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Community Engagement Group Update

Hillsborough Education Foundation

Issue 13

April 2011

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Acronyms

Every industry has their own codes, initials, and shorthand. Here are some definitions to help you get familiar with common ones.

BMGF = Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

EET = Empowering Effective Teachers

HCPS = Hillsborough County Public Schools

HEF = Hillsborough Education Foundation

MET = Measures of Effective Teachers

RTT = Race to the Top

Value Added =

The enhancement that students achieve (to knowledge, skills abilities and other attributes) as a result of their teachers' extra efforts; also the extra resources provided to teachers to add to their students' learning experience.

Dear Bill,

We delayed sending this note out a couple of days so it would be after the Gates Foundation visit and "stock take" of the efforts here in Hillsborough. This is a semi-annual review of the progress in the initiative done through a series of meetings and debriefings.

Check out the [article](#) below in the "Staying Connected" section to read about it.

Staying Connected

Here are recent articles and media hits around developments in teacher effectiveness and related topics:

Letter from Bill Gates: Raising school performance without spending more

Over the past four decades, the per-student cost of running our K-12 schools has more than doubled, while our student achievement has remained virtually flat. Meanwhile, other countries have raced ahead. [Read more here.](#)

Bill Gates Seeks Formula for Better Teachers

The Microsoft Corp. co-founder is venturing that improving teacher effectiveness is the key to fixing broken schools. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded \$290 million ... [Read more here.](#)

Parents' input into teachers' evaluations a tricky issue

St. Pete Times

When asked to describe a good teacher, John Leroe thinks of his mother. Parents such as Leroe, through their children, have an enormous stake in whether teachers are retained, promoted or dismissed for poor performance. They are watching as Florida

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lawmakers make teacher performance their cornerstone of education reform. [Read more here.](#)

Hillsborough prepares for big shift on teacher evaluations

St. Pete Times

Be prepared for some hard conversations. That was the advice Tuesday from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation officials, as the Hillsborough County School District finishes its first year of rating teachers under a tough new evaluation system. [Read more here.](#)

Next Meeting - May 16

The next Community Engagement Group is scheduled for Monday, May 16, 2011 at Noon. It will be at our offices: 2306 North Howard Avenue, Tampa 33607.

Click [here](#) to RSVP to Terry McCoy by Thursday, May 12th.

We look forward to seeing you then!

Sincerely,



Bill Hoffman
Hillsborough Education Foundation

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