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MEMORANDUM

Contact Information
Kathleen Forsyth
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DPS: 2012-155

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: October 19, 2012

SUBJECT: Invitation to Participate in the 2013 Commissioner's Academic Challenge

It is my pleasure to invite your school district to participate in the 2013 *Commissioner's Academic Challenge (CAC),* Florida's high school academic tournament. The competition is scheduled for April 18 – 20, 2013, at Disney's Contemporary Resort. This marks our 28th year of celebrating the academic excellence of Florida's high school students.

At the 27th *Commissioner's Academic Challenge* in 2012, the state champion and runner-up districts in each of three divisions were presented Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) trophies and medallions, and the first, second, and third place team members and coaches received Herff Jones championship rings.

Through a Florida Department of Education grant, generous contributions of corporations, and the support of several Florida school districts, the funding needed to maintain this showcase of academic achievement is gradually being assembled. The contributions will be used in the form of team grants to reduce the cost to each participating district. The exact amount of each grant will depend upon the number of participating districts and the total amount of secured funding; however, the per-district allocation is projected to be $1,000. It is my hope that these grants will allow all sixty-seven school districts to send their best and brightest minds to compete for the state champion title.

You may register your team by completing the *Intent* form found on the *Form*s page of the CAC Website and returning it to Lisa Rawls, Tournament Director via email at lisa.rawls@polk-fl.net.

I invite you to accept the *Commissioner's Academic Challenge* by sending your students to compete in our celebration of excellence in Florida education. If you have any questions or wish to become a sponsoring district by making a donation of $2,000, please contact Ms. Rawls by phone at (863) 968-5168.

PS:kf