Student Support Services Welcomes...

Curtis Jenkins who has joined our team! His credentials include 30 years of counseling experience having served as an elementary counselor for the past 25 years in Miami-Dade schools.

Curtis has been a state advocate for comprehensive counseling programs and is the current president of the Florida School Counselor Association. Curtis will be providing support in the area of Elementary and Middle school counseling.

Student Services Week–February 7-11, 2011

How will your district celebrate this school year’s Student Services Week? Our team would like to include your ideas in the next issue. Please submit your ideas to bhyle@usf.edu.

Florida’s Guide to Public High School Graduation

The Florida’s Guide to Public High School Graduation 2010-2011 is now available. This guide is specific for those students entering ninth grade in the 2010-2011 school year and is available at: http://www.fldoe.org/BII/StudentPro/pdf/HSbrochure.pdf
2010 State Legislative Session–

Many legislative bills that have an impact on the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) and school districts passed. The Legislative Review Book provides bill summaries of education related bills that were approved by the Governor.

Senate Bill 434–
Suicide Prevention Education

The 2010 Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 434, Suicide Prevention Education, amending section 1006.07, Florida Statutes. The passage of SB 434 provides student services professionals an opportunity to expand suicide prevention and training activities to a broader audience and strengthen efforts to reduce the frequency of youth suicide.

SB 434 requires districts to provide instructional and administrative personnel access to suicide prevention resources that have been approved by the Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention. This legislation also adds suicide prevention education to district In-Service Master Development Plans as an option for which school personnel participating may receive in-service credit. The Office of Suicide Prevention’s website has a page dedicated to connecting school districts with free, online educational resources as well as information on how to receive in-person training at: http://www.helppromotehope.com/events/school.php. The Student Support Services Project website provides links to suicide prevention and intervention resources at: http://sss.usf.edu/resources/topic/mentalhealth/index.html.

For more information contact the Student Support Services Office.

Student Health Legislation


Senate Bill 166–
Pancreatic Enzyme Supplements

SB 166 permits a student with pancreatic insufficiency or cystic fibrosis to carry and self administer a prescribed pancreatic enzyme supplement while in school, participating in school-sponsored activities, or in transit to or from school if the school has been provided with authorization from the student’s parent and prescribing practitioner.

House Bill 747–
Treatment of Diabetes

HB 747 permits students with diabetes to carry diabetic supplies on their person and to attend to the management and care of their diabetes while in school, participating in school-sponsored activities, or in transit to or from school if the school principal has been provided written parental and physician authorization.

For more information contact Dianne Mennitt, School Nurse Consultant.

Senate Bill 4–
Relating to Education Accountability

SB 4 addresses numerous areas including middle grades promotion, high school graduation requirements, acceleration courses, student assessment, school grading systems, school improvement ratings for alternative schools, and the Florida School Recognition Program.


An Implementation memorandum is planned for release. It provides an FAQ by topic area and resources. In the coming months, FDOE will continue to provide assistance for implementing these provisions of the bill.

For more information contact Helen Lancashire, School Counseling Consultant.
Dropout Prevention Institute / School Attendance Symposium

The School Attendance Symposium has merged with the Institute on Dropout Prevention to co-sponsor the 2010 Dropout Prevention Institute/School Attendance Symposium!

FDOE (Bureau of Exceptional Education & Student Services and Bureau of Family and Community Outreach) in conjunction with the National Dropout Prevention Center (NDPC) is very pleased with this collaboration and first-time effort. The theme for this year is:

Be There to Get There: Engaging the Promise in Every Graduate.

Date & Location

The Institute/Symposium will be held October 4-7, 2010, at the Hilton Walt Disney World Resort in Lake Buena Vista, FL. This program will provide a professional development opportunity for educational administrators, teachers, school social workers, attendance specialists, faith and community based leaders, college administrators, volunteer coordinators, other student services personnel, and program coordinators who provide services to students who are truant and/or at risk of not graduating from high school.

Program Information

In addition to over 80 concurrent workshops the Institute/Symposium will feature nationally renowned keynote speakers, Dr. Debbie Silver, Dr. George McKenna, and Kim Bearden.

Dr. Debbie Silver is an award-winning educator with 30 years experience as a classroom teacher, staff development instructor, and university professor. Her numerous recognitions include the designation of the 1990 Louisiana State Teacher of the Year and the 2007 Distinguished Alumnus from the College of Education at Louisiana Tech University. Dr. Silver is also the author of the bestselling book, Drumming to the Beat of Different Marchers: Finding the Rhythm for Teaching Differentiated Learning.

Dr. George J. McKenna III is credited with development and implementation of the Preparatory School Model, a program that stresses academic excellence at all levels. Dr. McKenna’s educational strategies including those related to culturally relevant education have been modeled throughout the nation. In 1979, Dr. McKenna was appointed principal of George Washington Preparatory High School, one of the most notorious and violent schools in Los Angeles. His reform efforts transformed it from a failing school to one where nearly 80 percent of its graduates went on to college. Dr. McKenna’s work led to his being the subject of the award-winning CBS movie, The George McKenna Story, starring Denzel Washington.

Kim Bearden is a nationally recognized teacher and public speaker. Ms. Bearden, an award-winning educator of over 20 years, is co-founder, executive director and language arts teacher of the Ron Clark Academy. Her unique combination of innovation, discipline and creativity transforms average classrooms to remarkable learning centers!

Registration Information

The Registration Fee is $195.00 if paid before September 22, 2010. Attendees are encouraged to make room reservations at the host hotel by September 10, 2010, to obtain the conference rate of $119.00 per night. Hotel reservations may be made by calling (800) 782-4414 and referencing the name of the meeting as Dropout Prevention/School Attendance Conference. You may also reserve a hotel room at: http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/ORLDWHH-FDO-20101002/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG.

To register and/or submit a proposal to present, please visit the National Dropout Prevention Center website at: http://www.dropoutprevention.org/home. To be included in the Institute/Symposium program, proposals must be submitted by August 31, 2010. Proposals submitted after August 31 will be included in the Institute/Symposium program addendum.

Direct questions to Gria Davison at (850) 245-7837 or gdavison@usf.edu, Kimberly Davis at (850) 245-0551 or Kimberly.Davis@fldoe.org or Tameka Thomas at (850) 245-0845 or Tameka.Thomas@fldoe.org.

We hope you will “Be There”!
Resources

The National High School Center at: http://www.betterhighschools.org has announced a new resource—High School Matters: The National High School Center Info Blog at: http://blog.betterhighschools.org. The blog provides an objective perspective on the latest research and topical issues and events that affect high school improvement and other related national, state and local K-12 initiatives.

It offers succinct analyses and links to more specific evidence-based information and resources for readers interested in staying abreast of recent/emerging high school improvement activities, as well as snapshots of promising and effective practices. Examples of topic areas include college- and career-readiness, common core standards, high school improvement, and graduation.

FDOE has resources on its website for schools and military families at: http://www.fldoe.org/military/. It includes the rules for the Military Compact, current graduation and school entry requirements, and national links for assistance.

The Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission launched their new website. The website, http://www.mic3.net, is designed to better inform the public about the Interstate Compact for Educational Opportunities for Military Children and serve the needs of the families of our service men and women. It will also provide valuable resources, news, contact information, links, and recent rulings by the Commission.

Visit the Student Support Services Project at: http://sss.usf.edu.

Upcoming Events

FASSA—Florida Association of Student Services Administrators, September 14, 2010

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AMM—Administrators’ Management Meeting, September 15 – 17, 2010, Renaissance Vinoy Resort, St. Petersburg, FL.

FASSW—Florida Association of School Social Workers 64th Annual State Conference, October 14-15, 2010, Tradewinds Resort, St. Pete Beach, FL. For more information, visit http://www.fassw.org

FASP—Florida Association of School Psychologists 37th Annual Conference, November 3-6, 2010, Hilton Miami Downtown, Miami, FL. For more information, visit http://www.fasp.org/Conferences/Annual_Conference.html
