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MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Dr. Frances Haithcock

DATE: February 25, 2011

SUBJECT: **School Improvement Grant 1003(g) Competitive Three Year Grant Beginning 2011-2012 School Year**

We are pleased to inform you that the Florida Department of Education will award up to $2,000,000 to eligible school districts for year one of the three-year School Improvement Grant 1003(g) beginning in the 2011-2012 school year. Grant funds must be used to enhance Local Educational Agencies' (LEAs') capacity to implement comprehensive intervention that substantially improves achievement of their persistently lowest achieving schools.

Priority will be given to the LEAs demonstrating comprehensive analysis of the needs of each Tier I and Tier II school, and the LEA's capacity to use school improvement funds to provide adequate resources and related support to each of the Tier I and Tier II schools the LEA commits to serve with this funding. Funds will not be awarded to serve any Tier III schools unless and until all Tier I and Tier II schools across the state, that the LEAs commit to serve, are awarded funds and are being served.

This grant is available on a competitive basis and the deadline to submit the electronic application is 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time (EDT), March 30, 2011. The number of awards and the award amounts will be based on the number of quality proposals recommended through the peer review process. The Bureau of Federal Educational Programs and the Bureau of School Improvement will provide training on the submission of these web-based applications, which will include discussions about the review process and the competitive nature of the grant. The Bureau of Federal Educational Programs will provide additional information about the conference call via e-mail to the LEA Title I and School Improvement Coordinators.

If you have questions about the School Improvement Grant application process, please contact Anna Moore at (850) 245-0726, or via e-mail at Anna.Moore@fldoe.org. We appreciate your interest in this program and look forward to the implementation of innovative programs for Florida's schools.

FH/le:am

cc: Thomas Butler, Director of Communications and External Affairs