

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV
Location: Pensacola, FL
Quarter ending: June 30, 2012

ISSUE/description: 2. EDUCATION: Local availability of higher education; teacher salaries and benefits; crime and violence in schools; curriculum matters; method of handling poorly performing schools and teachers; school vouchers; costs; minority concerns.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News First at Four "Your 3 Cents"	04/02/12	04:20PM/3 minutes	Public Affairs	*

* This is our regular segment where we present a current issue and solicit viewer input of their opinions on the issue. Today's issue was Art Education: "Do you believe art is an important part of a child's education?" The percent of public elementary schools offering classes in the visual arts, drama and dance has declined over the past decade, according to a report released Monday by the U.S. Department of Education. Dance and drama saw the biggest drop -- declining from classes in 20 percent of all elementary schools to less than five percent in the 2009-10 school year. Arts classes at the secondary school level remained about the same, though there were declines at schools with high numbers of poor students. Education Secretary Arne Duncan says it's troubling that not all students have access to classes in arts education. The figures come after several years of significant budget cuts that have reduced electives at many schools.

2. Channel 3 News First [†] at Four "Your 3 Cents"	04/11/12	04:20PM/3 minutes	Public Affairs	**
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** Today's issue was Library Funding: "Do you favor a special tax levy to fund the West Florida Public Library system?" Escambia County may close some library branches to make up for a multi-million dollar budget problem. Last month, Governor Rick Scott signed a measure requiring all counties to pay 85 percent of their unpaid Medicaid bills. The state says Escambia County is on the hook for \$6.2 million. So the county is considering cutting 100 percent of its funding for the West Florida Public Library system.... \$3.7 million. The county funds about 75 percent of the library system. The City of Pensacola funds the other 25 percent. Libraries in the city are safe, but branches in Century and Perdido Key could close... and the branch under construction in Molino would never open. Hundreds of Escambia residents are expected to attend tomorrow's county commission meeting....to persuade commissioners to find the money somewhere else. The options include a 50-dollar annual library user fee.... or an extra levy on property taxes of .35 mils. That would be 35 dollars a year on a 100,000 dollar home. That's the option the West Florida Public Library board favors.

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3. Facing Florida	04/15/12	02:06AM/20 minutes	Public Affairs	***

*** First, we talked to world-renowned jazz musician and Florida A&M professor Longineu Parsons about his involvement in the recent hazing scandals at FAMU and why those kinds of incidents are universal. He also told us about his school pride and why he still thinks FAMU is one of the best universities in the country. Then, we heard from Linda Alexionok with the Children's Campaign. She talked to us about what a great investment early childhood education is, and what Florida needs to do to improve our rankings.

4. Channel 3 News First ^t at Four "Your 3 Cents"	04/17/12	04:20PM/3 minutes	Public Affairs	****
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**** Today's issue was FCAT: "Does Florida put too much emphasis on the FCAT?" Kids are nervous and teachers are anxious across the state. It's FCAT week for students in Florida. Students in elementary, middle and high school are required to take the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests each spring. And this year... the test is harder, the scoring is tougher and more children are expected to fail. The test results are used to evaluate schools and teachers... and ultimately influence funding for a school. For students... the test determines a child's progress. But a failing grade can mean a child is forced to repeat a grade or take remedial math or reading classes. A failing grade for high schoolers could keep them from graduating. This year, the state is also requiring seating charts and asking students to promise not to cheat. The principal of a charter school in Miami has already been charged with cheating for opening a test early and taking notes to pass along to teachers.

5. Facing Florida	05/06/12	02:06AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	*****
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***** Mimi Graham, Director of Florida State University's Center for Prevention and Early Intervention Policy, talked about why early education is so important, and what Florida needs to do to get a great return on its educational investment.

6. Facing Florida	05/20/12	02:07AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	*****
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***** Jackie Pons, Leon County Schools Superintendent discussed the recent trouble with FCAT scores. He discussed what those scores mean for school districts and students around the state, what this latest incident means for the future of the FCAT, and what can be done to improve standardized testing in Florida.

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7. Facing Florida	06/03/12	02:07AM/10 minutes	Public Affairs	*****

***** Florida A & M University President Dr. James Ammons discussed what went into his decision to suspend the University's "Marching 100" indefinitely, and his plans and goals for the future of the university.

Then, Frank Brogan, Chancellor of the State University System of Florida, discussed the different levels of responsibility and response to the FAMU hazing situation. He also discussed the future of Florida's newest university, Florida Polytechnic University.

Finally, Tallahassee Democrat Senior Writer Jennifer Portman discussed her thoughts on the FAMU hazing case. She shared her insight on topics ranging from who knew what, to just how deeply the culture of hazing was ingrained in the band.