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DPS: 04-112

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Jim Warford

DATE: April 20, 2004

SUBJECT: **2004-2005 Preliminary No Child Left Behind/Title I Allocations and Related Information**

This is in reference to additional No Child Left Behind requirements that go into effect in 2004-05. This document outlines the responsibilities of school districts and schools, and provides initial guidance and direction for implementing these requirements. We are pleased to provide you the following:

- 2004-05 Preliminary Title I District Allocations
- Outline of Requirements for Schools and Districts Identified for Title I School Improvement
- Overview of Current School Choice Options in Florida

JIM WARFORD
K-12 Chancellor

Preliminary Title I District Allocations

This allocation is based upon initial allocations from the United States Department of Education (USDE) and is expected to change somewhat before it is finalized. However, it is reasonably accurate for planning purposes. Please note that there has been a significant shift in district allocations based upon a change from the 1999 census estimates to the 2000 census. Although Florida is receiving an increase in funds, a number of school districts will experience a reduction. However, no district's initial allocation was reduced below 90% of last year's allocation.

Beginning with the 2004-05 school year, the state is required to deduct five percent (1% for administration and 4% for school improvement) from each Local Educational Agency's (LEA's) allocation unless deducting funds for school improvement will result in a district receiving less than it received last year. In that case, *deductions were adjusted. The state deducted 1% for administration, but deducted less than the 4% or none of the 4% for school improvement if that deduction would cause the district to receive less than it received for the 2003-04 school year*

These preliminary allocations do not include the deductions from LEAs for students attending the laboratory schools or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB). As soon as these calculations are complete, they will be distributed.

Outline of Requirements for Schools and Districts Identified for Title I School Improvement

As indicated in this attachment, for schools identified as "in need of school improvement" due to not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years, the LEA must offer public school choice with transportation to all of the school's students. An amount equal to 20 percent (20%) of the LEA's Title I, Part A allocation must be identified for the excess cost of transportation and the provision of Supplemental Educational Services (SES), unless an LEA documents that a lesser amount is needed. However, given the numerous initiatives regarding school choice already available across the state, we believe that meaningful choice for many of Florida's low achieving students from low socio-economic families has been provided.

Overview of Florida's School Choice Options

Florida leads the nation in the wide variety of public and private school choice options that often exceed the requirements of NCLB. This document provides a description of the current choice options described in Florida Statutes.

JIM WARFORD
K-12 Chancellor

District School Superintendents

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LEAs should initiate a careful review of their implementation of the choice options and verify that the lowest performing students attending schools not making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years are afforded these choices. More information regarding the provision of public school choice and SES under NCLB will be provided at the Department's regional meetings (see DPS Memo # 04-097, dated March 26, 2004).

Attachments (3)

cc: District Title I Coordinators
Finance Officers
District Choice Contacts
District Transportation Directors
School Improvement Contacts
Assistant Superintendents for Curriculum and Instruction

JIM WARFORD
K-12 Chancellor