

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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**DPS:** 04-092

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** District School Superintendents  
**From:** Jim Warford  
**Date:** March 12, 2004  
**Subject:** **NATIONAL DROPOUT PREVENTION NETWORK CRYSTAL STAR OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

The National Dropout Prevention Network (NDPN) is now accepting nominations for its annual Crystal Star Awards of Excellence in Dropout Recovery, Intervention, and Prevention. Nominations may be made in the areas of Program Awards, Individual Awards, and Distinguished Service and Leadership Awards. Nomination forms, eligibility criteria, and additional information regarding the awards may be found on the NDPN website at [http://www.dropoutprevention.org/about/crystal/excel\\_nominate.htm](http://www.dropoutprevention.org/about/crystal/excel_nominate.htm). Please note that nominations are due to NDPN no later than June 30, 2004.

Florida has been honored to have award winners in all three categories in recent years. In 2002, Alee Academy in Lake County was honored in the Program Award category, and its director, Mr. Jennings Neeld, was honored in the Individual Award category. In 2003, Ms. Cyndi Terry, a contacted staff member in the Department's Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services, was honored in the Distinguished Service and Leadership Award category. You can read more about these and other honorees on the NDPN website at [http://www.dropoutprevention.org/about/crystal/excel\\_awards.htm](http://www.dropoutprevention.org/about/crystal/excel_awards.htm).

JIM WARFORD  
*K-12 Chancellor*

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I strongly encourage you to examine the dropout prevention programs and services available in your district and consider nominating outstanding programs and individuals for this significant honor. If you have questions regarding the award or the nomination process, please contact Mary Jo Butler or Michael Lisle.

JW/mlf

cc: Assistant Superintendents for Curriculum and Instruction  
Dropout Prevention Coordinators  
Student Services Directors  
Guidance Supervisors