

# Leadership Calling

## Four superintendents, school board members honored by foundation

**F**our Florida superintendents and school board members have been recognized by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations for their leadership. The awards were presented during FSBA's 63rd Annual Joint Conference last December in Tampa.

The Consortium of Florida Education Foundations 2008 Gold Star awards went to: Dr. Sara Wilcox, former Martin County superintendent; Scott Strong, Lake County School Board member; Dr. Richard DiPatri, Brevard County superintendent; and Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County School Board member. The consortium is a membership organization for Florida's local K-12 public education foundations.

Local education foundations from throughout the state nominated school system leaders for the awards sponsored by the Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union. Four recipients were chosen, one school board member and superintendent each in school districts of less than 50,000 students and one each from school districts of more than 50,000.



*The Consortium of Florida Education Foundations Gold Star recipients were, from left: Scott Strong, Lake County School Board; Dr. Sara Wilcox, former Martin County superintendent; Dr. Richard DiPatri, Brevard County superintendent; and Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County School Board.*

## Senate committee to focus on Florida's economy

**S**enate President Jeff Atwater, R-North Palm Beach, has appointed a Select Committee on Florida's Economy to create incentives and eliminate disincentives to economic recovery and growth and to ensure that government functions more simply, more transparently, less expensively, and more effectively.

The Select Committee will be in existence for two years, the full term of Sen. Atwater's Presidency. The members of the committee include Senators Don Gaetz (chair), R-Fort Walton Beach; Jeremy Ring (Vice Chair), D-Margate; JD Alexander, R-Winter Haven; Mike Bennett, R-Bradenton; Dan Gelber, D-Miami Beach; Mike Haridopolos, R-Melbourne; Tony Hill, D-Jacksonville; Jim King, R-Jacksonville; Ken Pruitt, R-Port St. Lucie; Garrett Richter, R-Naples; and Eleanor Sobel, D-Hallandale Beach.



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Florida School Boards Association  
203 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 414-2578 or Suncom 994-2578  
Fax (850) 414-2585 or Suncom 994-2585  
E-mail: fsba@fsba.org

Editor  
Andy Williams  
Communications & Consulting  
Tallahassee, Florida  
(850) 508-6202  
andyw313@gmail.com