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# PreK-12 Appropriations Committee

Thursday, February 11, 2010  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
404 House Office Building

## Meeting Packet



# The Florida House of Representatives

## PreK-12 Appropriations Committee

Larry Cretul  
Speaker

Anitere Flores  
Chair

### Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 11, 2010  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
404 House Office Building

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Panel Discussion on Cost Saving Strategies

Florida Department of Education

Linda Champion, Deputy Commissioner of Finance and Operations  
Shan Goff, Executive Director of Early Learning  
John Newman, Senior Advisor on Legislative Policy & Budget

Agency for Workforce Innovation

Michele Watson, Policy Director, Office of Early Learning

Florida Children's Services Councils

Vivian Alarcon, Executive Director

Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend

Chris Duggan, Executive Director

Florida School Boards Associations

Wayne Blanton, Executive Director

Florida Association of District School Superintendents

Bill Montford, Chief Executive Officer  
Joy Frank, Legislative Consultant & General Counsel

Hillsborough County Schools

Jim Hamilton, Deputy Superintendent for Instructional Support  
Connie Milito, Director of Governmental Relations

Orange County Public Schools

Scott Howat, Director of Legislative & Congressional Relations

Palm Beach County Public Schools

Vern Pickup-Crawford, Governmental Relations Consultant

North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC)

Dr. Jim Surrency, Executive Director

- IV. Adjournment

## PreK-12 Appropriations Committee Cost Saving Strategies and Ideas

The following topic areas are for discussion purposes only and are the result of brainstorming sessions on possible areas to review and discuss in committee:

- **Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten** - Examine teacher ratios while maintaining quality. Examine administration and oversight to reduce costs.
- **Race to the Top Grants** - Use grant funding to move forward on important quality initiatives such as assessment, instructional materials, education technology/learning management systems, etc., (agenda topic for February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting).
- **Teacher Merit Pay Programs** - Review policies of Merit Award Plan (MAP) and Excellent Teaching programs compared to Race to the Top teacher merit pay programs (agenda topic for February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting).
- **Open Source, Virtual Textbooks, and Learning Management Systems** - Innovations to reduce instructional material and training costs (agenda topic for February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting).
- **Student Transportation** - Enhanced route plans that reduce costs.
- **Supplemental Academic Instruction** - Review programs and expenditures to determine efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Excess Credit Delivery** - Review alternatives to encourage early or timely graduation and reduce delivery of excess credits.
- **Reduce Remediation in Secondary and Postsecondary Education** - Improve district education programs and assessments to limit remediation.
- **Performance Funding** - Examine performance based funding models for PreK-12 education.
- **Administrative Support** - Examine best practices for district and school administrative operations.
- **School District Facilities Planning & Development** - Enhance DOE reviews of Special Facilities plans to reduce costs.
- **District Contracts** - Review expansion of contracted delivery of non-instructional services such as food service, transportation, and facility maintenance.
- **District Best Practices Utilization** - Expand OPPAGA Best Practices reviews or enhanced regional and statewide collaborations.

- **District Internet Services** - Review options to substantially increase bandwidth with reduced costs (through FIRN or Lambda Rail). Enhanced bandwidth could encourage further savings by allowing coordinated administrative technology.
- **District Enterprise Resource Systems** - Examine potential joint purchasing and development of financial, accounting, personnel, procurement and other administrative systems.
- **School District Consortia** - Enhance group contracts among small districts to reduce costs and overhead.
- **State Board of Education Efficiency** - Continue administrative efficiency efforts including the expanded use of webinars and telephone conferences rather than meetings on site, reduction or elimination of state-provided cellular devices, consolidation of data centers, reduction of travel, reduction in memberships, and consolidation of leased space.
- **Library System Collaboration** - Closer collaboration and possible long-term consolidation of library purchasing and search technologies (agenda topic on January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting).
- **Non-profit Initiatives** - Review programs for efficiency and effectiveness.
- **Class Size Reduction** - Examine student station, staffing, and course utilization to minimize costs (rezoning, team teaching, virtual education, and other innovative alternatives).
- **Other Innovative Ideas** - Open discussion of other alternatives for program efficiencies and cost savings.