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K12: 2006-08

MEMORANDUM

TO: Exceptional Student Education Directors

FDLRS Associate Center Managers

FROM: Bambi J. Lockman

DATE: February 3, 2006

SUBJECT: 2006 Family Café Conference

The Department of Education is proud to support the 8th Annual Family Café Conference and Governor's Summit on Disabilities as part of our commitment to provide a quality education to all students. During the annual three-day conference, individuals with disabilities and special health care needs and their families have an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge, to interact with state agencies' representatives and private providers, and to expand their network of supports. The 8th Annual Family Café Conference will be held June 2-4, 2006, in Orlando, Florida, at the Caribe Royale, located at 8101 World Center Drive, Orlando, Florida (407-238-8083).

Pre-conference registration for the 8th Annual Family Café Conference will begin on February 14, 2006. There is no conference registration fee. Limited financial assistance will be provided to families by Family Café. The financial assistance funds through Family Café are available on a first-come, first-serve basis, and have historically been exhausted soon after registration opens. Therefore, we encourage districts to make families of students with disabilities aware of the pre-conference registration and financial assistance as soon as possible. We also encourage you to financially support families to attend the 8th Annual Family Café Conference through the use of discretionary grants.

As part of the conference, Governor Jeb Bush will speak at the 8th Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities on Friday, June 2, 2006, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Participants may either register online at www.familycafe.net or call the Family Café office at 1-888-309-2233 to request a registration brochure be mailed. Pre-registration ends on March 31, 2006.

BJL/kbm

cc: District Parent Services Personnel FDLRS Parent Services Personnel

State Advisory Committee for the Education of Exceptional Students

BAMBI J. LOCKMAN

Chief

Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services