



*Statue of Mary McLeod Bethune to join John Gorrie in U.S. Capitol Statuary Hall  
Statue to be unveiled Wednesday in D.C.*

## ***The Briefing — Saturday, July 9, 2022***

*The last Briefing was Tuesday– July 5 - 2022*

### ***FY 22-23 Small County Coalition and Small School District Council Consortium Officers***

Here is a listing of the local officials that will be Officers and Executive Committee members this year.

#### **Small County Coalition Officers and Executive Committee for 22-23**

##### **Chairperson**

Okeechobee Commissioner Terry Burroughs

##### **Vice-Chairperson**

Hardee Commissioner Russell Melendy

##### **Secretary**

Washington Commissioner Tray Hawkins

##### **Past- Chairperson**

Levy Commissioner John Meeks

##### **Executive Committee Members**

##### **At-Large Appointees**

Commissioner Donald O'Brien – Flagler

Commissioner Brenda Holt – Gadsden

Commissioner Ramon Iglesias – Hendry

##### **Region 1**

Commissioner Danny Glidewell, (Walton) - 2023

Commissioner Ricky Jones (Franklin) – 2024

##### **Region 2**

Commissioner Ronnie Moore (Madison) - 2023

Commissioner Scott Monlyn (Calhoun) – 2024

##### **Region 3**

Commissioner Chris Dougherty (Bradford) – 2023

Commissioner Larry Harvey (Putnam)- 2024

##### **Region 4**

Commissioner Anthony Adams (Lafayette) – 2023

Commissioner Darrell Smith (Gilchrist)– 2024

##### **Region 5**

Commissioner Kelly Owens (Okeechobee) – 2023

Commissioner Michelle Coldiron (Monroe) – 2024

#### **Small School District Council Consortium Officers and Executive Committee for 22-23**

Chairperson - Sherrie Raulerson

Vice-Chairperson - Bobby Pearce

##### **Executive Committee Members**

Jan Shoop - Highlands School Board Member

Chery Pridgeon – Dixie School Board Member

Ed DaSilva – Suwannee School Board Member

Becky Raulerson – Union School Board Member

Ken Kenworthy – Okeechobee Superintendent

Chris Cowart – Levy Superintendent

Darryl Taylor – Calhoun Superintendent

#### **Florida School Board Association**

##### **Small District Council**

##### **Officers for 22-23**

Chairperson Shirley Owens

Holmes County School Board

Vice-Chairperson Christie McElroy

Gilchrist County School Board

Secretary Karen Chancey

DeSoto County School Board

During the next few months local officials will be working with the Coalition and the SSDCC to identify priorities for the upcoming 2023 Legislative Session.

Check the websites for updated information

[www.smallcountycoalition.org](http://www.smallcountycoalition.org)

[www.ssdcc.org](http://www.ssdcc.org)

### ***The Quick***

#### ***Mary McLeod Bethune to represent Florida in Statuary Hall in Nations Capitol*** ***John Gorrie-the father of air-conditioning is the other statute representing Florida***

A marble statue of educator and civil-rights leader Mary McLeod Bethune will be unveiled Wednesday to represent Florida in the National Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol. The likeness of Bethune will replace a statue of Confederate Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, which stood in the Capitol for nearly a century. Bethune, who died in 1955, will be the first Black person to represent a state in the collection. Bethune in 1904 founded what became Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach and later served as an adviser to President Franklin Roosevelt. The statue was crafted in Italy by sculptor Nilda Comas. Florida lawmakers in 2016 voted to replace the Smith statue amid a nationwide backlash against Confederate symbols that followed the 2015 shooting deaths of nine Black worshippers at a historic Black church in Charleston, S.C. The Legislature and then-Gov. Rick Scott approved the use of Bethune's likeness in 2018. Each state is represented by two statues in the National Statuary Hall.

#### ***Florida Department of Education Release School Grades for 2021-23*** ***Link to - [School Grades](#)***

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has released school grades for the 2021-2022 academic year. The 2021-2022 school grades mark the first full school grade data release since 2019.

#### **Key Highlights:**

- Fifty-three schools exited the School Improvement Support list in 2022.
- 100% of schools graded F in 2019 improved their grades in 2022, including one that earned a B and six that earned a C.
- 84% of schools graded D and F in 2019 improved their grades in 2022.
- Elementary schools had the largest increase in the percentage of schools increasing their grade with 20% (351) of elementary schools improving one or more letter grade.
- 469 schools increased their grade in 2022, while 825 schools maintained an A grade and 348 schools maintained a B grade compared to 2019.

#### **Low-Performing Schools See Major Improvements:**

- Florida saw a significant reduction in F schools (from 244 projected schools to 30 schools).
- The number of "D" or "F" schools has declined 65% since 2015 and the number of "F" schools has declined 85% (30 schools) since 2015 (205 schools)

#### ***Judge Rules to Allow Challenge to Critical Race Theory Law***

A federal judge Friday cleared the way for a challenge to a new state law that restricts the way race-related concepts can be taught in classrooms and workplace training. Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Walker rejected parts of a request by the state to dismiss a constitutional challenge to the law. In Friday's ruling, Walker acknowledged plaintiffs had established standing at this stage in the case. The law (HB 7) lists a series of race-related concepts that would constitute discrimination if taught in classrooms or in required workplace-training programs.

#### ***DeSantis Campaign Raking in the Dough!***

***7 of 9 donations over \$100 K from out-of-state!***

Gov. Ron DeSantis' political committee, Friends of Ron DeSantis, raised more than \$3.61 million from June 1 to June 24. Here is a list of contributions of \$100,000 or more to the committee during the period:

- Florida Care Inc., Montebello, N.Y.: \$400,000
- Cannae Holdings, LLC, Las Vegas: \$250,000
- Bruce V. Rauner, Key Largo: \$200,000
- Craig C. Mateer, Orlando: \$100,000
- Douglas Scharbauer, Midland, Texas: \$100,000
- Standard Industries Inc., Parsippany, N.J.: \$100,000
- The Portopiccolo Group, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. \$100,000
- Wescon Management Group, Inc., Midland, Texas: \$100,000
- Michael A. White, Marietta, Ga.: \$100,000

***Headlines from around the State***

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis orders state to take closer look at pharmacy benefit managers, drug costs*

*Daily News: DeSantis signs executive order for drug price transparency*

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis slams 'baby jabs' as profit generator for Big Pharma*

*FlaPol: Move to ban Medicaid coverage for gender-affirming care draws crowd, ire*

*Sentinel: Transgender treatment rule draws raucous response at Florida hearing*

*Sun-Sentinel: Florida emergency management accused of stiffing contractor for COVID test kits*

*Sun-Sentinel: Broward school district donated LGBTQ books ahead of new Florida law*

*Sun-Sentinel: As South Florida land dwindles, some wonder - and some worry - about building in the Agricultural Reserve*

*My News 13: Florida doctors begin receiving doses of pediatric COVID-19 vaccines*

*Times: Florida not requiring professors, students to register political views with the state*

*FlaPol: Algal bloom task force reorganizes to address health effects*

*Herald: Did a Florida Keys city break state law over attorney's \$185,000 severance? Probe underway*

*Politico: Gaetz 'wingman' gets new sentencing date*

*Herald: Chemicals taint Biscayne Bay oysters. What FIU study says about our drinking water safety*

*FlaPol: Despite community pushback, annexations by four Miami-Dade municipalities advance*

*WUSF: St. Petersburg greenlights a rental assistance program for city employees*

*Sentinel: Floridians among 1,100 Black women asking White House to get Brittney Griner home*

*NWF Daily News: Former Baker Fire Chief indicted on premeditated murder charges*

*NWF Daily News: Mary Esther to talk with state rep. about duck hunting in the Sound*

*NWF Daily News: 'Monumental project': DeFuniak Springs Municipal Airport getting \$6.9 million terminal*

*Capitolist: NFIB Florida releases 2021-2022 legislative scorecard*

*WaPo: He was one of the nation's most revered gay cops. His arrest changed everything.*

*Sentinel: Attacks on DeSantis go national as 2024 presidential talk grows*

*FlaPol: 'Little ol' me doing my job': Ron DeSantis stays coy as 2024 talk continues*

*Herald: Who are all these other people running for governor of Florida?*

*Ledger: Fried attends Lakeland abortion rally, meets teen at center of struggle*

*TCPalm: Gubernatorial candidate Charlie Crist discusses restoring Indian River Lagoon, economy*

*Times: Abortion views differ for Tampa area Latinos. How will it play out at the polls?*

*Sun-Sentinel: Republicans blast Chertoff-McCormick for spending tax money on TV ads*

*Sun-Sentinel: South Florida campaign consultant pleads guilty to COVID relief fraud*

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis orders flags at half-staff in honor of assassinated Shinzo Abe*

*Politico: DeSantis calls Abe 'a heck of an ally' in condolences*

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis, Marco Rubio, Rick Scott mourn Shinzo Abe following assassination*

*Herald: 'We lost a great leader.' Miami's Japanese community shocked by assassination*

*News 4 Jax: 'It's just unbelievable': Residents react to assassination of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe*

*Democrat: Residents, pastors, and officials grapple with 'heartbreaking' overdoses*

*Democrat: Influx of overdose patients causing delays in TMH emergency department*

*WLRN: Florida asks to fast-track the ongoing abortion case to the state Supreme Court*

*FlaPol: Jared Moskowitz's bid for Congress earns plaudits from national environmental, gun safety groups*

*AP: School shooter's use of swastikas is focus of court fight*

*Sun-Sentinel: Psychologist reveals disturbing details of Marjory Stoneman Douglas gunman's online history*

*Sun-Sentinel: As monkeypox cases rise in Florida, the state still hasn't received more vaccines*

*WUSF: Florida gas prices tumble, with closer to \$4 a gallon a realistic possibility*

*Democrat: Florida gas prices drop for third consecutive week, but AAA says rebound is possible*

*Sentinel: Medical marijuana provider cries foul over online brokers, telehealth evaluations*

*Democrat: Algae to fertilizer: Harvester could help defend against Florida's harmful algal blooms*

*Herald: Attention, Florida: An invasive, exotic fruit fly is back — and it's coming for your crops*

*News4Jax: Rural Florida county shocked by fentanyl deaths over holiday*

*Democrat: 'Full of life': Husband mourns wife killed in rash of possible Gadsden fentanyl deaths*

*WLRN: Former Broward County Supervisor of Elections tapped to lead state's election security office*

*Sentinel: Ex-senator Latvala, who quit amid sex allegations, reaches proposed ethics deals*

*FlaPol: GOP Senator slams OIR decision on Citizens rates: 'They are under political pressure'*

*FlaPol: Personnel note: Chris Sprowls appoints Alan Suskey to Florida is for Veterans*

*FlaPol: Lauren Book's bid for re-election wins teachers union endorsement*

*Herald Tribune: Bold moves or more of the same? Sarasota-area governments mobilize on affordable housing*

*FlaPol: Wengay Newton resolves check mishap, will remain on ballot*

*Sun-Sentinel: Grand jury report could rock School Board elections*

*Times: Saint Leo University announces new president after previous leader resigns*

*Democrat: Candidates for County Commission At-Large Group 2 seat debate Blueprint, housing and smart growth*

*Times: Next steps revealed for USF Bulls' on-campus football stadium*

### Five Day Tropical Outlook

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



### Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



Current Disturbances and Five-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%  
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane  
 Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

**On the Docket**

### **MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022**

- **DIAZ ADDRESSES TEACHER SHORTAGE:** Education Commissioner Manny Diaz Jr. is expected to discuss teacher recruitment and retention during an event held by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations and the Florida Philanthropic Network. (Monday, 2 p.m. <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3289754606721970447>)

### **TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022**

- **CHANCELLOR SEARCH:** The Chancellor Search Committee of the state university system's Board of Governors will hold its first meeting after Chancellor Marshall Criser announced he would step down at the end of the year. (Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. <https://flbog.zoom.us/j/89896629290?pwd=cE1MVEZ0em5hdG04ekNOMCtkUVEwdz09>)
- **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.)
- **PARKLAND PARENTS LAWSUIT:** A three-judge panel of the 4th District Court of Appeal will hear arguments in a dispute about whether parents of a victim of the Parkland school shooting can pursue a lawsuit against gun maker Smith & Wesson and a store that sold a semi-automatic rifle used in the 2018 rampage. Fred and Jennifer Guttenberg's 14-year-old daughter, Jaime, was among 17 students and faculty members killed in the shooting at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The Guttenbergs have sought to pursue a lawsuit against Smith & Wesson and Sunrise Tactical Supply, a store that sold the Smith & Wesson-made gun that Nikolas Cruz used in the mass shooting. But as a precursor, the Guttenbergs went to court to try to get a ruling about whether a state law shields gun makers and sellers from such lawsuits. (Tuesday, 10 a.m., Broward County Courthouse, 201 S.E. Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale.)
- **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.)
- **CITRUS FORECAST:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture is scheduled to release the final monthly report for the 2021-2022 citrus growing season. (Noon. Call-in number: 1-855-384-4184. Code: 6486013)
- **JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE TRUSTEES:** The Board of Trustees of Florida State College at Jacksonville is scheduled to hold workshop to discuss issues such as a performance evaluation for President John Avendano. (Tuesday, noon, Florida State College at Jacksonville administrative offices, 501 West State St., Jacksonville.)
- **CITIZENS COMMITTEE:** Committees of the Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Board of Governors will meet in advance of a full board meeting Wednesday. (Tuesday, meetings start at 1 p.m., The Alford Inn, 300 East New England Ave., Winter Park. [https://citizensfla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_tDEbOvsaSxCoDyEkNIuvtQ](https://citizensfla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tDEbOvsaSxCoDyEkNIuvtQ). Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Code: 89801242389)
- **FAMU TRUSTEES EYE BUDGET:** The Florida A&M University Board of Trustees will take up issues such as a 2023-2024 legislative budget request. (Tuesday, 3 p.m. <https://famu.zoom.us/j/93364995918?pwd=NINKbEJuMGpscHVkZmdBYytaOnIxZz09#success>. Webinar ID: 93364995918. Code: 806011. Call-in number: 1-646-931-3860)

### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2022**

- **INSURANCE ISSUES:** The Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Board of Governors will meet in Central Florida. (Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., The Alford Inn, 300 East New England Ave., Winter

Park. [https://citizensfla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_hESbDUmuSHet29Fx\\_PTdtg](https://citizensfla.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hESbDUmuSHet29Fx_PTdtg). Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Code: 95637927111)

- REDFISH, GOLIATH GROUPER: The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will start a two-day meeting in Duval County and consider issues such as rules related to redfish and goliath grouper. (Wednesday, 8:30 a.m., University of North Florida, Adam W. Herbert University Center, 12000 Alumni Dr., Jacksonville.)
- EDUCATION BOARD: The State Board of Education will meet in Osceola County. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., School District Administrative Complex, 817 Bill Beck Blvd., Kissimmee.)
- 'TANF' CASELOADS AT ISSUE: The Social Services Estimating Conference will analyze caseloads and expenditures in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, or TANF, program. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.)
- PAROLE CASES CONSIDERED: The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165)
- OPTOMETRY BOARD: The Florida Board of Optometry is scheduled to meet. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., Trump International Beach Resort, 18001 Collins Ave., Sunny Isles Beach.)
- BETHUNE STATUE UNVEILED: A ceremony will be held to unveil the statue of civil-rights leader and educator Mary McLeod Bethune, who will represent Florida in the National Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol. (Wednesday, 11 a.m., U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C. <https://www.speaker.gov/live>)
- SOUTH FLORIDA COLLEGE BOARD: The South Florida State College Board of Trustees will meet. (Wednesday, 1 p.m., South Florida State College, Highlands Campus, 600 West College Dr., Avon Park.)
- REFUGEE ISSUES: The Jacksonville Area Refugee Task Force will meet. (Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/>)

#### **THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022**

- DERELICT VESSELS: The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will continue a two-day meeting in Duval County and consider issues such as a program that would allow people to turn over to the commission vessels deemed at risk of becoming derelict. The vessel owners would not face penalties or costs. (Thursday, 8:30 a.m., University of North Florida, Adam W. Herbert University Center, 12000 Alumni Dr., Jacksonville.)
- SOUTH FLORIDA WATER BOARD: The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. (Thursday, 9 a.m., South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach. [https://sfwmd.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_4A5bfxwSnKB20jQFTtkKA](https://sfwmd.gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4A5bfxwSnKB20jQFTtkKA))
- KIDCARE NUMBERS ANALYZED: The Social Services Estimating Conference will analyze caseloads in the KidCare subsidized health-insurance program. (Thursday, 9 a.m., 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.)
- UNF TRUSTEES MEET: The University of North Florida Board of Trustees will meet. (Thursday, 10 a.m. <https://unf.zoom.us/j/99157773665>. Call-in number: 1-301-715-8592. Code: 99157773665)
- ALZHEIMER'S AT ISSUE: The state Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet. (Thursday, noon, Florida Department of Elder Affairs, 4040 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85484909428?pwd=M3M3ejk2ckdhd0RSb28xTmxmVV RVdz09>. Meeting ID: 85484909428. Code: 301360)

- **NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER BOARD:** The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet in Okaloosa County. (Thursday, 1 p.m., Okaloosa County Administration Building, 1250 Eglin Parkway, Shalimar.)

**FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2022**

- **RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD:** The Florida Board of Respiratory Care will meet in Volusia County. (Friday, 8 a.m., The Shores Resort and Spa, 2637 South Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach Shores.)
- **DESANTIS SPEAKS AT MOMS FOR LIBERTY EVENT:** Gov. Ron DeSantis is expected to speak at a Moms for Liberty “summit” in Hillsborough County. Other speakers are expected to include First Lady Casey DeSantis, state Rep. Erin Grall, R-Vero Beach, and state Rep. Joe Harding, R-Ocala. (Friday, event starts at 9 a.m., Tampa Marriott Water Street, 505 Water St., Tampa.)
- **NATIONAL ECONOMY:** The Economic Estimating Conference will analyze issues related to the national economy. (Friday, 9 a.m., 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.)
- **HEARING AID BOARD:** The Florida Board of Hearing Aid Specialists is scheduled to meet. (Friday, 9 a.m., Sheraton Sand Key Resort 1160 Gulf View Blvd., Clearwater Beach.)
- **TREASURE COAST PLANNING COUNCIL:** The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council will meet. (Friday, 9:30 a.m., Indian River State College, Chastain Campus, Wolf High Technology Center, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart.)
- **MONTHLY REVENUE AT ISSUE:** The Revenue Estimating Conference will analyze monthly revenue estimates. (Friday, 1:30 p.m., 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.)
- **FINANCE REPORTS DUE:** Statewide candidates and political committees face a Friday deadline for filing reports showing finance activity through July 8.

**SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2022**

- **SCOTT SPEAKS AT MOMS FOR LIBERTY EVENT:** U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, R-Fla., and former U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos are expected to speak at a Moms for Liberty “summit” in Hillsborough County. (Saturday, event starts at 8:30 a.m., Tampa Marriott Water Street, 505 Water St., Tampa.)

***About the Briefing!***

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](mailto:Cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)

**Website Links**

**[Small County Coalition Website](#)**

**[Small School District Council Consortium Website](#)**