

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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John L. Winn
Commissioner of Education



December 29, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: John L. Winn

SUBJECT: Progress report on use of the e-Personal Education Planner (ePEP) at FACTS.org

Thank you for your assistance in October with launching the new online e-Personal Education Planner (ePEP) for high school students at www.FACTS.org, Florida's official statewide student advising website. As of December 8, more than 19,000 Florida high school students had logged on and completed a planner. Our goal is for 100% of Florida high school students to create an ePEP. Research on high school graduation shows that students who set goals are more successful and high schools that incorporate goal setting have higher graduation rates. Encouraging students to set goals and plan for their attainment demonstrates our faith in them and encourages their personal success.

Attached is the first report showing the number of students in each high school and district who have logged on and created a planner. Please take a look at how your district and high schools are doing in taking advantage of this essential online tool.

Each month we will recognize the top 10 high schools that have the highest number of students with an ePEP, as well as the 10 schools with the greatest percentage of students with a planner. This month we are recognizing the following high schools and their respective districts for being early adopters of this new planning tool:

Top 10 High Schools using ePEP (based on NUMBER of students who have one):

	SCHOOL NAME	COUNTY	ENROLLED	NEW LOG-INS	PERCENT
1.	Park Vista Community High	Palm Beach	2833	611	22%
2.	Lincoln High School	Leon	1996	453	23%
3.	Holmes County High School	Holmes	493	435	88%
4.	Haines City High School	Polk	1321	413	31%
5.	Western High School	Broward	2575	389	15%
6.	Bradford High School	Bradford	1053	362	34%
7.	Desoto County High School	Desoto	1261	357	28%
8.	West Nassau County High School	Nassau	1038	320	31%
9.	William H. Turner Technical Arts High School	Dade	1771	287	16%
10.	Lake Placid High School	Highlands	794	271	34%

Top 10 High Schools using ePEP (based on the PERCENTAGE of students with an ePEP)*:

	SCHOOL NAME	COUNTY	ENROLLED	NEW LOG-INS	PERCENT
1.	Holmes County High School	Holmes	493	435	88%
2.	Sarasota Military Academy	Sarasota	451	263	58%
3.	Blountstown High School	Calhoun	428	189	44%
4.	Graceville High School	Jackson	181	79	44%
5.	The Villages Charter High School	Sumter	435	174	40%
6.	Bradford High School	Bradford	1053	362	34%
7.	Lake Placid High School	Highlands	794	271	34%
8.	Haines City High School	Polk	1321	413	31%
9.	West Nassau County High School	Nassau	1038	320	31%
10.	Desoto County High School	Desoto	1261	357	28%

As you know, the ePEP, and accompanying High School Academic Evaluation, allows students to evaluate their transcripts for progress towards meeting requirements for high school graduation, Bright Futures scholarships, and state university admissions. The ePEP also provides the Districts with a tool to comply with Section 1009.531(4), Florida Statutes, which mandates that each high school student receive a complete and accurate Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Evaluation Report and Key annually.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to increase awareness and encourage the use of the new ePEP. As noted in my October 10 memo, promotional ideas and materials can be found on the FACTS.org web site by clicking on the "Marketing & Promotional Materials" link at the bottom of each page. These materials include a short video, the "ePEP Tutorial Guide," that shows students how to use the new planner. FACTS.org is conducting a series of regional trainings for all Guidance Counselors around the state. A schedule of regional trainings will be sent out in January. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact FACTS.org at (850) 245-0518 or via email at facts@fldoe.org.

JW/srg

Attachment

- c: Assistant Superintendents for Instruction
- District Guidance Supervisors
- District Student Services Supervisors
- District Bright Futures Directors
- District Public Information Officers
- High School Principals
- High School Guidance Counselors
- High School Media Specialists
- Chancellor Cheri Yecke

* The top 10 schools in terms of percentages were chosen from among high schools with an enrollment of at least 100 students.