemption Form DH 681 from the Florida Department of Health. **Please note that the *Certification of Immunization, DH 680 Form, can now be printed on white, blue, or any color paper.*** Schools should accept the DH 680 form if printed on white or colored paper. For additional information regarding the Florida *Certification of Immunization, DH 680 Form*, you may contact your local county health department via <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdsitelist.htm>.

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, students entering, attending or transferring to grades **Pre-K, 4th, 5th, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7th, 8th, 9th, or 10th** for the first time in a Florida public or private school will be required to have **one dose of the varicella (chicken pox) vaccine.**

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, students entering, attending or transferring to **Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2nd, or 3rd grade** in a Florida public or private school will be required to have **two doses of the varicella (chicken pox) vaccine.**

The varicella (chicken pox) vaccine is not required if the student has documented medical history confirming that he/she has previously been infected with varicella. Please note: Students that have been retained in the 10th grade must obtain one dose of the varicella vaccine for the 2011-2012 school year or show documented medical history of a previous varicella infection. In addition, students that have been retained in 3rd grade must obtain two doses of the varicella vaccine for the 2011-2012 school year or show documented history of a previous varicella infection.

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, students entering, attending, transferring, or being retained in the **7th grade** in a Florida public or private school **will be required to have the Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine.**

Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, **a fifth dose of poliovirus vaccine is required if the fourth dose was administered prior to the fourth birthday.** If the third dose of poliovirus was administered after the fourth birthday, a fourth is not needed. Please note that the *Certification of Immunization* (DH Form 680) has been updated to provide a space to document a fifth dose of poliovirus vaccine as needed.

Two valid doses of measles vaccination (MMR) are required for students enrolling/attending a Florida public or private school in Kindergarten through the 12th grades.

The Hepatitis B vaccine three dose series is required for students enrolling/attending a Florida public or private school in Pre-Kindergarten through the 12th grades.

In accordance with Florida Statutes, all Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade students must submit documentation verifying that a School Entry Health Examination was performed within the 12-month period preceding initial entry into a Florida public or private school. More information regarding the School Entry Health Exam is available at [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Family/School/parent/parent\\_info.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Family/School/parent/parent_info.html).

## **Gardening for Grades**

Florida Agriculture in the Classroom in partnership with the Florida Department of Education's Food and Nutrition Management Section and the Office of Healthy Schools will be providing nine regional *Gardening for Grades* trainings throughout the spring. *Gardening for Grades*, developed by Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, is appropriate for grades K-8 and includes how-to information for teachers to educate students about using school gardens. In addition, it correlates garden based education activities to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards in specific academic content areas including: science, social studies, mathematics, language arts, health, physical education, art and music.

The four hour training will include a variety of activities, demonstrations, and discussions. Participants can look forward to planning your own school garden, participating in activities like creating a pizza garden, raised bed, and container gardening. Each teacher who attends the training will receive a Florida specific *Gardening for Grades* book valued at \$15.00.

If your school is interested in hosting a *Gardening for Grades* training, please contact Katie Rainka at [katie.rainka@fldoe.org](mailto:katie.rainka@fldoe.org), or (850) 245-5094.

## **Bright Futures Scholarship Program**

### **NEW this year!**

Please remind your students: Bright Futures award notifications are being posted to students' online SSFAD accounts. **No e-mail or hardcopy notifications are being sent this year.** Students were informed on their *Florida Financial Aid Applications* in the "Before You Begin" pages that: All communication will be available using their assigned User IDs and PINs to login to their Financial Aid Recipient History under the Application Status & Award History link: [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/ApplicationStatus.htm](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/ApplicationStatus.htm). Students may also obtain their logons at that website. Section VII: Correspondence History provides users with the ability to view and print a copy of the award notification.

**Before you go home for the summer**, please be sure you submitted final transcripts with final grades and high school graduation dates to Summer Production for all your seniors who submitted a Florida Financial Aid Application. A standard Florida high school diploma is a requirement for earning a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship. When you indicate the diploma type online, the links "standard" and "accelerated" will direct you to the listing of the coursework required for these diplomas. By checking the radio button next to these links, you are indicating the student has earned a standard Florida high school diploma.

In order for your private school students to earn a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship, your high school must:

- Be registered as a private high school with the Florida Department of Education. (You will find the Annual Survey process and the contact information for the School Choice Office at: [www.floridaschoolchoice.org/](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/). Be sure to indicate at least one senior on your survey, so your high school will be listed on the required Florida Financial Aid Application. The Annual Survey opens each September 1<sup>st</sup>), and
- Request, from OSFA/Bright Futures, secure access to the Bright Futures Scholarship Program's Evaluation System to submit your high school students' transcripts online for evaluation for a Florida Bright Futures Scholarship.

Refer students to [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/ApplyHere.htm](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/home/ApplyHere.htm) to submit the required **Initial State Student Application**

To view the academic requirements for each Bright Futures Scholarship, refer students to [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/acadrequire.htm](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf/acadrequire.htm), and the Brochures link at [www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/](http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/ssfad/bf/).

Webinars –These hands on, instructor led, Web-based trainings are offered free August through May of each academic year. Visit <https://suncom.webex.com/> and choose the "Training Center" tab and then the "Upcoming" tab to register for Webinars.

Contact Beverly Lahtinen via e-mail at [Beverly.Lahtinen@fldoe.org](mailto:Beverly.Lahtinen@fldoe.org) or (850) 245-1898 or toll-free at 1-888-827-2004 for assistance with any of the above.

## **Activities and Events**

### **Florida Association for Staff Development Spring Forum**

*May 2 – 3, 2011*

*Crowne Plaza Melbourne Oceanfront  
Melbourne, FL*

Education personnel are invited to attend the Florida Association for Staff Development Spring Forum May 2 – 3, 2011, in Melbourne, Fla. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of learning experiences related to improved professional development that supports student achievement. For more information, visit [www.fasdonline.org](http://www.fasdonline.org).

### **Plant Camp 2011**

*June 12 – 16, 2011*

*University of Florida/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants  
Gainesville, FL*

Science teachers in upper elementary grades, middle and high schools are invited to apply to attend Plant Camp 2011, a free summer workshop to learn more about the native flora and fauna that make our state unique. Twenty-four applicants will be selected through a competitive process that demonstrates his or her commitment and history of sharing new science knowledge with students and colleagues. Participants can earn up to 32 hours of professional development credit. The deadline to submit an application packet is Feb. 25, 2011. Visit <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/education> for more information.

### **National Agriculture in the Classroom Annual Conference**

*June 22 – 25, 2011*

*Marriott Harbor Beach Resort  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL*

Language arts, math, nutrition, social studies and science teachers will benefit from the 2011 National Agriculture in the Classroom conference June 22 – 25, 2011, in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Engaging interactive workshops and tours will showcase unique agricultural operations in South Florida and illustrate how educators can incorporate real-life agriculture applications into their lesson plans. Visit <http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aitc/> for more information and conference registration.

### **National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar**

*June 26 – July 29, 2011*

Educators are invited to apply to attend the Summer Seminar offered by the National Endowment for the Humanities June 26 – July 29, 2011. During the five-week program, participants will study the economy of the North Sea region in northwestern Europe. The seminar will meet at the Institute for Historical Research at the University of London for the first week and at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in Wassenaar, The Netherlands, for the remaining four weeks. For an application and a full description of the seminar, visit [http://www.umassd.edu/euro/neh\\_prosp\\_app.cfm](http://www.umassd.edu/euro/neh_prosp_app.cfm).

### **Department of Education Newsletter**

The Core is a Department of Education electronic publication providing education-related news, and is distributed via e-mail biweekly. To sign up, please go to <http://data.fldoe.org/listserv/thecore/default.cfm>. Archived editions are available at <http://www.fldoe.org/newsletter/>.

