

BSIS

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AP Potential: Discover the Possibilities

AP Potential is a free tool that can help identify students who have the potential to succeed in Advanced Placement coursework. It allows schools the ability to generate rosters of students who are likely to score a 3 or higher on a given AP[®] Exam. AP Potential is based on research which shows moderate to strong correlations between PSAT/NMSQT[®] scores and AP Exam results. It is designed to help increase access to AP and to ensure that no student who has the chance of succeeding in AP is overlooked.

For more information on AP Potential:

<https://appotential.collegeboard.org/app/welcome.do>

For information on the research underlying AP Potential, download the latest research report at

http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/appotential/rr2006-1.pdf.

STEM Education**I. 2014-2015 Assessments**

On March 17, 2014, Commissioner Stewart announced the selection of the American Institutes for Research (AIR) to develop, administer, score, and report assessments that are aligned to Florida's standards in English language arts/literacy and mathematics beginning in 2014-15.

The new statewide assessments will be ELA Assessments for Grades 3-11, Mathematics Assessments for Grades 3-8, an Algebra 1 Assessment, a Geometry Assessment, and an Algebra 2 Assessment. The current FCAT 2.0 Science Grade 5, FCAT 2.0 Science Grade 8, Biology EOC Assessment, Civics EOC Assessment, and US History EOC Assessment will remain.

For more related information, as well as the memorandum and detailed timeline for the release of assessment resources, visit

<http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-7030/dps-2014-69.pdf>.

II. Summer 2014 Bridge Event

The Improving Mathematics Instruction Research Alliance within the Regional Educational Laboratory Southeast (REL-SE) at Florida State University (FSU) has put together a bridge event for Florida teachers this summer. This workshop is geared towards 1) presenting information on the evidence supporting the instructional practices for teaching fractions to students; 2) engaging in interactive activities that also include working through common misconceptions; 3) connecting the activities to the first part of the lesson study cycle; 4) addressing recommendations in a developed Practice Guide on Fractions; and 5) discussing what a Practice Guide is and how it can be used.

This event is the first of hopefully many more to come! This initial research to practice event is targeting all teachers (including ESE and ESOL) who teach mathematics in the range of grades 3-6. The premise is to have a primary site with two remote sites. The first scheduled date is Tuesday, June 24th, from 1-4:30 p.m. The primary site will be in Jacksonville with satellite sites in Tallahassee and Tampa. This event will be repeated on Thursday, June 26th, again from 1-4:30 p.m. The primary site will be in Miami with satellite sites in Fort Lauderdale and Orlando. Each location will be capped at 120 participants, to keep things manageable.

Mark your calendars! More information is forthcoming.

Gifted News

Books fall open, you fall in, delighted where you've never been; hear voices not once heard before, reach world on world through door on door; find unexpected keys to things locked up beyond imaginings. What might you be, perhaps become, because one book is somewhere? Some wise delve into wisdom, wit, and wherewithal has written it. True books will venture, dare you out, whisper secrets, maybe shout across the gloom to you in need, who hanker for a book to read. – David McCord

Hoagies' Gifted Education Page contains a wealth of information for parents, teachers and educators.
<http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/>

May 2014 Blog Hop: The "G" Word
http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/blog_hop_the_g_word.htm

Join in on the inaugural Hoagies' Gifted Blog Hop! Bloggers from all corners of the gifted community including parents, teachers and counselors will join to share their perspectives.

This month's topic: The "G" Word. Gifted.

What does it mean to you? What does it mean to others? Is it good? Is it bad? Should we use it? Change it? Read on to see what this month's Hoagies' Gifted Blog Hop bloggers think and feel!

Florida Association for the Gifted (FLAG)

FLAG 2014 Annual Conference

October 17-18, 2014 at the Sheraton Suites Tampa Airport Westshore

Registration is now open! Keynote Speaker is Dr. Brian Housand. Dr. Housand is currently an Assistant Professor at East Carolina University in the department of Curriculum and Instruction. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut in 2008 with an emphasis in both gifted education and instructional technology. While at the University of Connecticut he was part of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model Reading Framework (SEM-R) research team at the Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development. He is a former instructor for the Three Summers Online Master's Program at UConn. He is the current chair of NAGC's Computers and Technology network, and writes the Untangling Technology column for Teaching for High Potential. Currently, he is exploring ways in which technology can enhance the learning environment and strives to define what it means to be creatively productive in a digital age.

Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award - Originally funded by the Nicholas Green Foundation and NAGC, National Association for Gifted Children, this award program is designed to recognize distinguished achievement in academics, leadership, or the arts, in children grades 3 through 6. One child per state can be named a Nicholas Green Distinguished Student and that winner receives a \$500 U.S. savings bond and an NAGC Certificate of Excellence.

The Scobee Scholarship was created in honor of Dick Scobee, the Commander of the Challenger Space Shuttle, and is awarded annually by the Florida Association for the Gifted (FLAG). Two \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded to an eligible male and female gifted student, interested in pursuing studies in the areas of **math/science/technology**.

Award for Excellence in Creative Teaching - FLAG established this award to recognize teachers of the gifted that construct creative learning environments in which students and teachers alike explore, imagine and engage in a variety of thought provoking experiences.

The deadline to apply has been extended to June 1, 2014. More information and the application forms can be found on the FLAG website at <http://www.flagifted.org/annual-awards/>.

U.S. Department of Justice's National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest



Poster from Amber, N., (FL winner and national 2nd runner up)

News release by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement:

On March 9th, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) and the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) held its annual U.S. Department of Justice’s (DOJ) National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest. FDLE MEPIC received 234 works of art from fifth grade students from all over the state of Florida, each displaying the theme “Bring Our Missing Children Home.” Each poster was a creative and unique work of art, which made the judges’ task very difficult. After hours of deliberating, a Florida winner was finally chosen to compete in the U.S. DOJ’s National Missing Children’s Day Poster Contest on the national level.

FDLE MEPIC and the FDOE are proud to announce that Amber N., a student from the Saint Petersburg Christian School, was selected as Florida’s 1st Place Winner. Her poster displayed an American eagle as a symbol of courage, strength, and freedom to represent the ongoing quest for missing children. Her essay expressed her appreciation for freedom in America as a precious gift; something that abducted children do not have. Amber N. will receive a trip to the Capitol to participate in Florida’s Missing Children Day Ceremony on Monday, September 8th where her poster will be displayed. She will also receive an award and tickets to Universal Studios. Other Florida Winners selected were: Angelee G. from Palm Bay for second place; Sydney M. from Jacksonville for third place; and Alanis S. from Kissimmee for fourth place. Each of these runner-ups will receive a certificate and prizes.

Kennedy Center – Partners in Education Program

Florida State University’s “Seven Days of Opening Nights” program and Leon County Schools have been selected to be part of the Kennedy Center’s “Partners in Education Program”. The purpose of the Washington D.C. – based program is to help expand educational partnerships.

For more information, please see the recent article in the Tallahassee Democrat at this link:

<http://www.tallahassee.com/article/20140418/news01/304180009/schools-arts-get-tune>

National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) – Art Works Grants

The National Endowment for the Arts is now accepting grant applications for its Art Works program. The grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000 and the application deadline is July 24, 2014.

According to the NEA’s website, eligible applicants are: Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the Arts Endowment.

For program guidelines and application requirements please visit: <http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/art-works>

National Endowment for the Humanities Bridging Cultures through Film Grant

Applications are now being taken for the *Humanities Bridging Cultures through Film* grant program. The program supports the creation of innovative, non-fiction documentaries that connect and engage American viewers with other cultures. The deadline to apply is June 11, 2014. To find out more about this program please visit: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/public/bridging-cultures-through-film-international-topics>

Broward County School District Honored for Going Green

~ District one of nine in the nation selected for the Green Ribbon Schools District Sustainability Award ~

The Broward County School District is one of only nine districts in the nation receiving the prestigious Green Ribbon Schools District Sustainability Award for 2013-14. The district was recognized for their exemplary efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, promote health and wellness of students and staff, and provide effective environmental and sustainability education that includes civics, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and green career pathways.

The Broward County School district has shown an incredible commitment to becoming a high-performing green district. They are recognized for continuing growth in environmental stewardship initiatives such as school gardens, wildlife habitats, classroom recycling programs and an integrated environmental curriculum. At the district level, various departments within the district implemented energy savings techniques that resulted in reduced energy costs of more than \$34 million, saving \$11 million in energy costs just last year.

Over the past two years, the district saved 2.2 million gallons of water through outdoor irrigation systems and an additional \$323,000 in reduced potable water and energy. The district also sponsors district-wide health and wellness initiatives such as Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Growing Healthy Kids with Holy Cross Hospital, Jump Rope for Heart, Farm to School, 4-H Clubs, Y-FIT-YMCA and Project Bridge Anti-Bullying Program and Policy. The Broward County School District is also recognized as a Florida Healthy School District at the silver level by the Florida Coordinated School Health Partnership, Florida Action for Healthy Kids and Florida Association of District School Superintendents.

The Green Ribbon Schools Award program is part of a U.S. Department of Education effort to identify and share practices that improve student engagement, promote higher academic achievement and increase graduation rates and workforce preparedness, as well as increasing energy independence and economic security. For more information about the Green Ribbon Schools Awards, visit [Green Ribbon Schools](#).

In addition to this national competition, Florida has been recognizing students, classes, teachers, schools and districts through the Florida Green School Network Awards Program since 2008. The application for the 2013-14 awards opened on April 30, 2014 and can be accessed at <http://www.floridagreenschoolnetwork.org/green-school-award/florida-green-school-awards>. The Florida Department of Education partners with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection,

Florida Department of Health and Sustainable Florida to encourage schools and districts throughout the state to apply for the Florida Green School Award.

Opportunity to be Recognized as a Florida Healthy School District

Since 2009, Florida's Coordinated School Health Partnership (CSHP), Florida Action for Healthy Kids (FLAFHK), and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) have had the honor of recognizing twenty-six Florida districts as Healthy School Districts. Recognition is based on submission of the completed Florida Healthy School District Self-Assessment. The instrument is designed to assess the status of policies and practices that support the highest levels of health and academic achievement for students and staff.

Recognition is awarded for a period of two years. If a bronze, silver, or gold level score is achieved, your district will be featured in various statewide publications, recognized at your school board meeting, as well as CSHP and FADSS meetings, and featured on the Florida Healthy District Web Site at www.healthydistrict.com. Additionally, your district will be eligible to participate in the Healthy District Collaborative supported by the Florida Departments of Health and Education.

If your district has not applied, your designation is expiring, or is not currently recognized, we encourage your team to complete the application. Achieving designation as a Florida Healthy School District demonstrates the commitment of district leadership to their primary mission of educating students by providing supportive environments that nurture physical, social, and psychological health. District infrastructure is critical to sustainability and overall success as demonstrated across the recognized districts.

Regardless of whether you apply for recognition we would like to encourage your district team to complete the tool and use the self-assessment as an internal guide. Teams that completed the tool reported that the process improved their knowledge of standards, legislation, and best practices; and enhanced their ability to maximize resources and eliminate duplication.

The self-assessment is based on the eight component areas of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Coordinated School Health model. It focuses on district infrastructure, policy, programs, and practices identified from national and state guidelines, best practices, and Florida statutes. We all know that health and academic success are interrelated. This tool provides a method for districts to assess areas of success and opportunities for improvement in their efforts to remove barriers to learning.

The self-assessment tool is online and very user friendly. The system allows team members to complete, edit and update their district assessment on an ongoing basis. Multiple team members can view and work on the tool simultaneously, and see the updates as they occur. Users from other districts are not able to view your assessment. The tool automatically tracks progress toward completion and tabulates points toward recognition. Each member of the district team will need to request a password

to log-in to the online system by sending an email to cshpmailbox2@gmail.com. Applications are downloaded on June 1 annually to be evaluated for recognition as a Florida Healthy School District.

The self-assessment tool and instructions are available online at <http://www.safehealthyschoolsfl.org/Home.aspx/Index>

To learn more about Florida's Coordinated School Health Partnership and Florida Action for Healthy Kids go to www.healthydistrict.com. If you have questions or comments, please send them to cshpmailbox2@gmail.com.

Library Media News

2nd Annual Florida Association for Media in Education (FAME) Unconference

Thursday, June 26, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Palm Beach Gardens High School
4245 Holly Drive
Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Register today: www.tinyurl.com/FAMEUNC

Join the conversation, pose a question, share your expertise!

This opportunity is provided at no cost by FAME.

Contact: Deb Svec: debsvec@mac.com

SSYRA

Congratulations to the 2013-2014 Winning Titles!

Elementary: *The Candymakers* by Wendy Mass
Middle School: *Legend* by Marie Lu

Three hundred elementary schools placed their votes for the top SSYRA book for the 2013-2014 school year. The top choices were *The Candymakers*, *One and Only Ivan*, *Janitors*, and *Fake Mustache*. The winner, *The Candymakers*, was separated by only a few votes! Thank you for taking the time and effort to read and place your votes. It was so close this year and every vote did make a difference.

There were one hundred and twenty seven middle schools participating in the 2013-2014 voting. *Legend* won by a good size margin followed up by *Wonder* and *The False Prince*.

Are you ready to start reading for next year? Here are the elementary and middle school titles who will be contenders for the 2014-2015 SSYRA championship.

Elementary Titles

Beaty, Andrea	<i>Dorko the magnificent</i>
Carlson, Caroline	<i>Magic marks the spot</i>
Grabenstein, Chris	<i>Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's library</i>
Harkrader, Lisa	<i>The adventures of Beanboy</i>
Kurtz, Chris	<i>The adventures of a South Pole pig</i>
Lee, Jenny	<i>Elvis and the underdogs</i>
Messner, Kate	<i>Capture the flag</i>
Paley, Jane	<i>Hooper finds a family: a Hurricane Katrina dog's survival tale</i>
Perl, Erica	<i>When life gives you O.J.</i>
Pogue, David	<i>Abby Carnelia's one and only magical power</i>
Probst, Jeff	<i>Stranded</i>
Selfors, Suzanne	<i>The sasquatch escape</i>
Shurtliff, Liesl	<i>Rump: the true story of Rumpelstiltskin</i>
Tooke, Wes	<i>King of the mound: my summer with Satchel Paige</i>
Vande Velde, Vivian	<i>8 class pets + 1 squirrel divided by 1 dog = chaos</i>

Middle School Titles

Atkinson, E.J.	<i>I, Emma Freke</i>
Black, Holly	<i>Doll bones</i>
Bodeen, S.A.	<i>The raft</i>
Jacobson, Jennifer	<i>Small as an elephant</i>
Klise, Kate	<i>Homesick</i>
Korman, Gordan	<i>Ungifted</i>
Levine, Kristin	<i>The lions of Little Rock</i>
McNeal, Tom	<i>Far far away</i>
Meloy, Maile	<i>Apothecary</i>

Poblocki, Dan	<i>The ghost of Graylock</i>
Ponti, James	<i>Dead city</i>
Riley, James	<i>Half upon a time</i>
Schrefer, Eliot	<i>Endangered</i>
VanEekhout, Greg	<i>The boy at the end of the world</i>
Wells, Robison	<i>Variant</i>

Read Something Great? It's Time to Nominate!

Would you like to suggest future SSYRA titles for consideration? Go to the FAME website at http://www.floridamedia.org/?page=SSYRA_List to access the form. All recommendations received by June 1st, 2014 will be considered for the 2015-16 list. Please remember titles must:

- Be Fiction.
- Have an author who lives in North America.
- Be appropriate for students from all around Florida in grades 3 to 5 and/or 6 to 8.
- Have a Copyright Date of 2012 or Later.

News from American Library Association (ALA)

Copyright advocacy efforts are apparent and on the forefront for many librarians working with information rights and the needs of the public. Georgia Harper is the 2014 recipient of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award. Harper's projects include the online publication, *Copyright Crash Course*, one of the first comprehensive web sites devoted to copyright, higher education, and libraries, launched in 1996.

The ALA provides two informational articles on ways the copyright issues are being addressed.

<http://www.districtdispatch.org/2014/04/2014-patterson-award-winner-announced/>

<http://www.districtdispatch.org/2014/04/ala-accelerates-efforts-copyright-surveillance/>