

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV
Location: Pensacola, FL
Quarter ending: December 31, 2011

ISSUE/description: 3. 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 ^t at Four "Your 3 Cents"	11/02/11	04:20PM/2 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 School Prayer: "Do you believe prayer in school should be expanded?" Should students be allowed to pray at school events? A bill to expand prayer in Florida schools is sponsored by Senator Gary Siplin. Siplin says the issue is about freedom of speech. He says prayer wouldn't happen during regular school hours, but could be held at secondary school events like football games and graduation. His bill would allow student governments to nominate a student to pray, and the content of the prayer would be left up to them. The ACLU and Anti-Defamation League say the state is too diverse to offer a prayer to just one religion. The bill passed a committee today with just one no vote. Its next stop is the Senate Judicial Committee.

2. Channel 3 News 1 st at Four "Your 3 Cents"	12/21/11	04:20PM/3 minutes	Public Affairs	**
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** Today's issue was Physical Education: "Should Florida eliminate the physical education requirements in middle schools?" Middle school students in Florida have been required to take physical education in school for almost four years now. Lawmakers mandated P.E. as a way to combat childhood obesity. But now some lawmakers are trying to do away with the requirement. Children in grades six through eight are now required to take one semester of physical education every year. A bill sponsored by State Representative Larry Metz would leave the decision to offer P.E. up to local school districts instead. He says he's not opposed to physical education, and says his bill would not affect the current physical education requirement in elementary schools. Metz says it's just difficult for some schools to accommodate the additional time required for physical education while trying to focus on academic achievement. But nutritionists, pediatricians and the American Heart Association are all speaking out against the bill, saying that with obesity affecting 30 percent of the nation's children, cutting back on physical education is dangerous.

3. Our World with Black Enterprise	11/06/11	04:30AM/30 minutes	Public Affairs	***
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*** On today's program we graded the state of education in the U.S. We interviewed Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education, who offered his insight into the Obama Administration's strategy to fix our U.S. public schools.