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Subject: More Voices on Florida's Student-centered Approach to Education

More Voices on Florida's Student-centered Approach to Education

This month marks 15 years since Governor Jeb Bush signed Florida's A+ Plan for Education into law, beginning [a systemic transformation](#) that serves as a national model for raising student achievement. Hear Governor Bush reflect on Florida's journey and its path forward in [this video](#), and read what folks are saying about the A+ Plan's anniversary below!

[Watch video here.](#)

What they are saying:

Don Gaetz, former Okaloosa County Superintendent of Schools and current Senate President

"Jeb Bush changed education in Florida forever and for the better. The A+ Plan made us the authors and owners of our students' and teachers' performance and so that performance got better and better. What Governor Bush did in Florida became the model for America."

Marshall Criser III, Chancellor of the State University System of Florida.

“The A+ Plan set the tone in Florida for an education system that increases accountability at our schools and puts our students first. In line with Governor Bush’s vision, Florida public schools have made great strides in preparing our students for success in college and in their careers.”

Gary Chartrand, Chair of the Florida State Board Of Education

“The A+ Plan was groundbreaking, and to this day, other states look to us to see how we reversed a decline in student achievement. Real educational choice, real accountability for student learning, high standards for our students – it was the bold thing and the right thing to do. Our teachers are the hardest working in the country, and they are the ones bringing these A+ policies to life and making impacts in students’ lives every day.”

Chris Hart IV, President and CEO of CareerSource Florida

“As Florida’s business-led workforce policy and investment board, we know a strong educational system is at the heart of Florida’s ability to grow, attract and keep the best and the brightest talent in Florida to boost our global competitiveness so families and communities can prosper. The focus by Florida’s leaders and our public education system on high standards, accountability and opportunity for all students over the past 15 years has positioned Florida as a national leader not only in educational reform but in the quality of our workforce. We applaud the Foundation for Excellence in Education for its dedicated advocacy of strong outcomes and achievement by Florida’s children.”

F. Phillip Handy, former Chairman of the Florida State Board of Education, and member of the Foundation for Florida’s Future Board of Directors

"When we talk about the results of the A+ Plan, it is common to mention the policies and the data results that followed, but it's really about lives that were changed and opportunities that were created. By challenging students with higher standards, making sure we have honest assessments, shining a light on learning, incentivizing success and letting families select options that better meet the needs of their own children, we've witnessed a transformation in education."

[More](#) voices on the A+ Plan and what it means to education in Florida today!

[View this message online.](#)

Share using these sample tweets:

- Hear what Gary Chartrand, Phil Handy & others are saying about the A+ plan anniversary in this @ExceleEd Roundup: <http://bit.ly/1wBUMty>
- Video from @ExceleEd and @JebBush; Reflections on the 15th Anniversary of the A+ plan <http://bit.ly/1wAZB6l>

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[The Foundation for Excellence in Education](#) is igniting a movement of reform, state by state, to transform education for the 21st century economy by working with lawmakers, policymakers, educators and parents to advance education reform across America. Learn more at www.ExceleEd.org.

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