



Just for Teachers

News from the Florida Department of Education

May 2012

From Commissioner Robinson...

Technology has changed the world we live in, the way we get our information, and the way we learn. Many of today's top careers did not even exist 10 years ago. Digital learning plays an important role in education in our state and it will become even more critical as we prepare students for college and challenging new 21st century careers.

I have recently formed a new taskforce, 2.0 Digital Learning Group, that will focus on digital learning in Florida. Following a series of presentations at the State Board of Education meeting on March 27 in Miami, the board voted to set up a taskforce to develop a comprehensive plan to make certain that the state has the infrastructure, instructors and institutional reforms in place by the 2014-15 school year to ensure that Florida remains a national leader in digital learning.

The Florida 2.0 Digital Learning Group includes 30 members, each of whom is assigned to one of three subcommittees: Infrastructure, Quality Instruction, and Institutional Reform. Similar to the approach used successfully with the Commissioner's Taskforce on Inclusion and Accountability, each subcommittee will focus on a specific assignment and the entire group will convene to discuss all recommendations.

You can follow the progress of the Florida 2.0 digital Learning Group at <http://www.fldoe.org/fldlg/>.

A **PD Portal for Exceptional Student Educators** has been created to enhance the education of students with disabilities in Florida. Information on all state and regional training events offered by the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEES) discretionary projects, including an event description and contact person, can be accessed from the portal. <http://pdportal.florida-ese.org/>



Teacher Talk April Episode

ESE Transitions

In this episode we take a look at the transitions ESE students face as they move through the K-20 educational system.

Visit <http://www.fldoe.org/JustForTeachers/tta.asp> or <http://www.youtube.com/educationfl> to view past episodes!

Curriculum Corner



Teacher Classroom Collaboration (TCC) Interactive Training Video

An interactive video has been created to help new Teacher Classroom Collaboration users get started. In this demonstration, viewers will learn how to access their TCC accounts, create private classes, and invite new users (faculty, parents, students). Additionally, new users will discover how to access a variety of the TCC application's features, as well as be provided with some tips on how to best use them. **This video is interactive.** Throughout the video, interactive areas will be highlighted in green. When these areas show up, you must click the highlighted area to continue. If you are a teacher at a Florida public school you will be eligible for up to **5 in-service points** after completing this video. To obtain your certificate, be sure to follow all of the instructions in the video. You will not be able to retrieve this certificate if the proper steps are not completed. Click here to get started: <http://goo.gl/DyR4v>

Please note that the following school addresses are having email filter issues:

LEESCHOOLS.NET

colliercountyschools.com

highlands.k12.fl.us.com

dadeschools.net

volusia.k12.fl.us.com

Florida Teacher Community

A one-stop communication venue where you can join subject and grade level forums and groups, host live chats, catch up on DOE social media, and find loads of free classroom resources – all for FREE! In addition, all of the resources listed on the Apps page are available to all educators at <http://www.novachi.com/b/>.

How to log-in to the FL Teacher Community:

1. Using a browser, go to <https://www.novachi.com/p/fl/getcred.sf>
2. Enter your school email address
3. Enter a password that is personal to you
4. Enter the same password for match verification
5. Click the Get Credential button

If the information above is all valid, the system will automatically change your account password to the one you just entered. You can click the Login button to login and start using the system. The Florida Teacher Community is the first app on the Apps->Launch page with the Just for Teachers Logo. If you are still having trouble, contact Novachi Support at support@novachi.org if you need us to resend an invitation. Join today and win fabulous prizes, including an iPad 3!

Teacher Treasures

Our March Giveaway winner was **Judy Lewis**, a 2nd grade teacher at Orange Park Elementary School in Jacksonville.

"I have taught 1st and 2nd grades in my 13 years of teaching. 2nd grade is an elementary school's best kept secret...the kids are great and the curriculum is just right! After achieving National Board Certification in 2006, I realized how much I enjoy teaching with a more hands-on, integrated, and real-world approach. However, learning is my continued personal desire. There will never be enough technology to satisfy my need for new information. Lifelong learning is in my blood. I just hope that passion is passed to the students, parents, and teachers that I will connect with in my lifetime."



Our April Giveaway for a GradeCam was won by **Angel DeFrancesco**, a 5th grade teachers at Discovery Key Elementary School

Our May Giveaway is for a **Two Night Stay at Hawks Cay Resort**.

With such a variety of offerings, we will clear all entry forms on the day of the drawings. Our submission form will reopen on the first of each month. Enter today at

<http://www.fldoe.org/JustForTeachers/>.



Florida Missing Children's Day Statewide Essay Contest Deadline - April 20, 2012

The Department of Education recognizes that schools impart valuable safety lessons to students every day. To reinforce the message of personal safety, the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse is sponsoring the 2012 Florida Missing Children's Day. This ceremony promotes awareness of missing children and recognizes citizens who work hard to bring children home safely. This year's ceremony will be held on Monday, September 10, 2012, at the Florida Capitol in Tallahassee.

To create awareness among the children of Florida, an essay contest will be held in conjunction with Florida Missing Children's Day. We encourage **all fifth grade students** to participate in this contest. Each school will be responsible for selecting one winner. The chosen essays will be submitted to the Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse. One essay will be selected as the statewide winner. The statewide winner will read his or her essay during the Missing Children's Day ceremony in Tallahassee on September 10, 2012, and will receive a trophy, a \$100 cash award, and a Universal Studios Very Important Person package. Please visit <http://www.fmcd.org> for essay contest guidelines. Each school's winning essay must be submitted by April 20, 2012, to

Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse
ATTN: Essay Contest Coordinator
Post Office Box 1489 Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1489

The essay entry may also be faxed to (850) 410-8744 or e-mailed to fmcd@fdle.state.fl.us. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Patricia Rutherford at (850) 410-8598.

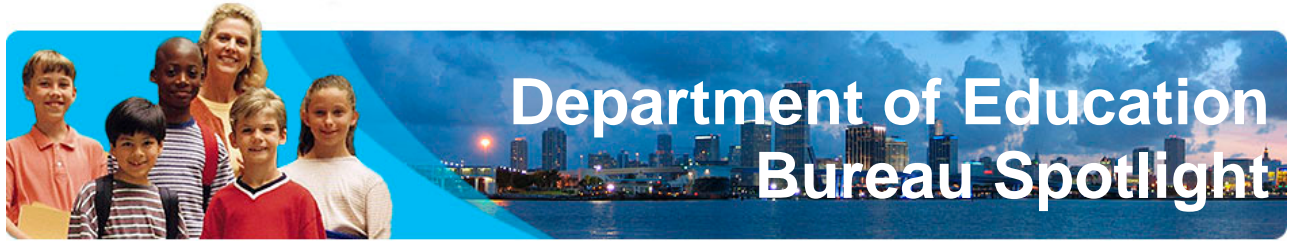
CompareCards.com Announces Student Scholarship Essay Contest

CompareCards.com, a leading service for consumers to compare credit cards and manage their personal finances, has announced its \$1,000 Student Scholarship Essay Contest. The submission period will run through May 29, and the competition gives students a chance to express their thoughts on topics in student debt and personal financing.

The college experience provides many educational opportunities for students outside the classroom, and one of the most valuable lessons they can learn is financial responsibility. Grades in this subject don't end at graduation either as credit scores and financial matters follow students well beyond graduation and impact their future in many ways, including the determination of future interest rates on car loans, mortgages and other important items.

To participate in the special CompareCards.com \$1,000 Student Scholarship Essay Contest, students must be graduating high school seniors, or freshmen or sophomores in college and between the ages of 16 and 21. Find more information by visiting <http://www.comparecards.com/about/credit-cards-scholarship>.

Education News



Contact the Bureau of Educator Certification

Telephone Service

U.S. Domestic Toll-Free Number: 800-445-6739

Outside the U.S.: 850-245-5049

The Bureau provides an automated telephone inquiry service for teachers through the use of a touch-tone telephone. This service is available anytime except from 1:00 am- 4:00 am each day. One option of the automated service is to speak with a certification specialist Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

- General Information available by telephone includes:
- Florida Teacher Certification Examination (FTCE) website links and contact number
- Submit request for certification materials to be mailed to the teacher
- Status of applications
- Documents received by the certification bureau

Personal Service

Teachers can visit the certification office on the second floor of the Turlington Building for personal assistance: Monday – Friday 8:00 am —5:00 pm. Appointments are not taken.

E-mail Service

medcert@fldoe.org

Website Service

www.fldoe.org/edcert

The bureau website provides certification information such as:

- Online application
- Steps to get a certificate and the renewal process
- Requirements for teachers trained at institutions outside

Mailing Address

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Educator Certification, Suite 201

Did you know...

- At the end of 2010-2011, **296,861** educators held a valid Florida Educator's Certificate.
- The BEC issued a new or renewed certificate to **80,500** educators.
- BEC Call Center (toll-free line) received **160,059** calls. Of the individuals who wished to speak directly to a Telephone Specialist, **70,885** callers were assisted by the BEC Call Center.
- **22,166** e-mails were answered via the Education Certification public e-mail box.
- Education Certification Web pages received nearly **11.4 million** visits.
- **1,617** Office Visitors were assisted in person by BEC Staff.