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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** School District Superintendents

**FROM:** Hershel Lyons

**DATE:** November 4, 2016

**SUBJECT: Approval of an Additional Alternative Standardized Reading Assessment Used for Good Cause Exemptions to Third Grade Retention**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**DPS: 2016-116**

In accordance with State Board Rule 6A-1.094221, Florida Administrative Code, Alternative Standardized Reading Assessment and Use of Student Portfolio for Good Cause Promotion, districts may submit for approval alternative assessments to be used for good cause exemptions to third grade retention as specified in section 1008.25, Florida Statutes. The six previously identified alternative assessments will continue to be approved:

- SAT-10
- Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)
- TerraNova®
- STAR Enterprise™
- NWEA MAP®
- i-Ready®

In addition, the following assessment has been reevaluated and is now approved for use for a good cause exemption:

- Istation

In alignment with the rule, students must score at or above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on the ITBS, TerraNova®, STAR Enterprise™, NWEA MAP®, i-Ready® and Istation. For i-Ready®, districts must use Table 6 from the 2016-17 Norms to determine the student's percentile. A link to Table 6 can be found on the *Just Read, Florida!* website at [www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/](http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/). The cut score for SAT-10 will continue to be set at or above the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile. The requirement that these alternative assessments be given after the administration of the Florida Standards Assessment remains in effect, as well as the ability to test a student more than once, as long as there are 30 days between administrations.

Districts may submit additional assessments for review to [justread@fldoe.org](mailto:justread@fldoe.org).

HL/rm

HERSHEL LYONS  
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS