

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District School Superintendents

**FROM:** Cheri Pierson Yecke, Ph.D.

**DATE:** January 25, 2006

### Contact Information:

Rich Downs

(850) 922-3727

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**K12: 2006-04**

**SUBJECT: Louisiana Diplomas for Displaced Students**

Florida Commissioner of Education John Winn has received a memorandum from Cecil J. Picard, Louisiana Superintendent of Education, regarding the opportunity for Louisiana students displaced by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to receive Louisiana high school diplomas. The Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education voted to allow students who relocated to other states due to hurricanes to receive Louisiana diplomas during the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 school years. The purpose of this memo is to provide preliminary information to assist students and school officials in making scheduling decisions.

Following is a broad outline of the process:

- Schools distribute the attached flyer to displaced Louisiana juniors and seniors.
- The current school counselor notifies the Louisiana Department of Education of the student's decision by supplying the student's name, social security number or date of birth, and former school on an electronic form on the Louisiana Department of Education website, [www.louisianaschools.net](http://www.louisianaschools.net).
- After the student completes the necessary courses, the current school counselor sends the transcript to the student's Louisiana district. Instructions for submitting the transcript electronically will be available soon on the website. A paper transcript may be submitted if preferred.
- The Louisiana district will evaluate the transcript and send the diploma to the student's current school.
- Students needing to take the Louisiana Graduation Exit Exam (GEE) will be provided three opportunities to take the GEE online in Spring 2006. Additional information will be provided regarding the online administration as plans are completed.

CHERI PIERSON YECKE, PH.D.  
CHANCELLOR, K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Louisiana Diplomas for Displaced Students  
January 20, 2006  
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We appreciate your assistance in disseminating this information to Louisiana students attending Florida schools. A flyer for students is enclosed for your convenience. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Beben, Louisiana Department of Education, at (225) 342-1152, toll free 1-(877) 453-2721, or via email at [beben@la.gov](mailto:beben@la.gov).

If you have additional questions or need additional information, please contact Rich Downs via email at [rdowns@tempest.coedu.usf.edu](mailto:rdowns@tempest.coedu.usf.edu) or at (850) 922-3732.

CPY:rd

Attachment

cc: Assistant Superintendents for Curriculum and Instruction  
District Student Services Directors  
District Guidance Supervisors