

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



John L. Winn  
Commissioner of Education



## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

F. PHILIP HANDY, *Chairman*

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Vice Chairman*

### Members

DONNA G. CALLAWAY

JULIA L. JOHNSON

ROBERTO MARTÍNEZ

PHOEBE RAULERSON

LINDA K. TAYLOR

## CONTACT PERSONS:

**Name:** Lisa C. Saavedra  
Gloria Baez  
**Phone:** (850) 245-0692  
(850) 245-5074  
**Email:** [lisa.saavedra@fldoe.org](mailto:lisa.saavedra@fldoe.org)  
[gloria.baez@fldoe.org](mailto:gloria.baez@fldoe.org)  
**K-12:** 2005-41

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District School Superintendents

**FROM:** Jim Warford

**DATE:** April 5, 2005

**SUBJECT:** *Technical Assistance Paper on Modifications to the Consent Decree*

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) recognizes the need to increase the supply of highly effective teachers who have the appropriate qualifications to meet the unique needs of Florida's English language learners, and to provide additional guidance to school districts as you strive to implement English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) certification requirements.

As you know, a Modification to the Consent Decree was made in 2003 (the Consent Decree in the League of United Latin American Citizens et al. v. the State Board of Education, 1990). The modification was shared with school districts via technical assistance workshops, via conferences, and has been posted on the FDOE website. In response to requests from school districts, a technical assistance paper was developed to provide guidance and additional clarification.

JIM WARFORD  
K-12 Chancellor

District School Superintendents

April 5, 2005

Page Two

This technical assistance paper provides information that is more specific and addresses issues and concerns identified by District ESOL Coordinators, Staff Development Directors, and District Certification Contacts. Staff in the Bureau of Educator Certification, FDOE General Counsel's Office, and the Office of Multicultural Student Language Education collaborated in the development of this technical assistance paper and will continue to develop additional materials to provide guidance for implementing these requirements. We are available to provide assistance as you and your staff address the training and certification requirements identified in the modification.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Gloria Baez, Administrator, Office of Multicultural Student Language Education, (850) 245-5074, or by email [gloria.baez@fldoe.org](mailto:gloria.baez@fldoe.org).

JW/lcs

Attachments

cc: Mary Jane Tappen  
Pam Stewart  
Michael Kooi  
Beverly Gregory  
Lisa C. Saavedra  
Gloria Baez