

FAPE Sets Sail with "Winds of Change"

President's Message



Dear FAPE Members,

Our conference theme, "Winds of Change" is certainly appropriate as we welcome new education leadership throughout the state. We are looking forward to meeting our new Legislative leaders, the Governor, the Commissioner of Education, local School Board Members and others. As they take their leadership roles in education, we wish them the best and offer the resources of FAPE to help them achieve their goals.

Our conference in April will provide an opportunity to meet some of these new leaders, plus a wide array of professional development and networking opportunities. FAPE also welcomes our new presenting sponsor, Beef 'O' Brady's. Through this partnership our two organizations are able to work even more aggressively toward a common goal of involving Florida's communities in student achievement. Take the opportunity at conference to get to know the Beef 'O' Brady's staff. They are committed to FAPE and community involvement. You will find them in the exhibit area, general sessions and social events throughout the conference.

FAPE is also working with the Governor's office, DOE and PAEC to put a newly developed parent involvement DVD in the homes of every family in Florida. This DVD is not a parent "how to" kit, but rather an informational tool that explains acronyms,



Press Conference to kick-off parent DVD "Your Child Your Public School." From left to right: Chip Leonard, Duval 2005 Teacher of the Year; Paula Waller, CEO, PAEC; Pam Lastowski; Lenelle Cruse, FL PTA President; Doretha Jackson; Commissioner John Winn; Judi Miller; Rick Everitt; Renae Atmore, parent, Broward District Schools.

programs and policies that are often foreign to parents. We hope you will seize the opportunity to make these available to the parents in your outreach areas. You may get copies from your District Volunteer Coordinator, listed on page four of this newsletter.

Can't wait to see you in St. Petersburg for FAPE Conference! All aboard, anchors away . . . set sail with the "Winds of Change"!

Judi Miller, President

Comings and Goings in the FAPE Office

Plans are going well for the April 18-20, 2007 Florida Partners in Education Conference, Winds of Change, St. Petersburg Bayfront. Beef 'O' Brady's has expanded its partnership and becomes FAPE's first Presenting Partner. We celebrate this opportunity to maximize both organizations' initiatives for community involvement and the support citizen participation provides student achievement in this state. In other news:

On February 8, President Judi Miller, President Elect Doretha Jackson and Executive Director Pam Lastowski represented the organization at the Tallahassee press conference that launched the Parent DVDs. FAPE members Lenelle Cruse, Florida PTA president, Susan Walton, DOE, PAEC's Rick Everitt, Paula Waller and Lisa Schofield were also in attendance. This handy tool was created through a partnership among DOE, the governor's office, and PAEC. FAPE was also a partner and participated in supporting the distribution. District Volunteer Coordinators were the brokers for receiving and distributing the DVDs. Three million were made available to Florida's parents. This DVD provides every household with information about academic programs, policy, strategies and resources. The intent is to remove the mystery from education's vocabulary, programs and requirements.

On February 5, FAPE sent a lobby team to visit some key legislators on behalf of a requested appropriation for developing extensive on-line training for volunteers and volunteer program administrators. The appropriation also provides financial assistance to school districts to enhance local training. Further, there would be money available for scholarships to attend statewide in-service opportunities. A draft of the requested legislation is provided here.

00 SPECIAL CATEGORIES GRANTS AND AIDS - SCHOOL DISTRICT GRANTS PROGRAM FROM GENERAL REVENUE FUND \$500,000

Funds in Specific Appropriation 00 will provide to each school district that is eligible, through the Department of Education, an incentive grant of \$5,000 (\$335,000) for the delivery and support of training for volunteers/mentors/business

partners. \$150,000 will go to PAEC to provide funding to create new on-line training/statewide delivery of satellite broadcast programs for volunteers/mentors/business partners. Before any funds provided in Specific Appropriation 00 may be released to any public school district volunteer program, the public school district must certify to the Commissioner of Education that this district will participate in the statewide training. \$15,000 will be provided to support the Florida Partners in Education statewide conference by providing stipends, registration and training for volunteer coordinators supporting rural county participation.

Other legislation of interest to many FAPE members is HB 439-Relating to Background Screening of School Volunteers.

HB 439 - Relating to Background Screening of School Volunteers -

General Background Screening of School Volunteers; provides background screening requirements for school & after-school program volunteers with direct student contact at private schools participating in scholarship programs; provides said requirements for school & after-school program volunteers with direct student contact at public schools. Amends 1002.421; creates 1012.466. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2007.

Schedule for board conference calls has been set for the year. Those calls will be the third Wednesday of every month from 2-4 P.M. If you have agenda items, send them to pamlastowski@comcast.net.

Five Star School Award Flags/Banners

The Florida Department of Education presents this award annually to those schools that have shown evidence of exemplary family and community involvement. It is the department's highest award for schools who exemplify total school and community participation. To recognize the Five Star schools in your district, the Florida Association of Partners in Education has negotiated a discounted price for the purchase of flags/banners. Please contact **Tammy Lamm, American Ad Specialties, 407-649-4772 or e-mail tammy@americanadspec.com**.

Florida Association of Partners in Education

33rd Annual Conference

Winds of Change

April 18-20, 2007 • Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront • St. Petersburg, Florida

As the winds of change in education blow throughout our communities, the Florida Association of Partners in Education continues its commitment of serving as the architect of change. FAPE understands that managing change, or actually creating it, is part and parcel of being community involvement activists. Each of us must welcome change and arm ourselves with the new skills needed to create a community-wide commitment to success for all schools, all parents and all students.

FAPE will continue its long tradition of providing leadership in the formation and growth of effective community involvement partnerships by hosting the 33rd Annual FAPE Conference, April 18-20, 2007 in St. Petersburg, Florida. The conference opens with a luncheon and keynote address by Mr. Darrell "Coach D" Andrews. At Thursday morning's general session, Dr. Bill Daggett, International Center for Leadership in Education, will present the keynote address. Thirty-five workshops will be offered with topics including fund development, volunteer management, connecting schools to the community, media and marketing, dropout prevention, online training, time

management, gang awareness, sponsorship strategies, facilitating meetings, and family friendly schools.

A Welcome Reception hosted by Presenting Sponsor Beef 'O' Brady's, the SUNSPRA Awards Breakfast, the Florida Commissioner of Education's Business Recognition Awards Dinner and Florida's Outstanding Volunteers Awards Luncheon will be exciting events at the conference.

Co-hosting the conference are other organizations that share our interest in the welfare of youth, including: Communities in Schools of Florida, The Consortium of Florida Education Foundations, Panhandle Area Educational Consortium, Florida Department of Education, the Florida PTA and the Sunshine State Public Relations Association. Together, more than 600 conference attendees, representing the volunteer sector from business, community, government and education are expected to share three days of networking, skill building and lots of fun!

Prepare for a new and exciting season of community involvement in education. Plan now to attend the 33rd Annual FAPE Conference. Registration is available at www.flpie.net.

Conference Sponsors—Bringing us the "Winds of Change"

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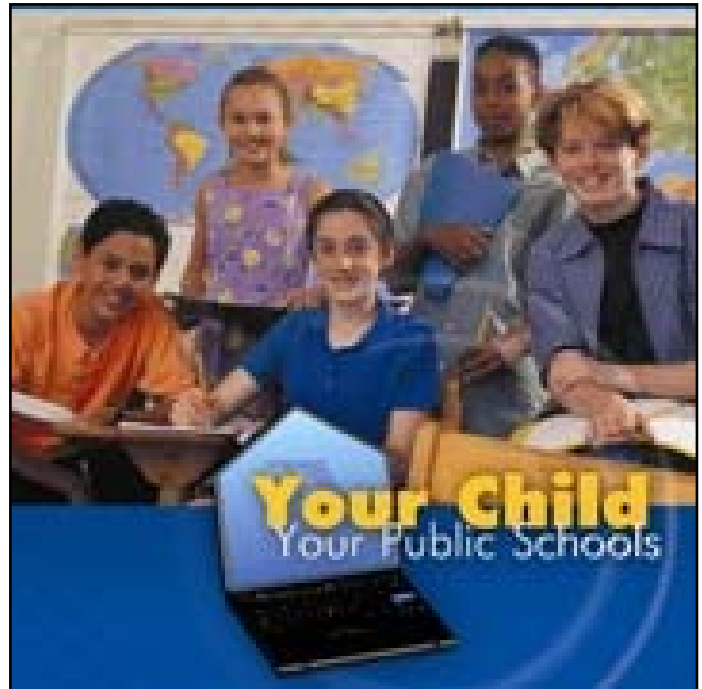
VOSS & ASSOCIATES
COMMUNICATING EDUCATION



**Fischler School
of Education &
Human Services**

New DVD Gives Insider's View of Florida Education System

The Department of Education has recently released a new parent information DVD - "Your Child, Your Public Schools." It's a free DVD designed to help parents better understand Florida's school system and to provide them with information to help them take an active role in their child's education. The DVD covers such topics as FCAT Essentials, Inside School Grades, and so much more. To obtain your copy of the DVD, simply contact your local district volunteer coordinator (see list below). You may also view the DVD at www.fl DOE.org/parentdvd.



District Volunteer Coordinators

County, Volunteer Coordinator, E-mail Address

Alachua, Elizabeth Stark, Starkef@sbc.edu
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Bay, Denise Doyle, Doyledm@bay.k12.fl.us
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Winds of Change

Florida Association of Partners in Education 33rd Annual Conference



April 18-20, 2007

Hilton St. Petersburg

333 First Street S., St. Petersburg, FL

Room rate: \$133 single/double

www.StPeteHilton.com

**For Conference update, go to
www.flpie.net**

**For Conference information,
contact Meeting Makers at
850.656.0025 or Barbara@MeetingMakersInc.com**

FAPE Provides Five Star School Award Training

The Panhandle Area Education Consortium and The Florida Association of Partners in education announce Five Star School Award Training. The course is designed primarily for district volunteer coordinators, school volunteer coordinators and school leaders. The content describes the requirements and application process requisite to achieve the prestigious Five Star Award School status in Florida.

Outcomes

School leaders will:

- Understand the requirements for achieving Five Star School status.
- Successfully complete the Five Star School Award application.

Pupil Outcomes

Students will:

- Experience benefits resulting from increased parent and community involvement at the school site.

Course Availability and Schedule

The course is available on the Florida Education Channel and can be copied. Broadcast dates and times can be found at www.paec.org. Find the blue FEC tab and select the schedule link. On the page that comes up, find the programs link and select it. Scroll down to Five Star School Award and on the page that then appears, select the schedule link.

Times listed are Central Time Zone.

Did you know?

Online in-service for new district volunteer coordinators is available at www.paec.org (Florida Learns Academy). The training also gives in-service points!

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?

Board Nominates 2007-2009 Officers

The Florida Association of Partners in Education (FAPE) announces nominees for 2007-2009 board officers. Members will vote at the annual FAPE meeting, April 19, 2008, in St. Petersburg. The board nominates Doretha Jackson for President. Jackson is the Supervisor of Family and Community Relations in Pinellas. She currently serves the board as President-Elect. She has been a member of the board for 2 years. For President-Elect, the board nominates Rick Everitt, Program Coordinator for Technology at the Panhandle Area Education Consortium in Chipley. Rick has served on the board for 5 years. He is currently Vice-President for Business/Community Partnerships. The board nominates Margaret Anne Wheeler as Vice-President for Business/Community Partnerships. Wheeler is a past president of FAPE and serves Polk County School District as Senior Community Involvement Coordinator.

2005-2006 FAPE Board of Directors:

Judi Miller, President
Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Lucie County
Doretha Jackson, President Elect
Pinellas County Schools
Rick Everitt, VP Govern. Technology & Business
Panhandle Area Educational Consortium
Pat Lancaster, Secretary
Citrus County School District
Connie Wotton, Treasurer
Broward County Public Schools
Jane Lane, Past President
Seminole County Public Schools
Susan Walton, DOE Representative
Florida Department of Education

2006-2007 Calendar from DOE Family and Community Outreach

January 2007 NATIONAL MENTOR MONTH

12 Commissioner's Business Recognition Award
Nominations Due

February 2007

FLORIDA SCHOOL VOLUNTEER MONTH

6-7 FCAT Writing
11-17 School Volunteer Week
26-28 FCAT Testing (Reading, Mathematics Science)

March 2007

Learn and Serve RFP sent out

1-9 FCAT Testing (Cont'd)
16 Parent Involvement Award Nominations Due
28-31 National Service Learning Conference in Albuquerque, NM

April 2007

Regional Technical Assistance Meetings for Selected Federal Programs

15-21 National Volunteer Week
18-20 FAPE Conference – St. Petersburg Hilton
19 Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards Event
20 Golden & Silver School Award Nominations Due
26 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day

May 2007

Learn and Serve RFP due

6-12 National Teacher Appreciation Week
8 National Teachers Day
18 Annual School Volunteer Program
Survey Due

June 2007

22 Five Star School Award Nominations Due
30 Title V, Part A Applications Due

July 2007

13-15 PTA Leadership Conference/Parent Involvement
Awards Event

The FL PIRC, Florida Partnership for Family Involvement in Education at USF, invites you to participate in a statewide Parent Involvement Research to Practice Symposium.

Keynote speaker is Anne T. Henderson.

April 27, 2007, Tampa @USF

No Charge!

Register at www.partnershipcenter.usf.edu
by Monday, April 23!



The Florida Association of
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

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