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ECSD NEWS

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Florida's Support Education Specialty License Plate Gets a Fresh Look

GAINESVILLE, Fla. – After 25 years and more than a million miles on Florida's highways, the Support Education specialty license plate has a fresh look. While the design is new, the cause remains the same – when a Florida resident purchases or renews their Support Education specialty tag, \$20 goes directly back to support schools, teachers and students **in the county** where the tag is registered.

Since its introduction as Florida's second specialty license plate in 1994, over \$13 million dollars has been raised through the collaborative efforts of the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations (CFEF) and local education foundation members throughout the state.

The new design promotes the importance of education in the Sunshine State and is among only a few specialty tags in Florida where the money goes directly back into the county where the tag was purchased or renewed. Florida's K-12 local education foundations invest in classroom innovation, recognize excellence, and provide targeted support beyond what tax dollars provide such as free school supplies for students who can't afford them, classroom grants for teachers and after-school enrichment programs.

“The Support Education specialty tag is a powerful way for citizens to demonstrate their commitment to our public schools and provide needed, local support for teachers and students,” said Mary Chance, president of the CFEF. “We are so excited to debut the new

design and hope more Florida drivers will support their local teachers and students with the purchase or renewal of the Support Education license tag.”

In the Escambia County School District, the Foundation for Excellence uses the fees to support its mission “*by investing in our children’s future to ensure they graduate on time and college or career ready.*” We do that through our Grants for Excellence program to provide funds for innovative classroom projects, honoring all the Teachers of the Year at the Golden Apple Awards Dinner, and recognizing the accomplishments of high school seniors for high academic achievement in content areas as well as the arts, such as music, drama, art, graphic design, etc. By purchasing these license tags, the public supports the education of our children. Visit the ECSD's Foundation's website at ecpsfoundation.org to learn more.

The annual fee for the Support Education specialty license plate is \$25. Local taxes and state fees may apply and first-time purchase price and fees may vary based on scheduled vehicle registration renewal date. The new Support Education tag design is available now and can be purchased in-person at your local tax collector office or online at LicenseToLearnFL.com.

About the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations

The CFEF is the membership organization for Florida’s school district-wide local education foundations. Established in 1987, the CFEF maximizes the individual and collective strength of Florida local education foundations to support local partners and schools. The CFEF now has 65 member foundations with 1,100 business and community leaders serving as volunteer board members. Collectively, they raise more than \$64 million annually to support students, teachers and schools through a variety of programs. The CFEF has provided nearly \$46.5 million to local education foundations since 2002 through various private- and public-sector partnerships, including the State of Florida School District Education Foundation Matching Grants Program. For more information about the CFEF, visit: www.educationfoundationsfl.org

Media queries about Escambia County School District topics should be directed to Kim Stefansson, at [850-393-0539](tel:850-393-0539), [850-469-6219](tel:850-469-6219) or kstefansson@escambia.k12.fl.us.

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