There are 7 days until the August 18th Primary Election!
There are 84 days until the November 3rd General Election!

The Briefing for Tuesday, August 11, 2026

The Last Briefing was Monday, August 10, 2026

What's the weather outlook?

10-Day Weather Forecast for Tallahassee, FL – The Weather Channel

D belb

Are you ready for some Football?

Here's the complete **2026 NCAAF** season **schedule**.

https://www.cbssports.com/college-football/schedule/

Elections for Commissioners and School Board members in Small Counties
Who's continuing in 26-28 – and what seats contested!

Linked below are current lists of small county Commissioners and School Officials currently serving in the 24-26 timeframe along with a list of officials who are currently unopposed in the upcoming elections for the 26-28 time frame. The second list does not include any of the candidates that face a primary or a general election but will be filled out when results come in from the primary election on August 18 and, if necessary, the General on November 3rd. Note School Superintendents are listed but do not face re-election until 2028.

Small County Commissioners comparing 24-26 and 26-28.docx

Small School District Board members – 24-26 compared to 26-28.docx

Note – if anyone notices an error please send me an email.

Policy Issues and Polls
School District Actions resulting from Legislation that passed!

The Florida Department of Education has put out a chart on the actions that districts need to take in response to new legislation passed during the recent legislative session (e.g., policy review, things to notify parents, new reporting requirements, etc.). Provided below is a PDF link to a copy of the chart which has been provided in a DOE memo to districts.

School-Districts-Actions-Chart-2026.xlsx

President Trump Issues Executive Order – Childhood Vaccinations

Executive Order Relating to Childhood Vaccinations

President Donald Trump on Monday signed an executive order calling for revamped childhood vaccine recommendations. The order advocates separating the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine into three different single-disease shots and administering all childhood immunizations at separate appointments whenever possible. It also directs the nation's health department to improve research on vaccines, , and present a plan to offer separate measles, mumps, and rubella vaccines for children, since that is not currently an option in the United States.

Poll results on data centers show increased opposition

A recent poll by POLITICO show that a plurality of Americans now oppose a data center being built near where they live. A majority believe data centers raise their electricity bills and deplete the water supply. And nearly half of respondents say they'd be more likely to vote for a candidate who proposed a moratorium on data centers in their state.

Revenue Estimating Conference revises Public Education Capital Outlay funding

Executive Summary [pdf]

The PECO program provides funding for educational facilities construction and fixed capital outlay needs for school districts, the Florida College System, the State University System, and other public education programs. The Revenue Estimating Conference met to adopt a new forecast on August 3, 2026. Significant changes in the newly adopted forecasts supporting the PECO projections have resulted in material increases throughout the forecast. The largest contributor is the increase in the Gross Receipts forecast. The forecast for PECO addresses all of the following: the Gross Receipts Tax forecast which contained actual revenues through June 2026; the revised actual expenditures through June 2026; interest earnings through June 2026; expected project disbursements; updated interest rates; and a revised debt service schedule which reflects the 2026 Series A refunding.

Conference Results:

Maximum Available for Appropriation - No Bonding [pdf]

Maximum Available for Appropriation - With Bonding [pdf]

Data Visualization [pbix]

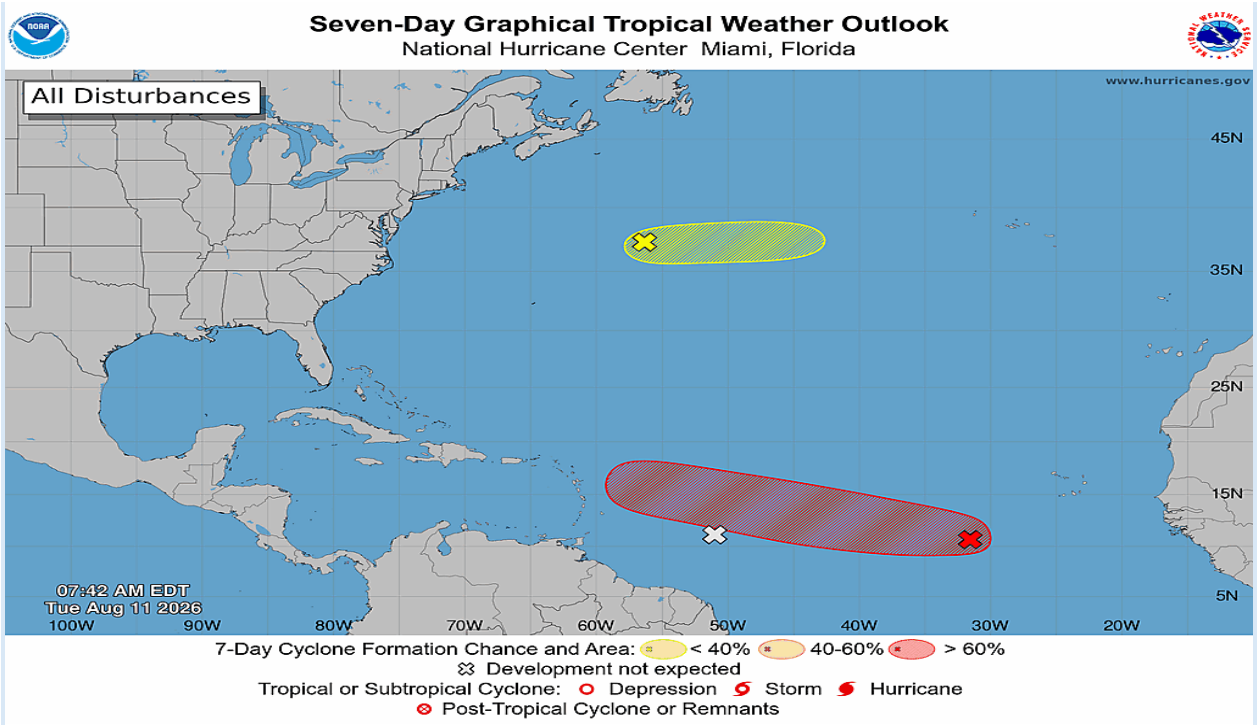
Supplemental Materials:

Historical PECO Appropriation [pdf]

Student Station Cost Factors [xlsx] [pdf] (August 2026

Tropical Outlook

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



Headlines Around The State

Democrat: Florida AG goes after New York Times in attempt to 'chill First Amendment'

WLRN: Voting by mail has declined sharply in Florida, latest data show

The Capitolist: Florida Gas Prices Climb to $3.88 Per Gallon

TCPalm: DOH issues water advisory for Lake O toxic algae in Martin County

FlaPol: 'There ain't no bans coming': Byron Donalds says critics can't stop AI data centers

FlaPol: At Panhandle rally, Byron Donalds reminds voters he was on Team DeSantis back in 2018

Times: DeSantis embraces flying car tech despite shunning other EV programs

The Capitolist: Florida Expands Push Into Emerging Transportation Technology

WLRN: Election 2026: Florida's primary races for commissioner of agriculture

WLRN: Florida's surgeon general wanted to repeal vaccine mandates. They remain, but hesitancy is growing

Times: New grants could bring aid to Florida students — but only in certain fields

WLRN: Popular DROP program could be dropped for new public employees

FlaPol: North Florida Dems call out 14 officials who backed candidate tied to White nationalist group

WLRN: Miami commissioner warns passage of property tax reduction may spur increase in fees levied

FlaPol: Blaise Ingoglia distributes $1M in state funding to South Florida Fire Departments

WaPo: Scientists race to save Florida's coral reef as El Niño heats the ocean

WUSF: Second Florida death related to flesh-eating Vibrio bacteria reported in Marion County

FlaPol: Paul Renner calls for 2/3 vote to amend Florida Constitution, says conservatives don't need the ballot anyway

WUSF: Florida Sheriffs Association president on concerns over the proposed property tax amendment

TCPalm: Why renters could pay the price for Florida's property tax break

WUSF: Small school districts in Florida band together to lower health costs for employees

Democrat: Tallahassee mayor race hits prediction markets; Ausley leads odds

FlaPol: Chase Brannan leans on his rural values, eighth-generation roots in HD 10 bid

WUSF: USF College of Marine Science receives $1.5 million to improve coastal hazard forecasting research

On The Docket This Week

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

- SCHOOLS OPEN - Tuesday - The 2026–2027 academic year begins for public school students in Bradford, Clay, Collier, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Jefferson, Lee, Okaloosa, Orange, Pinellas, Polk, Sumter, Taylor and Walton counties.
- FISCALLY CONSTRAINTED COUNTIES - Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference will look at Fiscally Constrained Counties. Location: 301 Senate Office Building, The Capitol.
- REVENUE LIMITATIONS - Tuesday, 10 a.m. - The Revenue Estimating Conference Revenue Limitation Location: 301 Senate Office Building, The Capitol.
- ST. JOHNS WATER - Tuesday, 10 a.m. - The St. Johns River Water Management District Governing Board is meeting. Location: District Headquarters, 4049 Reid Street (Hwy 100 West), Palatka.
- HISTORICAL MARKERS - Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. - The Division of Historical Resources Florida Historical Marker Council is holding a meeting. Location: R.A. Gray Building, Room 307, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee.
- SOUTH FLORIDA TURNPIKE - Tuesday, 6 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise will discuss interchange improvements at Florida's Turnpike and U.S. 1 in Miami-Dade County. Location: Visit: www.floridasturnpike.com/sr821interchangeatus1. Or Phone: (850)739-5589. Code: 660-937-859#.
- DISTRICT 2 FORUM - Tuesday, 12 p.m. - The Capital Tiger Bay Club is holding a candidate form for Congressional District 2 Democratic candidates. Location: Donald L. Tucker Civic Center, 505 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee.

- FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE TRUSTEES - Tuesday, 12 p.m. - The Florida State College at Jacksonville Board of Trustees is meeting to finalize the College President's performance evaluation and employment contract and to tour the Advanced Technology Center. Location: FSCJ Administrative Offices, 501 West State Street, Jacksonville and the Advanced Technology Center, 401 West State Street, Jacksonville.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

- SCHOOLS OPEN - Wednesday - The 2026–2027 academic year begins for public school students in Escambia, Holmes, Jackson, Leon, Liberty, Monroe, Union and Washington counties.
- FLORIDA-ALABAMA PLANNING - Wednesday, 9 a.m. CT - The Florida-Alabama Transportation Planning Organization Board and Committees are meeting. Location: Gulf Breeze Community Center, 800 Shoreline Dr, Gulf Breeze.
- NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER - Wednesday, 1:05 p.m. - The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board meets after workshops that begin at 11:30 a.m. Location: District Headquarters, 81 Water Management Drive, Havana.
- HISTORICAL REGISTER - Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. - The Florida National Register Review Board will review proposed National Register nominations that include: the Evins-Wood House in Alachua County, the Cape San Blas Lighthouse and Centennial Building in Gulf County, Weigle House in Highlands County, Georgette's Tea Room in Miami, the Bosque Bello Cemetery in Fernandina Beach, Plymouth Elementary School in Apopka and Hansen House in Winter Haven. Location: R. A. Gray Building, Room 307, 500 S. Bronough St., Tallahassee.
- LEAGUE OF CITIES - Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. - The Florida League of Cities Annual Conference opens its annual conference with Nominating Committee Meeting and the Florida League of Mayors Reception. Location: The Diplomat Beach Resort, Great Hall 1-2, 3555 S. Ocean Drive, Hollywood.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

- SCHOOLS OPEN - Thursday - The 2026–2027 academic year begins for public school students in Calhoun, Miami-Dade and Pasco.
- LEAGUE OF CITIES - Thursday, 8 a.m. - The Florida League of Cities Annual Conference continues its annual conference with the Florida League of Mayors Board of Directors meeting and panel discussions that include talks on data centers, local land use and disaster planning. Location: The Diplomat Beach Resort, Great Hall 1-2, 3555 S. Ocean Drive, Hollywood.
- FORT MYERS HOUSING - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Housing Finance Corporation is holding a hearing on the potential future issuance of up to $36 million in tax-exempt bonds for a proposed 143-unit multifamily residential rental development called Southward Village in Fort Myers. Location: Florida Housing Finance Corporation, 227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5000, Tallahassee.

- MIAMI HOUSING - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Housing Finance Corporation is holding a hearing on the potential future issuance of up to $31 million in tax-exempt bonds for a proposed 132-unit multifamily residential rental development called Harvest Point at the intersection of SW 216th Street and SW 109th Avenue in Miami-Dade County Location: Florida Housing Finance Corporation, 227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5000, Tallahassee.
- FEDERAL JOB FAIR - Thursday, 11 a.m. - Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson will host a Federal Job Fair in partnership with Miami-Dade County Commissioner Oliver G. Gilbert III, Miami Dade College, CareerSource South Florida, and the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project. Location: Miami Dade College, North Campus, Conference Center, 11380 NW 27th AvenueBuilding 3, Room 324, Miami.
- SOUTH FLORIDA TURNPIKE - Thursday, 5:30 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation, Florida's Turnpike Enterprise will discuss interchange improvements at Florida's Turnpike and U.S. 1 in Miami-Dade County. Location: Phichol Williams Community Center, 951 SW 4th St, Homestead.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

- LEAGUE OF CITIES - Friday, 8 a.m. - The Florida League of Cities Annual Conference continues its annual conference with a keynote presentation from Pulitzer Prize-winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin and a discussion on the property tax Amendment 3 on the November ballot from former state Senator Jeff Brandes, the president and CEO of the Florida Policy Project. National League of Cities President Kevin Kramer, a Louisville, Kentucky councilmember, is to address the general session on Saturday. Location: The Diplomat Beach Resort, Great Hall 1-2, 3555 S. Ocean Drive, Hollywood.
- GENERAL REVENUE - Friday, 9 a.m. - State economists sitting as the Revenue Estimating Conference will meet to come up with a consensus estimate for how much the state can expect to collect in general revenue this year and next, trying to make different forecasts line up. Location: 301 Senate Office Building, The Capitol.
- LICENSE REINSTATEMENT - Friday, 10 a.m. - Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is holding a workshop on a proposed rule change regarding the review process for a person petitioning the department after their license has been cancelled, suspended, disqualified, or revoked. Location: Neil Kirkman Bldg, Rm B-203, 2900 Apalachee Pkwy, Tallahassee.
- FINANCE REPORTS - Friday - State candidates and political committees face a deadline for filing reports showing finance activity between July 25 and July 31. Location: Department of State, Division of Elections, Bureau of Election Records, R.A. Gray Building, Room 316, 500 South Bronough Street, Tallahassee.

Here are key dates for 26-27
2026 Events

August 18 –	Primary Elections
Sept 16-17 –	FAC Policy Conference – Jacksonville
Nov 3 –	General Election
Nov. 17-19-	Rural Summit – Ocala – Sponsored by FREDA
Nov. 30 – Dec. 3	Legislative Committee Meetings
Dec 2-4 –	Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference
Dec 2 -	Small County Coalition Breakfast –
Dec 2-4 –	FSBA Legislative Conference – Tampa
Dec 3 -	Small District– SSDCC Legislative Meeting in Tampa

2027 Events

January 4 – 7	Legislative Committee Meetings
January 11 – 14	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 1 – 4	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 8 – 11	Legislative Committee Meetings
February 15 – 18	Legislative Committee Meetings
March 2 -	Legislature convenes
March 16 -	Small County Coalition/Small School District Joint Legislative Reception
March 17 -	Small School District Council Consortium Legislative Briefing
March 17 -	Florida Association Counties – Legislative Day
March 17-18-	Rural Days 2027 – Tentative
April 30 -	Legislative Session 60 Days – Sine Die!
June 9 – 11	FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference, Kissimmee, FL
June 10 -	Small School District Council Consortium – Annual Meeting
June 22-25	FAC Annual Summer Meeting - Hilton Orlando
June 22 -	Small County Coalition Annual Meeting Breakfast – Orlando
Nov. 30 – Dec. 3	FSBA/FADSS 82nd Annual Joint Conference, Kissimmee, FL

Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin
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The Briefing is compiled to provide information to elected officials and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email – cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go www.smallcountycoalition.org or www.ssdcc.org and click on the red Briefing button