





Free FSA Tests for Grades 3-8

Help students build confidence. Identify areas for improvement.

## The C-Suite

# **Updates from Tallahassee on COVID-19 and Session**

by Michele L. White, CAE, FASA Associate Executive Director

Everyone is on pins and needles this week as we wait for Legislative Session to end and to see how the coronavirus will spread across the country and state. I have compiled various resource documents from the Florida Department of Education that was shared with superintendents, FHSAA announcements, and education conferences cancelled or postponed.



On Wednesday, the FDOE sent an <u>update memo</u> and <u>FAQs</u> to superintendents with recommendations on field trips, travel recommendations, and support from Florida Virtual School. FLVS will be ready to add 120,000 by the end of March and 400,000 by the end of April should it be necessary. FDOE is continuing to host regular conference calls with superintendents to determine next steps and supports and if there are needs for closures. At this time districts are planning to remain open for their normal schedule.

Universities and colleges are making other plans for online learning following spring break.

FHSAA is changing some meetings to teleconferences and they have NOT made a decision on State Championship events. <u>CLICK HERE</u> to view their announcement and FAQs.

Impact Florida has also postponed their upcoming Education Summit to be held April 1-3 in Orlando.

Our national affiliates NAESP and NASSP have cancelled their advocacy conferences and are working on ways to connect members with Congressional staff regarding federal priorities.

At this time, all plans for the FASA Discover '20 Conference are in place and we encourage you to register <u>HERE</u> for June 9-11 at the Omni at ChampionsGate.

### Get (internationally) schooled

Educators make up an innovative (and inspiring) global network—one we're lucky enough to learn from every day. Regardless of country or curriculum, educators are the special sauce in meaningful educations worldwide. Read on to learn from three international educators about the approaches they're passionate about, ways to bring global ideas into U.S. classrooms, and what makes the sauce so special. Read More.

### Madeline Muller, EF Education First





With regard to the 2020 Legislative Session, we are expecting it to extend into next week since the budget is still not completed. This is the one thing required by the Florida Constitution to be completed in Session. <a href="CLICK HERE">CLICK HERE</a> for a list of bills that have passed both the House and Senate and are enrolled. The next steps will be for these bills to be engrossed and sent to the Governor for approval or veto. Today is possibly the last day for any bills not related to the budget to pass.

We do not expect the Early Learning bill to pass that was poised to create transition plans for students from VPK to kindergarten and to create a data system that would include birth to grade 12. FASA will continue to push for these issues in the future and continue to build partnerships with the Early Learning Coalitions and more to ensure the students entering our public schools are prepared and are welcomed with the appropriate

supports.

Watch for more updates next week in the Advocate and on social media about the budget and close of Session.

## Mindfulness Techniques as Treatment for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in the Schools



The frequency of children receiving a diagnosis of some form of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) has increased dramatically over the past several years. Children with ADHD often experience significant academic and social difficulties and are more susceptible to deficits in self-concept and strained family relationships. Read More

Melissa H. Joyner. Psy.D. School Psychologist - Sumter County Public Schools School Psychology Adjunct Professor - National Louis University

For more information about National Louis University - School Psychology Degree Programs and other Education degree programs offered, contact an enrollment specialist at 813.286.8087 or <a href="mailto:nluflorida@nl.edu">nluflorida@nl.edu</a>.

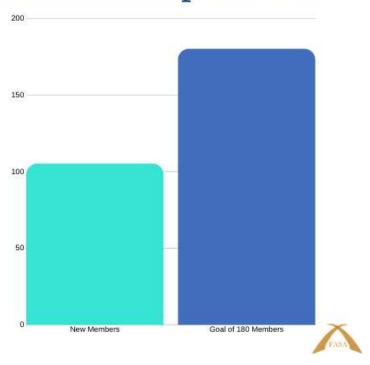


### **Growing FASA's Membership**

FASA is working on growing our membership by 180 members this year! You can help by referring a colleague, or recruiting new administrators. Since August, we have welcomed **105 new members.** We are 58% of the way to our goal!

If you'd like to refer a new member, please contact our membership coordinator, Brandi, at <a href="mailto:bmorris@fasa.net">bmorris@fasa.net</a> or by phone at (850) 224-3626.

# Membership Growth

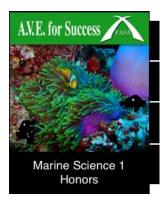






## Partnerships of The Week

### A.V.E. for Success Courses: Marine Science 1 Honors



Since 2014, FASA has developed 166 collections of digital resources on the iTunes U platform for teachers, parents, and students to help transform teaching and learning by providing course resources Aligned to the Florida Standards, Vetted by teachers and Embraced by students; creating an A.V.E. for Success. These collections also go a step further than most in that they include resources specifically for English Language Learners and Exceptional Student Education students. There are over 22,200 digital resources that have been added to the collections.

Anyone with a free Apple ID is able to access the content through iTunes U on an iOS device or iTunes on a Windows PC is free to teachers, parents, and students across the globe! This is great to **SHARE WITH TEACHERS**!

Get more information about the project <u>here.</u>

# **News You Can Use**

### State: Teachers unhappy with new testing rules

The response to the Florida Department of Education's new testing rules has been swift and negative, with teachers across the board speaking out against proposed changes. "Our concern with the new regulations is that … they strike at the heart of good teaching," said Katie Hansen, president of the Flagler County Educators Association, who helped organize a Change.org petition against the plans which received more than 15,000 signatures in less than a week.

Read Full Story

### State: Turnaround schools, standardized testing bill passes House

House lawmakers passed legislation that gives low-performing schools less time to turn themselves around.

The bill advanced out of the lower chamber by a 105-11. It heads now to the Senate. The bill (HB 7079), sponsored by Rep. Vance Aloupis, helps the state achieve the goal of testing students less and fulfills Gov. Ron DeSantis' priority of adding more civics education to the curriculum. It also accelerates the process that school districts have to correct low-performing schools. It's somewhat controversial, with some school administrators complaining it unfairly penalizes schools with large low-income populations.

Read Full Story

#### **National: When Should Schools Close For Coronavirus?**

The spread of coronavirus has compelled hundreds of K-12 schools in the U.S. to close, affecting more than 850,000 students, according to an analysis by Education Week. And those numbers are certain to increase in the coming days, as concerned parents call for more school closures.

The growing health crisis presents school leaders with a painful choice. Closing schools —

as has been done, so far, in China, Japan, Italy and elsewhere — is a proven measure that has been shown to slow the spread of disease and, in turn, save lives. But it also causes huge economic and social disruption, especially for children, millions of whom depend on the free and reduced-cost meals they get at school.

Read Full Story

# Coronavirus makes South Florida schools, colleges go online, cancel trips abroad

After a fourth person in Broward County has tested positive for the novel coronavirus, triggering a Level 2 emergency, South Florida schools, colleges and universities are starting to activate emergency preparations.

At a press conference Tuesday, Superintendent Alberto Carvalho said he was aware of two or three students in the same family who attend three district schools, whose family member recently traveled to a "hot spot" country. He did not say whether those students were staying at home.

Read Full Story