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MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: August 27, 2020

SUBJECT: Florida to Offer Free Optional Progress Monitoring Tool to Public Schools

Contact Information:

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The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) is pleased to share an exciting opportunity. FDOE has identified funding from [Florida's CARES Act plan](#) to provide all Florida public schools free access, on a voluntary basis, to a progress monitoring tool that can provide educators and families critical information needed to continue enhancing student outcomes. Though we know many of you are already well positioned with local tools to measure student progress, some have reached out for assistance. This tool is available to meet that need, if desired, to assist in measuring student progress in the areas of English Language Arts/Reading for grades 3-10 and Mathematics for grades 3-8 during the 2020-21 school year.

Developed by Cambium Assessment, Inc., the contractor for the FSA, this computer-adaptive progress monitoring tool uses the same testing platform that schools already use to participate in statewide, standardized computer-based assessments, and reports scores immediately using the FSA scale score range. The tool is also available for multiple administrations throughout the school year, such as early and midway through the school year. Though this tool produces scores on the same scale as the FSA, this is not the FSA, and the results will have zero impact on school accountability.

The department is making this tool available, on a completely voluntary basis, in order to aid schools throughout the state as they assess student needs and to inform instruction. Again, we know that many of you already are well positioned to assess student needs and to inform instruction using your well established local progress monitoring tools. However, the department is making this additional resource available if a district or charter school network desires to use it. As with all progress monitoring tools, the data are to be used to gauge student performance, guide instruction, and absolutely will not be used for any school accountability purpose.

We look forward to sharing more details with you and district assessment coordinators during an informative webinar Wednesday, September 2nd at 3:00 PM EDT, for which you may register now at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5275236197458465291>.

If you have questions, please contact Jenny Black in the FDOE Office of Assessment at Jenny.Black@fldoe.org.

JO/vv

JACOB OLIVA
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS