

F PARTNERS IN EDUCATION FOCUS

Connecting Communities and Classroom

FLORIDA NEWSLETTER

March/April 2006

Rev Up Your Engines...Conference is Coming!

President's Message



Dear FAPE Members,

Just wanted to give you a sneak preview of some very exciting news. Thanks to the hard work of Rick Everitt and our advisor, Juhan Mixon, we now have a proposal before the House and the Senate for production of a comprehensive volunteer training program along with subsidies going to each district and funding for the annual statewide conference. Ten volunteer training sessions will be available on-line and through the Florida Education Channel. Volunteer Coordinators throughout the State will have access to the training, if this appropriation bill passes. This will be especially significant to the smaller districts that don't have a full-time Volunteer Coordinator. Our bill is being sponsored by Representative Joe Pickens and Senator Stephen Wise. Please take a minute to write your legislators and encourage them to support this proviso language. Our Volunteer Coordinators do an INCREDIBLE job of bringing additional help and support to Florida's school districts. But any additional tools that could be provided, free of charge, to the districts would certainly lend a helping hand.

Remember, our FAPE Conference in April is just around the corner now. We can't wait to see you

in Daytona Beach to "Rev up those Engines for Student Achievement." Thanks again to **Beef O'Brady's** and **The Florida Lottery**, our major sponsors for this event. You are going to love the conference this year!!

See you in Daytona!

Judi Miller, President

KEEPING UP WITH THE LEGISLATURE: Legislative News Broadcast by PAEC on Fridays

The 2006 Florida Legislature convened in Tallahassee, Tuesday, March 7. For the duration of the session, the Panhandle Area Education Consortium (PAEC) will provide weekly updates. The program, Education Today, brings together top Florida Legislators to discuss the hottest education issues. To view these, set your remote for every Friday, beginning March 10th, at 12 pm Eastern (11:00 A.M. Central). This is a great opportunity to keep updated as things unfold in Tallahassee. The program will air on Channel 23 in the Tallahassee Area, Statewide on the State Transponder, over the Florida Education Channel (Dish Network channel 9418) and "live" over the internet at www.paec.org (LIVE T.V.).



THE BOOK CORNER

Provided by the Office of School Improvement,
Florida Department of Education.

The Florida Department of Education regularly distributes websites and summaries of books and articles. These are often related to the involvement of families and community in the academic achievement of students. They are research based and provide opportunities for accountability as you write and speak at your school, civic and business meetings. In this "Book Corner" you will find one of the latest releases and some useful websites providing resources for parent involvement programs.

THE CRISIS IN CHILD-REARING

In his 2004 book *"Family Matters,"* author-educator Rob Evans proposed that the real crisis facing our society is not a crisis of the educational system, but a crisis in the way our society as whole supports and raises children. By the time most children graduate from high school, Evans says, they will only have spent about 10 percent of their lives in school. *"What has deteriorated most over 30 years is not the skills of our teachers but the lives of our students,"* Evans wrote in this "Education Week" commentary. *"The symptoms of the crisis -- a continuing deterioration in the academic achievement, work ethic, and civility of many of our young people -- appear vividly at school, but they begin well before it and extend well beyond it."* Evans is less interested in moving the blame for education's problems from schools to families than he is in making a case for new approaches to the school-home relationship.

<http://snipurl.com/FamilyMatters>

TOOLS FOR PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- [Parent and Community Newsletter](#)
- <http://www2.edtrust.org/NR/rdonlyres/2A638B5B-24C2-44A9-96A2-8F5890AEDA7F/0/CommNewsWint2005.pdf>
- [Parent and Community Data Guide](#)
- <http://www2.edtrust.org/edtrust/images/dataguidefinal.pdf>
- [African-American Parent Guide](#)
- <http://www2.edtrust.org/NR/rdonlyres/CC939171-B668-4FEC-819E-94E58757CC2D/0/AfricanAmericanParentGuide.pdf>
- [Latino Parent Guide](#)
- <http://www2.edtrust.org/NR/rdonlyres/1213B912-0419-4504-8D7E-414106C22D5C/0/imprvgeduLatino.pdf>
- [Guía Para Padres Latinos](#)
- http://www2.edtrust.org/NR/rdonlyres/CCF44357-B41F-4483-BB57-D2F3D25565B9/0/imprvgeduLatino_Espanolfull.pdf

CALLING ALL FAPE MEMBERS

Special events are scheduled FOR MEMBERS ONLY at the Annual FAPE Conference. Meeting locations will be announced on site. The agenda and other information will be sent to you prior to the meeting. For other detailed information, contact Pam Lastowski, FAPE Executive Director, pamlastowski@comcast.net **REMEMBER TO BRING HAND-OUTS TO SHARE AT GIVE AND TAKE.**

WHAT: FAPE ANNUAL MEETING

WHEN: April 19, 2006 from 10 A.M. to 11 A.M.

WHERE: Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanwalk

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT: This annual get-together is an opportunity for members to renew old friendships and make new friends; tend to association business and network in regional groups. Nominees for new board positions are Rick Everitt, Washington, Vice President; Pat Lancaster, Citrus, secretary and Connie Wotten, Broward, treasurer. A by-law change giving the president elect financial authority in an emergency is being proposed. For more detail on these, refer to your November/December Newsletter. You can access both the newsletter and by-laws at www.flpie.net

WHAT: GIVE AND TAKE

WHEN: April 19, 4:45 P.M. to 5:45 P.M.

WHERE: Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanwalk

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT: This open house will provide a forum for members to meet, greet and swap materials. Refreshments will be served. Admission is by your FAPE member conference ribbon. If you are joining or renewing, just prior to conference, your new card will be in your conference packet. If you have lost your card, see Pam at the FAPE Table set up in the exhibit hall. She will make you a duplicate.



Become a FAPE Member!

Individual membership: \$25.
Institutional membership (10 members): \$200
Visit www.flpie.net or contact Pam Lastowski:
850-514-FAPE (3273)
pamlastowski@comcast.net.

Have you visited www.flpie.net?

**Register for conference now!
April 19-21**

Rev Up Your Engines...for Student Achievement

Pass the word—the time to register is now!

2006 Annual Conference

Florida Association of Partners in Education

April 19-21

Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanwalk Village



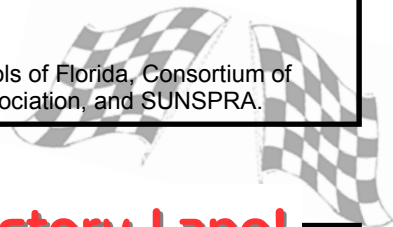
How to Register

Phone: (850) 656-0025

Online: www.flpie.net

Email: Registration
@MeetingMakersInc.com

Conference partners: Florida Association of Partners in Education (FAPE), Communities In Schools of Florida, Consortium of Florida Education Foundations, Florida Department of Education, Florida Parent and Teachers Association, and SUNSPRA.



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NEWS from DOE ...

March 2006

- 6-10 FCAT TESTING
- 17 Parent Involvement Award Nominations Due
- 28-31 National Learn & Service Conference

April 2006

- TBA FL Learn & Serve Applications Due
- 19-21 FAPE Conference—Daytona Beach
- 20 Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards Event
- 23-29 National Volunteer Week
- 21 Golden & Silver School Award Nominations Due

May 2006

- 1-5 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 3 National Teachers Day
- 19 Annual School Volunteer Program Survey Due

June 2006

- 23 Five Star School Award Nominations Due

July 2006

- 14-16 PTA Leadership Conference/Parent Involvement Awards Event



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National Volunteer Week 2006

April 23-29

This year's theme is "Inspire by Example" because it truly reflects the power volunteers have to inspire the people they help, as well as, to inspire others to serve. For more information on National Volunteer Week and to download the promotional toolkit that will help you plan activities, please visit <http://www.pointsoflight.org> (Source: Volunteer Match)

The new value for a volunteer's time has been calculated at \$18.04 by The Independent Sector: <http://independentsector.org>.

Contributing Editors: Pam Lastowski, Judi Miller, Susan Walton, Jane Lane, Holly Laiben, Marilyn Parcels

Newsletter Layout: Pat Travis

The mission of the Florida Association of PARTNERS IN EDUCATION is to provide leadership in the formation and growth of effective partnerships that ensure success for all students. The Focus Newsletter is published bi-monthly for members of the Florida Association. If you have an article you think is newsworthy, please submit to Pam Lastowski via FAX: 850.514.3273, e-mail: pamlastowski@comcast.net, or mail to 3010 Southshore Circle, Tallahassee, FL 32312.