



Florida Department of Education

April 2013

Summer is on the horizon and we are excited to roll out some new online professional development courses designed from your feedback. We have listened to your input and put together a list of great professional development resources. Check them out on the [Professional Development Opportunities](#) page on the [Just For Teachers](#) website.

Kelly Seay

Educator Liaison

Teacher Treasures

April Giveaway

Our April [Teacher Treasures](#) Giveaway will be one of our biggest giveaways yet. **Twenty-five teachers** will win **GradeCams**. That's right -- we will have 25 different winners this month. For more information on [GradeCam](#), please visit its site.

Penniless Teacher

The [Penniless Teacher](#) site provides classroom teachers one easy place to locate teacher grants, sweepstakes, contests, and giveaways. Check it out today and see what you could win!

Summer Camps

Seacamp

[Seacamp](#) is a Marine Biology/SCUBA summer camp for teens 12-17 located in the beautiful Florida Keys. Its tropical location on Newfound Harbor in the lower keys is just minutes from the only living coral reef in the United States. Just 30 miles east of Key West, Seacamp enables campers to participate in a truly one-of-a-kind marine studies program.

Energetic Einsteins

[Energetic Einsteins](#) offers a number of opportunities to gifted students and their families including summer programs and camps for gifted 3rd-10th graders, as well as internship opportunities for older gifted students. Summer program dates for 2013 are Session 1 July 8-12 and Session 2 August 5-9.

Curriculum Corner

Florida Division of Cultural Affairs in partnership with VSA Florida Webinars

March 27 12:00 p.m. – How to Plan a Successful Visit for the Hearing Impaired

April 24 12:00 p.m. – How to Plan a Successful Visit for the Sight Impaired

May 22 12:00 p.m. – Planning a Successful Visit for Wheelchair Users and Mobility Issues

June 26 12:00 p.m. – Training Your Staff: Dos and Don'ts

[Open Captioning](#) and [Registration](#)

ScienceMathMaster

[ScienceMathMaster](#) is professional development for high school biology and geometry teachers composed of face-to-face professional development workshops and on-line science and math resources for teachers, including modules, videos, coursework examples, demonstration ideas and curriculum tools.

*** All listed resources are free and included for informational purposes. Note: The FDOE does not endorse products or services unless specifically developed by the department.*

Education News

Student Astronaut Challenge

The 2013 State of Florida [Student Astronaut Challenge](#) was held at the Honda FlightLine Hangar at the Tallahassee Airport, March 8 – 10. The winners of this competition were first place, Chiles High School (Leon), second place, Vanguard High School (Marion), and third place, Pompano Beach High School (Broward). Congratulations to all of these competing teams on their outstanding performances!

Preparing to Set Standards for the U.S. History EOC Assessment

A committee of educators from across Florida will meet this August to review the U.S. History EOC Assessment and the U.S. History Achievement Level Descriptions, and based on its review, propose cut scores for this assessment. This process is called standard setting. In preparation for this meeting, the draft U.S. History Achievement Level Descriptions were posted for 30 days of public review beginning in mid-March. Please go to <http://fcat.fldoe.org/standardsetting.asp> under “Memoranda and Press Releases” for a link to the memo that describes how you can provide feedback. As a Florida teacher, your input is very important!

Your Opinion Counts!

Please visit the [Test Development Opportunities](#) section of the department's Florida Teacher Certification Examination website to provide the department with feedback on the computer science K–12, English 6-12, middle grades English 5-9, elementary education K-6, general knowledge, and technology education 6–12 competencies and skills. These competencies and skills will be presented to the State Board of Education for review in summer 2013.



Florida teachers making the transition to the Common Core State Standards have a great ally at the ready — CPALMS.

[CPALMS](#) has developed many supportive resources that are available online to help Florida educators be successful with the new state content standards. Current CPALMS initiatives include lesson plan development, activities development, peer and subject area expert reviews, curriculum mapping, videos, and much more. In addition, the [iCPALMS](#) platform has 14 new web applications.

[CPALMS](#) is an online toolbox that helps teachers effectively implement teaching standards. It is also the Florida's official source for standards' information and course descriptions.

Access to CPALMS is free and offers teachers:

- All the information related to the content standards and course descriptions.
- Thousands of ready-to-use teaching resources and original content.
- Trusted, workable resources for the classroom — each has been recommended, created, and reviewed by teachers and experts.
- Interactive and easy-to-use planning tools — with a free iCPALMS account, teachers can streamline their lesson and curriculum planning and be confident that all their activities are aligned with the new standards.
- Free online or face-to-face training at your site — request your customized session at <http://www.cpalms.org/CPALMS/pd.aspx>.

The Florida Center for Research in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics designed CPALMS to support teachers. As Florida educators adopt the new Common Core State Standards, CPALMS is ready to help.

Please share this informative newsletter with your colleagues