

BSIS

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Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support Newsletter

AP COURSE DESCRIPTION UPDATES

The College Board has announced the redesign of two courses for the 2015-16 school year, with new exams in May 2016. You may access information regarding these course revisions visit the following links:

[AP Art History](#)

[AP European History](#)

In addition, the new course [AP Research](#) will be added in 2015-16 as part of the Capstone program.

You may also access information regarding redesign to courses that will take effect in 2016-17 at the following links:

[AP World History](#)

[AP Calculus AB](#)

[AP Calculus BC](#)

AP Computer Science Principles will be available in 2016-17, but these have not been added to the website yet. The link will appear in this newsletter when it becomes available.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Summer Social Studies In-Service for Teachers in Bay District Schools and PAEC Districts

The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship, Bay District Schools, the Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System at PAEC and the Panhandle Area Education Consortium are working together to offer a summer in-service for grades 6-12 social studies educators. This event will be a conference style two-day workshop that will take place at Gulf Coast State College in Panama City on August 5 & 6, 2015. Presenters will provide resources for the following areas of study specifically for 6-12 Florida Social Studies: content, instructional technology, disciplinary literacy for social studies, exceptional student education support, assessment and item writing, and pedagogy. This in-service is for teachers in Bay District Schools and PAEC districts and is free to attend. Additional information, including how to register, will be available soon from Bay District Schools and PAEC.

HEALTH

KEEP KIDS SAFE AND EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL!

The Florida Asthma Coalition is still accepting applications for their Asthma-Friendly School Recognition (Deadline: May 15, 2015). To learn more and apply, please visit:

www.floridaasthmacoalition.com/schools.

Asthma, a chronic lung disease, is one of the main reasons that students miss school due to illness. It is estimated that 466,112 instructional hours were lost due to asthma in Florida during the 2013-2014 school year. When students have their asthma in control, they perform better academically and miss less school. Schools with asthma management programs are the key to success, and the Florida Asthma Coalition and the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation are rewarding those that make asthma a priority.

Criteria & Recognition Levels

Recognition is offered at four levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Cash awards will be made until designated funding runs out. Get your application in early to qualify!

Bronze: \$500

1. Asthma leadership team established.
2. School nurses, faculty and staff participate in asthma training at least every other school year.
Note: Participation requirements increase based on award level – see Application Guide.
3. School ensures immediate access to asthma medications per Section, 1002.20(3)(h), Florida Statutes.
4. School provides student-centered asthma management support. Note: Requirements increase based on award level – see Application Guide.
5. School displays asthma posters in high-traffic areas.
6. School provides physical education and activity opportunities that meet the needs of children with asthma.

Silver: \$750

All of the above and...

7. School works with community partners to provide self-management education to students with asthma.
8. School works with community partners to offer education to parents about asthma management.

Gold: \$1,000

All of the above and...

9. School maintains a healthy school environment through implementation of an indoor air quality program.

Platinum: \$1,500

All of the above and...

10. School implements comprehensive asthma procedures or a policy which includes the activities listed in criteria 1-9, and the district meets the 12 criteria for a comprehensive tobacco-free schools policy (See the article below).

Florida School Districts Embrace Comprehensive School Tobacco Policies

Florida is at the forefront in implementing innovative ways to reduce rates of tobacco-related deaths, diseases and disabilities. The Florida Department of Health's Bureau of Tobacco Free Florida, along with state partners, implement strategies that promote cessation, eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke and prevent initiation of tobacco use, especially among youth. One initiative having a large population-based impact is the implementation of a comprehensive tobacco-free school policy at the district level. Tobacco Free Florida has identified 12 key components of a comprehensive school tobacco policy (see list below). Through education and support from local staff and partners, school districts understand the impact of each component and how to integrate them into policy.

Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) youth have had a key voice in advocating for tobacco-free school policies. There is one SWAT Chapter in each of Florida's 67 counties. Additionally, many counties maintain school and community-based SWAT clubs. The SWAT youth team up with their adult volunteer counterparts to educate local school decision-makers about the influence tobacco has on youth and how the schools can adopt policies to counter this influence. The current results are shown below.

- Sixty-one percent of all counties in Florida have adopted a comprehensive 12-component tobacco policy.
- Eighty-one percent of all counties in Florida have adopted at least 10 of the 12 components, and 72 percent have all but one component.
- Out of the 2.71M students in Florida, more than 1.74M (64 percent) are covered by a comprehensive 12-component policy.
- More than 2.25M students (83 percent) are covered by 11 or more components.

The comprehensive policies include the following components:

1. Policy includes a statement of rationale for the policy and definitions of tobacco and tobacco use.
2. Tobacco is specifically named; not implied by prohibiting drugs.
3. All components of the policy are effective 24 hours a day; 365 days per year.
4. All school buildings, grounds, campuses, housing and property (including vehicles and buses), whether owned or leased, are tobacco-free at all times.
5. Students are prohibited from possessing and/or using tobacco products on school grounds and at school events, whether on or off district property.
6. School staff is prohibited from using tobacco products on school grounds, at school events, whether on or off district property.
7. Visitors are prohibited from using tobacco products on school grounds and at school events, whether on or off district property.
8. Wearing clothing or using other items that advertise or promote tobacco products is prohibited.

9. Tobacco advertising and acceptance of gifts, including curriculum, from tobacco companies is prohibited.
10. A plan to communicate the policy to all students, employees and visitors is outlined.
11. An enforcement plan for students, staff and visitors is outlined.
12. An enforcement plan for students and staff that provides cessation resources is outlined.

To learn more about district tobacco-free school policies visit

<http://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/current-issues/tobacco-free-schools-the-issue/>

THE ARTS

Innovative Project Revitalizes School and Invigorates Students

A cultural renaissance has begun in the neighborhood where Jose de Diego Middle School in Miami, Florida is located. As students saw this revitalization in their neighborhood take place, they wished that they could see a similar project take place right at their school. Principal Thomspson-Williams was intent upon making the arts a priority when she became the principal at Jose de Diego. She hired an arts teacher and embarked upon a mission to have her school painted in a unique fashion. In partnership with two local art groups, the “RAW Project” – Reimagining the Arts in Wynwood, was born. Seventy-three artists agreed to help with the project and paint murals on the school walls. According to the article, students are, “calmer these days, because they feel that they’re in a safe place now.” For more information about this story, please visit http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2015/02/18/jose-de-diego-middle-school_n_6558616.html

VSA Florida – Call to Artists

VSA Florida, formerly Very Special Arts Florida, is currently accepting applications for their free ART MUNDO exhibition. The program is open to all artists, regardless of age, including students with disabilities and exceptionalities. For more information, please visit VSA’s website at <http://vsaf.org/>.

TECHNOLOGY

TEACHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The following resources are available through the department for all K-12 teachers:

Universal Design for Learning (UDL): K-12 Lesson Plans module

The focus of the UDL: K-12 Lesson Plans module is to provide educators with introductory information about the foundations and essential components of the UDL framework. The module will also provide educators with knowledge, strategies and tools related to designing lesson plans within the framework. The course provides five in-service points, and there is a follow-up/implementation activity. Participants will need to create a log-in to access the course at <http://pdportal.florida-ese.org/>.

Technology and Learning Connections

The Technology and Learning Connections (TLC) Team is a part of Florida's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) through the Problem Solving/Response to Intervention Project at the University of South Florida. Resources developed by this team can be found at <http://www.tlc-mtss.com/resources.html>.

The TLC team provides guidelines and resources to support the implementation of:

- The Florida Standards
- Assistive and Instructional Technology
- Accessible Instructional Materials
- Universal Design for Learning

STEM

Commissioner's Academic Challenge

The Commissioner's Academic Challenge was held on April 9-11 at the Disney World Grand Floridian Resort. Teams represented 36 districts statewide as they competed in the areas of Math, Science, Humanities and the Arts. This integrated STEM competition is open to all districts and celebrates the high level coursework achieved by these student teams.

The team-based competitions are divided into divisions according to district size. The Division 3 champs are Suwannee County. Their coach is Michael Pate. Division 2 was won by Okaloosa County. Their coach, Carol Bernich, will coach Team Florida who will compete at the 2015 National Tournament of Academic Excellence in June at Walt Disney World. The Division 1 champs are from Orange County. Their coach is Carolyn DiChiara.

Visit the Commissioners Academic Challenge website to see a full listing of the members of Team Florida and their districts (<http://academic-challenge.org>). A listing of all participating districts (36) can also be found on the Commissioners Academic Challenge website (<http://academic-challenge.org>) under "Participants."

If you would like to be involved in the Commissioners Academic Challenge to showcase your districts high level achievement in the areas of STEM and the arts, contact Ms. Lisa W. Rawls, tournament director, at lisa.rawls@polk-fl.net, or Dr. JP Keener, director of STEM programs, at jonathan.keener@fldoe.org.

STEM Professional Development

Project Learning Tree (PLT) is an award-winning, interdisciplinary environmental education program featuring classroom-proven hands-on learning activities for youth.

Workshop Dates: May 29 & 30, 2015

- Learn how to conduct PLT workshops.
- Gain leadership skills.
- Gain knowledge of environmental education.
- Learn about and make contacts in your community.
- Gain additional training in Early Childhood Curriculum.

Times: Friday 5PM – 9PM & Saturday 8AM – 4PM

Registration Deadline: May 22, 2015

Register Online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/plt-facilitator-training-workshop-2015-registration-16525482162>