



On this day in 1888, the “Crouching” start was 1st used in track and field by Charles Sherrill of Yale

The Briefing –Thursday – May 12, 2022

The last Briefing was Tuesday – May 10, 2022

The Briefing is compiled **2-3 times a week** to provide information to County Commissioners and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and School Board members, Superintendents, and staff in districts that are members of the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email – Cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

Important Information and Resource Links

[Small County Coalition Website](#)

[Small School District Council Consortium Website](#)

The Quick

TAX HOLIDAYS AND EXEMPTIONS 2022-2024

The 2022 Florida Legislature passed, and Governor DeSantis signed into law, nine sales tax holidays or temporary exemptions and a motor fuel tax exemption. The calendar below details the dates for each exemption period. For more information, visit <https://floridarevenue.com/Pages/SalesTaxHolidays.aspx>

<u>Tax Holiday</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Length</u>
Children’s Books	May 14, 2022	August 14, 2022	3 months
Disaster Preparedness	May 28, 2022	June 10, 2022	2 weeks
Freedom Week	July 1, 2022	July 7, 2022	1 week
ENERGY STAR appliances	July 1, 2022	June 30, 2023	1 year
Children’s Diapers	July 1, 2022	June 30, 2023	1 year
Baby and Toddler Clothing	July 1, 2022	June 30, 2023	1 year
Home Hardening	July 1, 2022	June 30, 2024	2 years
Back to School	July 25, 2022	August 7, 2022	2 weeks
Tool Time	September 3, 2022	September 9, 2022	1 week
Motor Fuel	October 1, 2022	October 31, 2022	1 month

Impact of Covid and Remote Learning on Learning Gains

Florida was the first state to reopen.

A comprehensive national study of the impact of remote learning found Florida avoided the dramatic losses in learning during the 2020-21 school year. The national [study](#) that came out last week was a collaboration between the Center for Education Policy Research [at Harvard University](#); [CALDER Center at the American Institutes for Research](#), which uses data to examine how student outcomes affect learning; [NWEA](#), a not-for-profit that develops student assessment tools; and [Dartmouth College](#). Here are some of the findings:

Nationally

- generally high-poverty schools spent more weeks in remote instruction and that these more disadvantaged schools suffered larger losses in academic achievement during the second school year affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- school districts that remained open and largely in-person lost relatively little ground, according to the study of test data from 2.1 million students in 49 states and the District of Columbia.
- high-poverty schools lost a half-year of achievement during the 2020-21 school year, about twice as much as low-poverty schools in the same district.

Florida

- Florida, [the first to order its schools open](#) for the 2020-21 school year, was noted as an outlier in the findings, as was Texas, which also opened schools earlier than most states. All but Florida school districts resumed in-person instruction when the 2020-21 school year started, sometime during the second half of August 2020.
- The data [the state submitted](#) to apply for American Rescue Plan funds show that Florida's Black and low-income students, as well as those with disabilities, suffered the worst decreases in achievement when comparing 2019, pre-COVID-19 test scores to 2021 data.

Teacher Pay Raises Take Center Stage at Florida State Board of Education Meeting

The Florida Board of Education on Wednesday heard reports from Florida school districts that had not finalized their plans for teacher pay raises. The board questioned district Superintendents on why salary increases in their districts did not meet the mandated October 2021 deadline. Presenters affirmed the importance of getting increases to teachers but outlined a series of processes and complications that led to delays in meeting the deadline. The districts where plans are delayed are Leon, Bradford, Brevard, Lee, Palm Beach, St. Johns and Florida A&M University's Developmental Research School. Here is a link to the meeting - <https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/5-11-22-state-board-of-education-meeting/>

Webinar: Complying with HB 53's Needs Analyses

Cities and Counties compiling local Wastewater and Stormwater Reports

On May 13 at 1 PM, the FWEA Utility Council and the Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) will convene a joint webinar on complying with [HB 53's needs analyses](#) for domestic wastewater. This webinar will provide an opportunity for domestic wastewater utilities to learn all they need to know on how to complete EDR's [Wastewater Template for Needs Analysis](#), which is due to the county in which the utility operates by June 30, 2022. Webinar leaders will also explain to county representatives how to appropriately compile and submit local reports to EDR by July 31, 2022. As part of this webinar, a utility representative will provide specific examples on how to interpret and respond to each reporting template question. More information, including log in information to the webinar, will be provided in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Shelley Long at ucadmin@fweauc.org. There is no cost for this webinar.

Bradenton Herald: Judge throws out DeSantis congressional map, orders new map drawn by expert

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis warns against social media companies getting involved with feds' disinfo board

WLRN: Hundreds of thousands of Florida residents may become uninsured in 2023 without premium tax credits

Sentinel: Disney theme park revenues double even amid scuffle with DeSantis, GOP

FlaPol: Disney earnings call: Parks 'firing on all cylinders,' mum on 'Reedy Creek'

The Capitolist: Commercial gaming's strong Q1 boosted by Florida's \$182 million quarterly record

WUSF: A shortage of baby formula is causing stress for Florida families

The Capitolist: Florida is the best state to start an e-commerce business

Post: 2022 hurricane season forecast calls for another active year

Axios: Manatee County debates arming employees

Herald: How a COVID lockdown in China has led to South Florida hospitals rationing medical scans

FlaPol: Florida man pleads guilty to role in Capitol riot

Yahoo News: Weird weather: Temps may be higher in Maine than in Florida, National Weather Service predicts

Herald: How did another endangered Florida panther die? The killer was on the road

WLRN: Gov. Ron Desantis' reelection campaign has about \$105 million and recently added \$10 million more

Democrat: Ron DeSantis raised more than Charlie Crist and Nikki Fried combined

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis plans \$430M infrastructure spending, padded by federal funds

Times: Florida Democrats struggle to find spotlight in race against DeSantis

FlaPol: Charlie Crist leads Democratic gubernatorial field again in money chase

Democrat: DeSantis Disney taxpayer lawsuit thrown out of court as highly speculative

FlaPol: Federal judge dismisses lawsuit over bill to dissolve Disneys Reedy Creek

WLRN: Florida will consider property insurers' requests to raise homeowner rates

The Capitolist: Hearings next week on proposed 20 percent property insurance rate hikes

Bradenton Herald: Sugar's campaign donations reach \$6 million; water advocates want candidates to abstain

Sentinel: Mystery group behind ads in '20 Central Florida primary must reveal donors, judge rules

Democrat: Florida teachers, staff fear 'gotcha police', lawmaker seeks firing

The Capitolist: Attorneys for textbook whistleblower sends evidence that Florida school districts were overcharged millions

Herald: Homeowners revolt over huge fee hikes. They're pushing to recall board at Florida's largest HOA.

Democrat: Leon County's LGBTQ+ advisory committee discusses 'gender,' trans athletes, bathrooms in support guide

FlaPol: 'Put it to a vote': Lee Co. school superintendent could soon be elected, not selected

Today: Moms for Liberty challenges 17 more books, bringing total to 41

WLRN: How Disney and DeSantis clashed over power and policy, and what it means for business and politics in Florida

FlaPol: Minority groups say elections can't proceed in North Florida under Gov. DeSantis map

FlaPol: National study singles out Florida schools for bucking COVID-19 academic losses

Sentinel: Federal judge dismisses 1st lawsuit against DeSantis over Disney Worlds Reedy Creek district

Sentinel: Florida's permit plan would speed up wetlands destruction, critics say

Times: Having autism in Florida means delayed diagnosis, delayed therapy

Sun-Sentinel: Dale Holness' former campaign consultant accused of fraudulently receiving over \$200,000 in COVID relief money

FlaPol: Democrat Tony Hill attempts political comeback in CD 4

The Capitolist: Report: Floridians are paying some of the highest auto insurance premiums in America

Today: Amazon Squeeze: The company's push into Florida's tight labor market garners mixed reviews

TCPalm: Amazon offers Florida students scholarships, work incentives

Today: Amazon seeks to hire disabled workers in Florida to help fill warehouse job openings

FlaPol: Environmental groups sue to get EPA to reassess Indian River Lagoon impacts

Herald: Hungry for stone crabs? Season just ended — but can you still find them in Florida?

The Capitolist: 30 Florida lawmakers demand DeSantis divest from Russian assets in upcoming Special Session

WLRN: Fight over controversial education law may take months to play out

Democrat: Rep. Ramon Alexander apologizes amid sexting, harassment allegations

FlaPol: Patch notes: Gov. DeSantis receives crypto deregulation bill

FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis to decide if lottery winners can shield identities

FlaPol: New law allows local governments to post legal notices on their websites

Times: Florida to halt applications for rental assistance program for low-income residents

Sun-Sentinel: Broward's Ron Book, one of Floridas most influential lobbyists and father of state senator, has throat cancer

Yahoo News: Property Insurance crisis: Florida legislators to hold 'town hall' in Melbourne

FlaPol: Danny Perez, Sam Garrison endorse Jim Mooney for re-election

FlaPol: White professor says USF dean's racist and sexist remarks pushed him out of job, now he wants \$100K+

Sentinel: Seminole County School Board reverses decision to censor 'don't say gay' protest yearbook photos

Sun-Sentinel: Student says school 'will end my speech' if he brings up 'say gay' activism

Axios: Polk County retains almost all books under review

WUSF: Tampa Bay school districts are waiting for publishers and state to work out textbook issues

Bradenton Herald: How did Manatee official avoid a sobriety test after crash? Here's what DUI lawyers say

Herald: Sweetwater wants ousted official to pay back compensation taken while 'unlawfully' serving

DBNJ: Volusia Schools to offer Carmen Balgobin superintendent job

Upcoming Meeting of State Associations

June 8-10 -

[FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference](#) – Tampa

June 9 -

Small District Breakfast – Annual Joint Business Meeting of the FSBA Small District Council and the SSDCC

June 28 - July 1 –

[FAC Annual Conference - Small County Coalition Annual Meeting -](#)

June

[Orlando](#) The Small County Coalition will meet for breakfast on Wed.

29th -

On the Docket

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022

- **SOCIAL WORK BOARD:** The Florida Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling is scheduled to meet in Hillsborough County. (Thursday, 8 a.m., DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tampa Airport-Westshore, 4500 West Cypress St., Tampa.)
- **CHIROPRACTIC ISSUES:** The Florida Board of Chiropractic Medicine will meet in Orange County. (Thursday, 8:30 a.m., Holiday Inn Disney Springs, 1805 Hotel Plaza Blvd., Orlando.)
- **SOUTH FLORIDA WATER BOARD:** The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. (Thursday, 9 a.m., Reefhouse Resort Conference Center, 103800 Overseas Highway, Key Largo.)
- **UPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS:** The Florida Supreme Court will release weekly opinions. (Thursday, 11 a.m.)
- **NUNEZ SPEAKS AT CLAUDE PEPPER EVENT:** Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez is expected to speak during an annual Claude Pepper Awards luncheon held by United HomeCare. (Thursday, noon, Pullman Hotel, 5800 Blue Lagoon Dr., Miami.)
- **UKRAINE INVASION:** Retired U.S. Ambassador Stan Escudero will speak to the Tiger Bay Club of Volusia County about the Russian invasion of Ukraine. (Thursday, noon, LPGA Country Club, Daytona Beach.)
- **NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER BOARD:** The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet in Franklin County. (Thursday, 1 p.m., 34 Forbes St., Apalachicola.)
- **FLORIDA GATEWAY TRUSTEES:** The Florida Gateway College Board of Trustees will hold a workshop, followed by a regular meeting. (Thursday, workshop at 4:30 p.m., meeting at 5:15 p.m., Florida Gateway College, Administration Building, Lake City.)
- **PROPERTY INSURANCE:** Rep. Randy Fine, R-Brevard County, will hold a town-hall meeting about property-insurance issues. Other participants are expected to include Senate Majority Leader Debbie Mayfield, R-Indialantic, and Rep. Thad Altman, R-Indialantic. (Thursday, 6 p.m., Melbourne City Council chamber, 900 East Strawbridge Ave., Melbourne.)

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022

- **REAL ESTATE ISSUES:** The Florida Real Estate Commission is scheduled to meet. (Friday, 9 a.m., Zora Neale Hurston Building, Suite N901, 400 West Robinson St., Orlando.)
- **DIABETES:** The state Diabetes Advisory Council is scheduled to meet. (Friday, 10 a.m. Call-in number: 1-866-899-4679. Code: 607586013)
- **MEDICAL EXAMINERS:** The state Medical Examiners Commission is scheduled to meet. (Friday, 10 a.m., Wyndham Grand Jupiter at Harbourside Place, 122 Soundings Ave., Jupiter.)

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022

- **TAX BREAK STARTS FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS:** Shoppers will be able to buy children's books from May 14 to Aug. 14 without paying sales taxes, under a tax package passed this year by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis.