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FCIS Convention

## Upcoming FCIS Events

### Prospective Heads'

#### Institute I, II & III

January 9-10, 2019

Mission Inn Resort,

Howey-in-the-Hills

### Accreditation Training

January 24, 2019

All Saints Academy,

Winter Haven

### Accreditation Training

January 25, 2019

Parkway Christian School

Davie

### Academy for High Performing Educators

January 27-29, 2019

Corbett Prep at IDS,

Tampa

## from the executive director...

Happy Holidays to each and every member of our FCIS family!

Similar to Fall 2017, our schools faced many new challenges this fall, especially in North Florida that was hit by Hurricane Michael. Although several North Florida schools sustained some damages, two schools, Holy Nativity Episcopal School in Panama City and Robert F. Munroe School in Quincy, were the most significantly impacted. Once again, FCIS member schools came to the aid of their colleagues. In that spirit, Robert F. Munroe opened the week after the hurricane in two churches and has now moved back to its original campus; Holy Nativity opened three and a half weeks after the storm in an Episcopal church and moved into portables on its original campus on December 17. Both of these schools and communities have been inspiring to all of us, striving to bring back normalcy and education to the children entrusted to them. We now look forward to a well needed break and a new year with many new possibilities ahead.

At the 2018 Annual Business Meeting in Jacksonville, it was a great time for colleagues to gather and to reflect on the accomplishments of FCIS over the past five years, including the outstanding results of the NAIS Commission on Accreditation 10-year Review conducted in Spring 2018. In addition, President Robert Stephens took this opportunity to present the four Strategic Priorities of the FCIS Strategic Plan, 2018-23. Speaking on one of the four major priorities, Robert emphasized the importance of assuring the success of the new accreditation process, initiated in Fall 2017. FCIS has received positive feedback on the new process and the new accreditation portal that debuted January 2018, as well as appreciation of the customization features. On another topic, Robert discussed the collaboration between FCIS and FKC over the past five years. Due to the close alignment of missions between the two organizations, the FKC Board has voted to dissolve the corporation as of June 30, 2019, with all early childhood programs coming under the umbrella of FCIS accreditation. Both organizations have worked closely with the

Florida Department of Education to make sure that the transition is seamless, not only from an accreditation standpoint, but also in compliance with related state statutes and recognitions.

**2018 FCIS CONVENTION.** The 63rd Annual FCIS Convention was held in Jacksonville on November 15 and 16. The theme, "Education for the Next Generation: Reimagining Cutting-Edge Education", resonated throughout the convention, including the two pre-conferences and the Annual Business Meeting. I want to personally thank the convention co-chairs, Kim Bednarek, Head of Discovery School; and James Milford, Head of Maclay School, as well as the convention steering committee members, who spent untold hours in dedication to our member schools.

At the FCIS Annual Business Meeting, new Directors were elected, along with an election of new officers. The newly elected Directors include: Arvi Balseiro, Head of The Cushman School; Dr. Jan Pullen, Head of Saint Stephen's Episcopal School; Joe Seivold, Head of Berkeley Preparatory School; Pam Tapley, Head of Pace Brantley School; and Dr. David Watson, Head of Community School. Officers elected to a two-year term include Dr. Dana Markham, President; Kevin Plummer, Vice-President; Tane Bonham, Secretary; and James Milford, Treasurer. Robert Stephens will serve as the Immediate Past President.

**Upcoming Events.** Registration is now open for The High Performing Educators Academy in Tampa and for the Winter Symposium in Orlando. The High Performing Educators Academy is always a favorite event, with participants describing it as a life-changing professional development opportunity. This year, the Winter Symposium will feature Christina Drouin, nationally known for her work in facilitating Strategic Planning, and Kathleen Hanson of Marts and Lundy, also known for her expertise in that area. Please plan to join us!

*Barbara H Hodges, Ed.D.*  
Executive Director

# FCIS Professional Development Calendar

Mark your calendars for these upcoming professional development opportunities.

2018-2019		
<p><b>Prospective Heads' Institute I, II &amp; III</b> January 9-10, 2019 Mission Inn Resort, Howey-in-the-Hills</p> <p><b>Accreditation Training</b> January 24, 2019 All Saints Academy, Winter Haven</p> <p><b>Accreditation Training</b> January 25, 2019 Parkway Christian School, Davie</p> <p><b>Academy for High Performing Educators</b> January 27-29, 2019 Corbett Prep at IDS, Tampa</p>	<p><b>Winter Symposiums</b> February 6-7, 2019 Lake Highland Preparatory School, Orlando</p> <p><b>Business Officers' Conference</b> May 5-7, 2019 Renaissance Hotel, Orlando</p> <p><b>Chair Training</b> June 10, 2019 Marriott Resort Palm Beach, Singer Island</p> <p><b>Heads' Retreat</b> June 10-12, 2019 Marriott Resort Palm Beach, Singer Island</p> <p><b>Summer Symposiums</b> June 19-20, 2019 Corbett Prep at IDS, Tampa</p>	<p><b>New Heads' Institute</b> July 25-27, 2019 Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Bonita Springs</p> <p><b>Finance Institute</b> July 26, 2019 Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Bonita Springs</p> <p><b>Fundraising Institute</b> July 27, 2019 Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Bonita Springs</p> <p><b>Leadership Academy</b> July 28-30, 2019 Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, Bonita Springs</p>

## Legal Webinars with Suzanne Bogdan

Determining Best Practices for  
Approving Student Clubs

January 15, 2019 @ 12:00 p.m.

The Many Facets of Sexual Misconduct  
on Your Campus Today

February 11, 2019 @ 12:00 p.m.

SHRM/HRCI credits will be offered.

## Accreditation Training

Melissa Alton, Director of Accreditation and Julie Johnson, Assistant Director of Accreditation and Member Services, will be offering Accreditation training for those preparing for an upcoming self-study. Register online at [www.fcis.org/events](http://www.fcis.org/events)

All Saint's Academy (Winter Haven)  
January 24, 2019 (10 am -12 pm)

Parkway Christian (Davie)  
January 25, 2019 (10 am -12 pm)

## WINTER SYMPOSIUMS

### How to Create a Strategic Plan that Gets Off the Shelf and into Action

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 6, 2019

**TIME:** 8:45 AM - 2:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Lake Highland Preparatory School,  
901 Highland Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803

**SPEAKER:** Christina Drouin  
President, Center for Strategic Planning

**Who should attend?** Heads • Trustees • CFOs • Directors of Advancement/Development • Directors of Enrollment Management/Admissions • Senior Administrators

Wise strategic leadership can impact the future sustainability of your school in a major way. As a school leader, you have an exceptional opportunity to help your school adopt an ongoing posture of strategic thinking and strategy making. This program for experienced school leaders outlines dominant schools of thought in strategy making, as well as structures, processes, and approaches to help you provide the best leadership possible whether your school is beginning, engaged in, or completing a strategy making process.

**COST:** \$225 (Members) | Bundled Cost for 2 Days: \$395 (Members)

**DEADLINE:** January 23, 2019

### Executing a Strategic Plan to Promote a Stronger Value Proposition

**DATE:** Wednesday, February 7, 2019

**TIME:** 8:45 AM - 3:15 PM

**LOCATION:** Lake Highland Preparatory School,  
901 Highland Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803

**SPEAKER:** Kathleen Hanson  
Senior Consultant and Principal, Marts & Lundy

**Who should attend?** Heads • Trustees • CFOs • Directors of Advancement/Development • Directors of Enrollment Management/Admissions • Senior Administrators

Whatever the focus of your planning, you can only bring it to life through careful and disciplined execution. As Jim Collins observed through his work with major corporations, "Greatness is not a function of circumstance; greatness it turns out, is largely a matter of conscious choice, and discipline." Participants will explore the realities of executing on a plan, thus ensuring maximum results by focusing on the independent school market today; enrollment and the need for a strong value proposition; a high-impact Board of Trustees; and a collaborative, energized internal leadership team.

**COST:** \$225 (Members) | Bundled Cost for 2 Days: \$395 (Members)

**DEADLINE:** January 23, 2019



FCIS is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors through its website: [www.nasbaregistry.org](http://www.nasbaregistry.org).

## Heads' Luncheons

**Save the date cards and/or invitations will be sent for the following area Heads' Luncheons. Please feel free to contact another "area host" if you are unable to attend your area luncheon.**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

**Tampa/St. Petersburg/Sarasota/Naples Areas**

Hosted by: Joe Seivold  
Berkeley Preparatory School

**Thursday, April 18, 2019**

**Tallahassee/Panhandle Area**

Hosted by: Peter Klekamp  
Holy Comforter Episcopal School

**Thursday, April 25, 2019**

**Jacksonville Area**

Hosted by: Tyler Hodges  
The Bolles School

**Wednesday, May 1, 2019**

**West Palm Beach Area**

Hosted by: Deborah Strainge  
St. Mark's Episcopal School

**Thursday, May 2, 2019**

**Boca Raton/Ft. Lauderdale Areas**

Hosted by: Tane Bonham  
Christ Church School

**Friday, May 3, 2019**

**Miami Area**

Hosted by: Patrick Roberts  
Palmer Trinity School

**Wednesday, May 8, 2018**

**Orlando Area**

Hosted by: Dr. Steve Whitaker  
The First Academy

## School News

**The Mandelstam School**, South Miami, was chosen by NASA to participate in an In-flight Education Downlink with the International Space Station. On December 7, students spoke with astronauts who are currently in space! This unique opportunity truly showed our students and community that with hard work, anything is possible! Congratulations!

On November 13, National Geographic visited **Community School of Naples (CSN)** with their Explorer-in-Residence, Dr. Sylvia Earle. Marine biologist, explorer, author, and the foremost authority on Earth's oceans, Dr. Earle addressed Middle and Upper School students at CSN to discuss the importance of a sustainable planet and its oceans. Dr. Earle was the first female chief scientist of NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration), and the first "Hero for the Planet" named by Time Magazine (1998). Nicknamed "Her

Deepness," Dr. Earle was instrumental in having Google Earth display ocean data. She founded Mission Blue, an organization dedicated to protecting the ocean from threats such as climate change, pollution, habitat destruction, invasive species, and the dramatic decrease in ocean fish stocks.

**The Weiss School** made history as the only elementary/middle school in the United States chosen to participate in this highly selective, small satellite flight opportunity! SpaceX successfully launched Spaceflight (SFI) SSO-A: SmallSat Express mission to low Earth orbit on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 1:32 PM from Space Launch Complex 4E (SLC-4E) at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.



## 2019 FKC Convention Registration Deadline: January 10, 2019



**Keynote Speaker—Dr. Wendy Mogel** is an internationally acclaimed psychologist, author, and public speaker. Publisher's Weekly gave her—now classic—parenting book, *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*, a starred review, calling it impassioned, lyrical and eminently practical...a real treasure. Her revelatory second release, *The Blessing of a B Minus*, addresses the challenge of parenting adolescents in a culture of anxiety and entitlement. Publisher's Weekly raved, "Mogel's compassion and authenticity will ring true with parents of all faiths facing the tumultuous teen years." A revised edition of *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*, updated for the age of social media and smartphones, was released on July 7, 2017.

### Friday, February 1, 2019

5:30-7:00pm Meet and Greet  
Complimentary Beverages and Hors D'oeuvres

### Saturday, February 2, 2019

7:30am Registration  
8:00am - 1:05pm Breakfast/General Meeting/Sessions

### The DoubleTree Sea World Orlando

10100 International Drive | Orlando, FL  
800-327-0363

Member Registration Fee: \$120

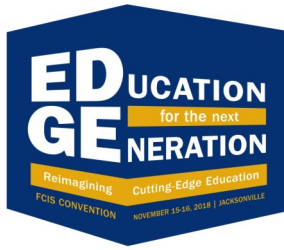
Hotel Room Rate: \$143.00

Self-Parking: \$8.00/day day)



*We wish you a happy and safe holiday season!*  
*From: The FCIS Office*  
*Dr. Barbara Hodges, Melissa Alton, Alison Carlson,*  
*Keara Danger, Julie Johnson and Matt Wilson*





## **2018 FCIS Convention**

### ***Reimagining Education: Education for the Next Generation***

**Hyatt Regency Riverfront, Jacksonville**  
**November 14-16, 2018**

Thank you to all the schools, speakers and sponsors who participated in the FCIS Annual Convention at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront in November. Convention Committee Chairs, Kim Bednarek, Head of The Discovery School, and James Milford, Head of Maclay School, designed a program that highlighted the pace of the changing landscape that requires us to consistently reimagine, reinvent, and practice being as nimble and responsive as possible.

FCIS kicked off the Convention with an ISM pre-conference workshop, Session I: From Best Practices to Results: Assessing Your Admission and Enrollment Management Operations and Session II: From Best Practices to Results: Assessing Your Marketing Communications Operations. In the morning, Amy Riley, ISM Consultant, guided participants through ISM's Admission and Enrollment Management Assessment Instrument, and in the afternoon, she introduced participants to ISM's Marketing Communications Assessment Instrument. Participants analyzed the state of their operations and established a baseline from which to measure the effectiveness of their plan strategies. They learned best practices instruction and created a three-part action plan designed to enhance their school's enrollment operations based on the findings of their assessments.

For the third year, there was a pre-conference workshop targeted to Business Officers. This year, the workshop was led by Mary Kay Markunas, Director of Research and Member Resources; and Jennifer Osland Hillen, Vice President, Professional Development and Business Affairs, National Business Officers' Association (NBOA); and Nancy Greene, Vice President for Finance and Operations / CFO, Pine Crest School. Participants attended their presentation, "The Composite Financial Index (CFI): Core Ratios for Financial Health". The Composite Financial Index (CFI) is a sophisticated tool designed to help think strategically about a school's overall financial health. Participants calculated their school's CFI using audited financials and then interpreted the results. They learned how their CFI results can help them present complex financial information in a more easily understood form to key constituencies and how to apply their CFI score over an extended period to provide a more stable long-term view of their school's financial performance.

Approximately 1,600 educators from 137 independent schools attended two energizing days filled with innovative sessions on topics targeting educational leadership, sustainability, marketing, fundraising, diversity and inclusion, student health and wellbeing, and evolving technologies to enhance teaching and engage learners. Ted Dintersmith, a leader in innovation, entrepreneurship, and education; and Max Ventilla, Founder and CEO of AltSchool, delivered outstanding keynote addresses. In his presentation, "Transforming School: The Urgency and the Possibility", Mr. Dintersmith drew on his trip to all fifty states during the 2015-16 school year to highlight conditions that lead to exceptional student learning and identified change models that enable a school to effectively transform classrooms at scale. On Friday, Mr. Ventilla presented his keynote, "Transforming Education Together". He explored the question of how to transform education, starting with collaboration between educators, engineers, and learner-centered schools who are proving success with innovative practices. He discussed the importance of these partnerships in co-creating a platform that supports and advances personalized, whole-child, student-driven education.



## 2018 FCIS Convention, con't

Participants attended luncheons on both days in anticipation of our two luncheon keynotes: Don Yaeger, inspirational speaker, longtime Associate Editor of *Sports Illustrated*, and author, and Joy Purdy, WJXT News Anchor. On Thursday, approximately 350 administrators attended the luncheon to hear Mr. Yaeger's presentation, "What Makes the Great Teams Great", in which he emphasized the importance for a team to understand their school's "why" in order to feel connected to its greater purpose and truly live its mission. On Friday, over 300 faculty members attended the luncheon to hear Ms. Purdy's presentation, "Teach On!". Ms. Purdy inspired the audience by honoring the enormous impact teachers have in the lives of their students and their families as well as in the community they serve and the dedication, hard work, and passion that this requires.

During the luncheon, door prizes were awarded, and the lucky winners went home with a variety of gift cards to restaurants and retail stores and overnight stays at a couple of beautiful resorts. Dr. Barbara Hodges also delivered a "state of the association" address on Thursday, bringing members up to date on current and future FCIS initiatives and trends in independent schools on both a state and national level.

Again this year, FCIS offered a mobile app for the Convention to provide participants with helpful information and navigation of the schedule, sessions, special events, hotel and exhibitors. Participants were able to give feedback on each session that they attended as well as on their overall Convention experience, which will shape the planning for next year's Convention.

**Mark your calendars for next year! The 2019 FCIS Annual Convention will take place at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport Hotel on November 7-8.**





