



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

F. PHILIP HANDY, *Chairman*

Members

SALLY BRADSHAW

LINDA J. EADS, ED. D.

T. WILLARD FAIR

CHARLES PATRICK GARCÍA

JULIA L. JOHNSON

WILLIAM L. PROCTOR, PH.D.

JIM HORNE

Commissioner of Education

January 14, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents
FROM: John Winn, Deputy Commissioner
RE: Dual Enrollment Program

As you prepare for your academic schedules for the 2003-2004 school year, it is important to be familiar with the law relating to dual enrollment. Section 1007.271 of the new school code requires that:

“Each school board shall inform all secondary students of dual enrollment as an educational option and mechanism for acceleration. Students shall be informed of eligibility criteria, the option for taking dual enrollment courses beyond the regular school year, and the 24 minimum academic credits required for graduation. District school boards shall annually assess the demand for dual enrollment and other advanced courses, and the district school board shall consider strategies and programs to meet that demand.”

The 2000 Legislature passed House Bill 2105, which effectively opened up the dual enrollment program to all qualified students. In addition, the legislation instructed the Articulation Coordinating Committee (ACC) to equate all dual enrollment courses with high school graduation requirements and electives. This task was accomplished by the ACC Task Force on Dual Enrollment in 2001 and included input from school district, community college, and state university faculty. All school districts are required to honor the equivalencies approved by the ACC and award appropriate high school credit for dual enrollment courses.

The ACC has recently established a Task Force on Acceleration Policies (tied to the State Board of Education Strategic imperative project #5.3.1). This Task Force will continue the work of the Task Force on Dual Enrollment and address equity and funding issues across all types of acceleration mechanisms.

In the spirit of K-20 cooperation, I would like to encourage you to review the law and make every effort to maintain and enhance dual enrollment opportunities for your students. Thank you for your cooperation on this important issue.

cc: Community College Presidents