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Commissioner of Education



October 27, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: John L. Winn
Commissioner

SUBJECT: Adequate Yearly Progress Participation Rate Calculation for 2006

The Florida Department of Education received the report findings from the United States Department of Education's monitoring visit of Title I in Florida. The report stated that Florida is not calculating separate participation rates for the mathematics and reading assessments. Florida currently counts students as participating if they take either the mathematics or reading assessment and reports the same participation rate for both subject areas.

The report cites a federal regulation that states that a school or district makes Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) if it has met the 95% participation rate requirement separately in reading and mathematics.

In response, beginning in the 2005-06 school year, Florida will change the participation rate calculation for AYP by calculating reading and mathematics subject area participation rates separately. This new participation rate calculation will result in nine additional criteria, for a total of 18 participation criteria, that a school and district must meet to make AYP.

If you have any questions regarding the new participation calculation for AYP, please contact the Director of Evaluation and Reporting, Christy Hovanetz Lassila, at Christy.hovanetz@fldoe.org or 850-245-0411.