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Welcome

Our office would like to extend warm wishes of Happy Holidays to all scholarship schools. Please read over the friendly reminders pertaining to the scholarship programs as we continue with our 2012-2013 school year. We would also like to take this chance to inform our scholarship schools about a workshop which will be held at the Department of Education in Tallahassee, February 8, 2013, which will cover basic scholarship compliance and eligibility information. Feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns, and enjoy your time off throughout this holiday season.

McKay Student List and Withdrawal Procedures

As the second half of the school year approaches, please take a moment to ensure your McKay Student List is accurate. Look for any students that are still listed as **registered**. Registered students are not eligible to receive a payment. The student must be **enrolled** by entering an individual student fee schedule and first date of attendance. If a McKay student is no longer enrolled or attending your school, the student should be immediately **withdrawn** from your McKay Student List on the School Choice website. Failure to withdraw a student may result in difficulties transferring his or her scholarship to a new school. To withdraw a student, select the **Withdraw** tab on the student's general information page. Then enter the student's withdrawal date (last date of attendance), the name of the person completing the withdrawal, and a brief explanation of the reason for withdrawal. *The withdrawal date must be on or after the student's first date of attendance. Therefore, if a student was enrolled but never attended, the student's first date of attendance should be entered as the withdrawal date. The first date of attendance is provided on the withdrawal tab as a reference.* Pursuant to Rule 6A-6.0970, F.A.C., private schools are responsible for the return of all scholarship funds that were received in error, including students who were not in attendance; therefore, timely submission of withdrawal information will save your school the inconvenience of returning incorrectly issued scholarship payments.

On the Web at:
floridaschoolchoice.org



Please note that even if the parent of a McKay student has unpaid fees or incomplete documentation, the private school may not refuse to withdraw the student for these unresolved obligations.

Spotlight on — Two Florida Private Schools

SEPTEMBER 7, 2012 | 11:39 AM
BY JOHN O'CONNOR

Two Florida private school have been named National Blue Ribbon school by the U.S. Department of Education.

[Holy Family Catholic School](#) in Jacksonville and [Westlake Christian School](#) in Palm Harbor were among 219 public and 50 private schools given the award nationally. Florida public school winners will be named later.

The program recognizes high-performing schools, or those with a higher percentage of disadvantaged students who have boosted student test scores. It's the first time the two Florida private schools have won the award.

[Check out the full list here.](#)

[Source Link](#)

Florida Tax Credit Private School Participants:



Pursuant to House Bill 859, passed during the 2012 Legislative Session, any participating scholarship school with at least one Florida Tax Credit student enrolled may have the opportunity to apply and participate in administering FCAT 2.0 and Florida End-of-Course Assessments to all students at your private school. **In late December**, the application to participate along with Frequently Asked Questions will be released and links available via your secured log-in. The application window will be January 2-March 1, 2013, with school eligibility determinations finalized in August 2013.



New Child Abuse Law In Effect October 1st

Penalties for those who suspect a child is being abused but fail to report it have been increased from a misdemeanor to a felony. Financial penalties also have increased. If you suspect or know of any child who is being harmed, call the **Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-962-2873**. If you see a child in immediate danger, call 911.

Legislation, signed by Gov. Rick Scott, requires any individual who suspects that a child has been abused by any person to report that to the Florida Abuse Hotline. Any allegations a child was abused or neglected by a caregiver will be investigated by the Department of Children and Families, while allegations of child abuse by someone other than a caregiver will be accepted at the Hotline and immediately electronically transferred to the appropriate local law enforcement agency where the child lives.

More Information: <http://myflfamilies.com/service-programs/abuse-hotline>

Mark Your Calendar

December 3—Date by which a new student must file intent in order to be eligible for the February 1 payment.

January 2—Date by which new students with a valid intent must be enrolled to receive the February 1 payment.

January 3-10—Attendance Verification week for the third payment period.

January 31—Last day to file an intent to participate for the 2012-13 school year.

February 1—First day for new students to file an intent for the 2013-14 school year.

March 2—Date by which a new student must be enrolled to receive the fourth quarterly payment.

March 4-11—Attendance Verification week for the final payment period.



Questions? Please contact your Regional Manager.

