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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: District Communication Directors/Public Information Officers
District Guidance Supervisors

FROM: Connie W. Graunke, Executive Director

DATE: March 31, 2003

SUBJECT: Release of High School Academic Evaluations on FACTS.org

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All public high school students and parents can now access student transcript information online via FACTS.org and evaluate their progress towards meeting the Bright Futures Scholarship initial eligibility requirements and state university system course requirements for admission. Plus, they can review their high school course history and grades. The new High School Academic Evaluations use student transcripts transmitted to the Department of Education via the FASTER system. The evaluations mark an exciting new time for parents and students, granting them greater access to information than ever before. In addition, guidance counselors can access the evaluations via their secured login on the Bright Futures website.

For your convenience, I have attached a copy of the letter and brochure that is being mailed home this week to all ninth grade students attending public high schools in the state. The letter and brochure discuss the significance of course selection and services on FACTS.org. Please review the documents and share them with other personnel, such as teacher and guidance counselors at individual high schools. It is important they are prepared when students or parents inquire about the letter and/or services offered on FACTS.org. A promotional page with informative materials, advertisements, and logos has been added to FACTS.org, including a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation covering the web site. All of the materials are available for use and distribution to others by clicking on *Promotional Materials and Information* at the bottom of each web page.

Since Fall 2002, the Florida Center for Advising and Academic Support (FCAAS) has conducted numerous demonstrations for educators statewide regarding FACTS.org and the new evaluations. Opportunities to attend FCAAS demonstrations will continue this Spring and Summer (see attached) including the 6th Annual FACTS.org Conference June 4-5, 2003 in Orlando, Florida. The Conference will provide an opportunity for all educators to learn about FACTS.org services in more detail and upcoming developments for the statewide student advising system. Registration is $50 and can be completed online by going to http://facts019.facts.usf.edu/conf2003/register.asp

If you have any questions, please contact FCAAS at (850) 201-7363 or Suncom 213-7363.

Thank you.