

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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DPS: 2009-013

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Dr. Frances Haithcock

DATE: February 13, 2009

SUBJECT: Music Demonstration Schools Program

I am pleased to provide the enclosed information concerning the Music Demonstration Schools Program. This program, implemented in 1988, was developed by the Florida Department of Education in cooperation with the Florida Music Educators' Association. Currently, more than one hundred schools have been selected as Music Demonstration Schools, and more than forty have been chosen for Honorable Mention recognition.

The purpose of this program is to identify, honor, and promote elementary, middle/junior, and high school music programs that balance a rigorous curriculum, high performance standards, diversity, and instructional quality in music education. Schools applying to become Music Demonstration Schools are evaluated, visited, and approved by the Florida Department of Education according to criteria developed by MENC: The National Association for Music Education and the Florida Music Educators' Association. 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 selected schools receive statewide recognition on the Web sites of the Florida Department of Education and the Florida Music Educators' Association, at a special awards ceremony during the Florida Music Educators' Association annual conference, and at designees' local school board meetings.

Please distribute these materials to curriculum supervisors or to music teachers who you feel should submit an application for this program of recognition. The instructions for becoming a Music Demonstration School are found in the attached program description.

All forms are available at either http://www.fldoe.org/bii/Curriculum/Fine_Arts/Awards.asp or www.flmusiced.org. Applicants may download all application documents found at either Web address and type directly into the forms. Completed applications must be submitted via DVD, and a total of six (6) DVDs must be sent—one (1) original and five (5) copies.

DR. FRANCES HAITHCOCK
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District School Superintendents
February 13, 2009
Page 2

All applications must be postmarked no later than June 25, 2009, to Dr. Linda Lovins, Arts Education Program Specialist, Florida Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 432, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400. Principals' Letters of Intent to Apply must be postmarked no later than February 26, 2009. Materials submitted for application will be reviewed over the summer, and site visits will take place in the fall.

FH/ll

Attachment: Program Description

cc: Assistant Superintendents for Instruction
Principals
Music Supervisors
Fine Arts Supervisors