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K-12: 2007-67

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Jeanine Blomberg

DATE: April 3, 2007

SUBJECT: Music Demonstration Schools

I am pleased to provide the enclosed information concerning the Music Demonstration School project. This project was developed by the Florida Department of Education in cooperation with the Florida Music Educators' Association and implemented in 1988. Currently, thirty-three schools have been selected as Music Demonstration Schools, and twelve have been chosen for Honorable Mention recognition.

The purpose of this project is to identify, recognize, and promote statewide school music programs at the elementary, middle/junior, and high school levels that balance diversity, high performance standards, and instructional quality in music education. Schools applying to become Demonstration Schools are evaluated, visited, and approved by the Department of Education according to criteria developed by MENC: The National Association for Music Education and the Florida Music Educators' Association. Those schools that meet these criteria are committed for a three-year period to assist school officials, teachers, and other interested persons in observing quality programs and obtaining information for program improvement. The

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selected schools will receive public recognition from the Department of Education and the Florida Music Educators' Association.

Please distribute these materials to selected principals or music teachers who you feel should apply for this program of recognition. The instructions for applying to become a Music Demonstration School are found in Attachment A. For those who have submitted applications in the past, please note that an additional criterion has been added regarding how the music program contributes to the success of students in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science.

All applications should be submitted by **May 24, 2007**, to:

Dr. Linda Lovins, Performing and Fine Arts Program Specialist
Florida Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 432
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Please be aware that this date is earlier than the required receipt date for materials in the past. The date has been changed in order to facilitate completion of the selection process well before the state Florida Music Educators Conference held each year in early January. Materials submitted for application will be reviewed over the summer, and the site visits will take place in September.

NOTE: Please make sure that persons designated to receive a copy of this memo are signed up to receive correspondence from the Department paperless communication site since hard copies will not be sent. If they are not currently signed up, please provide them with a copy of this memorandum. The site address is <http://www.firn.edu/doe/menu/communications.htm>.

JB//ll

Attachments A, B, C

cc: Assistant Superintendents for Instruction
Music Contacts