



On this day in [1869](#), Golden Spike driven, completing the 1st US Transcontinental Railroad at Promontory Summit, Utah and connecting the [Central Pacific Railroad](#) with the Union Pacific

The Briefing – Tuesday – May 10, 2022

The last Briefing was Saturday – 5-7-22

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

State Board of Education to Meet Tomorrow

Agenda

State Board of Education Meeting will convene Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in the Tennessee Williams Theatre in Key West, FL 33040. Items on the agenda include the following:

- [K-12 Public Schools – Superintendent Axford on behalf of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents](#) (PDF)
 - [FADSS Talking Points](#) (PDF)
- [Teacher Salary Increase Allocation](#) (PDF)
- [Jefferson County School District](#) (PDF)

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.

The Consequences of Remote and Hybrid Instruction During the Pandemic

[Link to full report.](#)

A study, by the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard University, found that the switch to remote learning during the pandemic disproportionately harmed academic achievement for poor and minority students — and the longer they were stuck in virtual classes, the more it hurt. Using testing data from 2.1 million students in 10,000 schools in 49 states (plus D.C.), the study investigated the role of remote and hybrid instruction in widening gaps in achievement by race and school poverty. It was found that remote instruction was a primary driver of widening achievement gaps. Math gaps did not widen in areas that remained in-person (although there was some widening in reading gaps in those areas). On average, high-poverty schools experienced 50% more achievement loss than low-poverty schools during the 2020-21 school year, leading to widening achievement gaps based on race and household income. Gaps didn't widen in areas where schools largely remained in person, leading to Florida — where virtual school only lasted one to three weeks for most districts — faring better than other states where school doors were closed for most of the school year.

Hurricane Preparedness Week

This week marks Hurricane Preparedness Week, the perfect time for residents to prep their disaster plans for when hurricane season begins on June 1. Saturday marks the final day of the week, an opportunity for Floridians to take advantage of sales on disaster supplies. Adequate flood insurance coverage, consider additional living expense coverage and be ready before a storm approaches. Most flood insurance policies take 30 days to go into effect, he noted. Floridians will get one more chance to make savings in their disaster purchases. Disaster preparedness week will run from May 28 to June 10, making it a two-week holiday this time. Light sources, radios, tarps, batteries, coolers, generators and even pet supplies will be tax free during that period. For additional hurricane financial preparedness tips or resources, visit [PrepareFL.com](#).

New "Victims of Communism" Law Signed and in Effect

DeSantis signed (HB 395) a bill that will require public-school students to observe "Victims of Communism Day" on Nov. 7 each year. The new law, which went into effect immediately, describes the day as being geared toward "honoring the 100 million people who have fallen victim to communist regimes" across the world. The law also gives DeSantis authority to extend observance of the day beyond public schools, as it requires that Victims of Communism Day "be suitably observed by public exercise in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the governor may designate."

Under the law, a curriculum about various communist regimes throughout history and their leaders will be added to high school U.S. government courses. At least 45 minutes of required Victims of Communism Day instruction will be added during the 2023-2024 school year. The measure will require the State Board of Education to adopt the new standards by April 2023.

Headlines from Around the State

The Hill: Florida tilts toward Trump amid population growth

Sun-Sentinel: The IRS dropped its demand to upload selfies, so why is Florida still requiring them?

Sentinel: 'Voting isn't enough': Activists rally for abortion rights

Times: Florida adds 32,981 COVID cases, highest weekly jump in 2 months

WUSF: DeSantis extends authorization for Visit Florida to 2028

Axios: The push in Florida for the right to clean water

Sun-Sentinel: From death penalty to court dockets, judges need continuing education too

FlaPol: Jim Mooney, Holly Raschein to hold joint fundraiser in Islamorada

Sun-Sentinel: Wildfires that burned more than 26,000 acres in the Everglades have been contained

Herald: Most Florida reviewers of math textbooks saw numbers, not 'woke' concepts, but a few did

NYTimes: Florida Releases Reviews That Led to Rejection of Math Textbooks

Floridian: Webster Cosigns Letter Demanding Answers about the 'Disinformation Board'

AP: For Parkland survivor, a long road to recovery from trauma

WUSF: Florida hospitals are stuck in the middle of an ongoing battle over immigration

Ledger: Abortion draft provokes anger and optimism in Polk County

NWF Daily News: 'Pride, Preservation, Conservation' motto to change? Walton County considers new vision statement

Times-Union: COVID cases in Florida post biggest increase in 2 months

Sun-Sentinel: Investigation: Recruits walk off job within months of joining Broward's troubled 911 call centers

DBNJ: Former Port Orange police captain arrested, charged with grand theft

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

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022

- **SENIORS GET UTILITY INFORMATION:** The Florida Public Service Commission will hold events in Hamilton, Suwannee and Lafayette counties to provide information to seniors about issues such as energy conservation and utility scams. (Monday, 10:30 a.m., Hamilton County Senior Center, 1509 Martin Luther King Dr. S.W., Jasper. Also, noon, Suwannee County Senior Center, 1171 Nobles Ferry Road N.W., Building 1, Live Oak. Also, 1:15 p.m., Lafayette County Senior Center, 114 S.W. Community Circle, Mayo.)
- **HIGHER ED ISSUES :** Tonjua Williams, president of St. Petersburg College, Damian J. Fernandez, president of Eckerd College, and Martin Tadlock, regional chancellor of the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, are scheduled to speak to the Suncoast Tiger Bay Club. (Monday, noon, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg Student Center, 200 Sixth Ave. South, St. Petersburg.)
- **PELOSI AT CLIMATE EVENT:** U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., will take part in the opening session of the event Aspen Ideas: Climate in Miami-Dade County. (Monday, 5:30 p.m., New World Center, 500 17th St., Miami Beach.)

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

- **SUWANNEE WATER BOARD:** The Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board will meet. (Tuesday, 9 a.m., Suwannee River Water Management District, 9225 County Road 49, Live Oak. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1164349151435053838>)
- **PALM BEACH JUDGE CANDIDATES INTERVIEWED:** The 15th Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission will interview candidates to become a Palm Beach County circuit judge. Candidates slated to be interviewed are Thomas Berger, Andrew Carrabis, Alex Braunstein, Santo DiGangi, Jaianna Seaborne, Kevin Walsh, Danielle Sherriff, Stephanie Tew, Melanie Surber, Steven Phillips, Schnelle Tonge, John Parnofiello, Lawonda Warren, Danielle Grundt and Kristen Grimes. (Tuesday, interviews start at 9 a.m., Judge Daniel T.K. Hurley Courthouse, 205 North Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach.)
- **ST. JOHNS WATER BOARD:** The St. Johns River Water Management District Governing Board will meet. (Tuesday, 10 a.m., St. Johns River Water Management District, 4049 Reid St., Palatka.)
- **REDISTRICTING CASE AT ISSUE:** Representatives of groups challenging a new congressional redistricting plan will hold a media availability ahead of a Wednesday court hearing. (Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. Reporters may contact team@feldmanstrategies.com for Zoom information.)
- **PALM BEACH STATE TRUSTEES:** The Palm Beach State College Board of Trustees will meet. (Tuesday, 4 p.m., Palm Beach State College, Loxahatchee Groves Campus, 15845 Southern Blvd., Loxahatchee Groves.)
- **CHAMBLISS HOLDS TOWN HALL:** Rep. Kevin Chambliss, D-Homestead, will hold a town-hall meeting. (Tuesday, 6 p.m., Village of Homestead Community Center, 1601 North Krome Ave., Homestead.)
- **FINANCE REPORTS DUE:** State candidates and political committees face a Tuesday deadline for filing reports showing finance activity through April 30.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022

- **REDISTRICTING PLAN WEIGHED:** Leon County Circuit Judge Layne Smith will hold a hearing on a request for a temporary injunction to block a congressional redistricting plan passed last month by state lawmakers. Several groups, such as the League of Women Voters of Florida, and individual plaintiffs filed a lawsuit April 22 alleging that the plan is unconstitutional and requested a temporary injunction. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., Leon County Courthouse, 301 South Monroe St., Tallahassee.)

- **EDUCATION BOARD:** The State Board of Education will meet in Monroe County. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., The College of the Florida Keys, Tennessee Williams Theatre, 5901 College Road, Key West.)
- **UNEMPLOYMENT CASES:** The Florida Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet. (Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Code: 38535195)
- **REFUGEE ISSUES :** The Jacksonville Area Refugee Task Force will meet. (Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/>)
- **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. (Wednesday, 2 p.m., DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tampa Airport-Westshore, 4500 West Cypress St., Tampa.)

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.

