STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

SUBSTANCE USE AND ABUSE HEALTH EDUCATION RULE
On August 21, 2019, the state board of education approved the delivery of age appropriate substance use and abuse health education for students in grades K-12. This initiative builds on similar requirements for mental health education adopted by the state board of education in July. The new requirement takes effect this school year. With the implementation of this plan, school districts must annually provide a plan and report on how students in grades K-12 receive youth substance use and abuse health education. By December 1 of each year, each school district must submit an implementation plan to the commissioner of education and post the plan on the school district website. Additionally, by July 1 of each year, each school district must submit an annual report to the Commissioner to verify completion of the instruction.

MANDATORY REPORTING OF OFFENSES AFFECTING THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF FLORIDA STUDENTS RULE: 6A-10.082
The Mandatory Reporting of Offenses Affecting the Health, Safety and Welfare of Florida Students requires quick reporting to the Florida’s Department of Education (FDOE) by school districts when there are allegations of misconduct by school district staff that affect the health, safety or welfare of a student. Additionally, the rule will clarify the alleged misconduct that requires quick reporting and the information that should be reported. This will promote the expeditious investigation of complaints by FDOE, as well as allowing a timely mechanism for the Commissioner of Education to exercise his authority to recommend removal of school district personnel from direct student contact.

PATHWAYS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM
In January 2019, Governor Ron Desantis issued Executive Order 19-31, which focused on postsecondary education success and workforce opportunities through education. The Florida Department of Education released the request for proposals (RFP) to establish new, or expand existing, apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs. The Pathways to Career Opportunities Grant Program promotes career readiness and workforce opportunities for students and working adults, ensuring alignment between Florida’s education and workforce needs.

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LAST MILE COMPLETION PROGRAM
The Last Mile Completion Program helps students who left college with 12 or fewer credit hours remaining, to complete their first degree. Click here to learn more about the 18 Florida colleges participating in the program. The criteria for the Last Mile Completion Program includes the following:
• The student must be a Florida resident,
• In good academic standing,
• Within 12 credit hours of completing their first degree, and
• Must have attended a regionally accredited postsecondary institution within the past 8 years.

ACADEMIC AND CAREER RESOURCES

BACK TO SCHOOL READING LIST
Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran launched a new back-to-school reading list of his and Florida’s 2020 Teacher of the Year, Dr. Dakeyan Chá Dré Graham’s; favorite reads for students and teachers to consider in the upcoming school year. The list is comprised of top-of-the-line literary recommendations, with world-renowned titles from experts that makes it the best reading list in the nation.

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

Cameron Impact Scholarship –DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 13, 2019
The Bryan Cameron Education Foundation will award merit-based scholarships to 10-15 exceptional high school seniors. In addition to tuition, scholarships will cover fees, course-related expenses, books, supplies, and equipment. Applicants must be in the high school graduating class of 2019, maintain a minimum 3.7 GPA, excel in a variety of extracurricular activities, and demonstrate active participation in community service.
https://www.bryancameroneducationfoundation.org/cameron-impact-scholarship

Financial Aid and Scholarships
Federal Student Aid
https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/prepare-for-college

Florida Student Scholarship & Grant Programs
https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidqs.org/SAPHome/SAPHomes?furl=home
FloridaShines
https://www.floridashines.org/

College Board
https://opportunity.collegeboard.org/?affiliateId=signup%7Ccbos-pledge&bannerId=button%7Caccess-resources

Mapping your Future
Provides high school seniors interested in attending a post-secondary institution the year following graduation with a resource guide on what items to prepare for during the school year. The calendar can be viewed here: https://www.mappingyourfuture.org/collegeprep/seniorcalendar.cfm#september

Career Search and Resources
The U.S. Department of Labor sponsors the website https://www.careeronestop.org/ to assist jobseekers with resources and tools for career development.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Educational Strategies and Student Engagement Institute (ESSEI); The 2019 ESSEI, Destination Graduation: Preparing Florida’s Students for College, Career and Life Success, will be held in Orlando; November 18 -20, 2019. To view upcoming ESSEI information: http://www.fldoe.org/schools/family-community/essei/

2019 Families Learning Conference; The conference will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, November 3-6, 2019. More information about the conference is available here: http://conference.familieslearning.org/

2019 National College Access Network National Conference; This year’s conference is “Racing Toward Postsecondary Success” and will be held in Indianapolis, IN, September 16-18, 2019. To view more information: https://collegeaccess.org/page/2019Conference

The Power of belief—mindset and success
By Eduardo Briceno
In this TED talk, Mr. Briceno discusses the impact of using an open mindset instead of a fixed mindset, to encourage students’ abilities:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN34FNbOKXc

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*Disclaimer: Links provided for information and reference. The Florida Department of Education does not endorse a specific program or source.