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Contact Information

Shan Goff
(805) 245-0445
Shan.Goff@fldoe.org
DPS: 2009-161

MEMORANDUM 09-20

TO: Interested Persons
District Prekindergarten Contacts
Early Learning Coalition Executive Directors

FROM: Shan Goff, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning

SUBJECT: Announcement of Rule Development Workshops: 2008-09 Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate and Information on the New 2009-10 Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading

2008-09 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate Rule

One of the major accountability components of Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program is the calculation of the VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate. These rates are calculated based upon the performance of VPK "graduates" on the statewide kindergarten screening. The state's first Readiness Rates were released in June 2007 (for more information, go to: [VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate Website - Home](#)). The method used to calculate the Readiness Rate is determined annually and approved by the State Board of Education via Rule 6A-1.099821, Florida Administrative Code. To gather public input on the methodology for calculating the 2008-09 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate, we have scheduled six Rule Development Workshops (see attachments for copies of the DRAFT Rule and scheduled workshops).

2009-10 NEW Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading

Since 2006-07, the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS) has consisted of the Early Childhood Observation System (ECHOS) and two measures of the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS): Letter Naming Fluency and Initial Sound Fluency. Beginning with the 2009-10 school year, the DIBELS measures will be replaced with the new Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading that have been developed in collaboration with the Florida Center for Reading Research. The new screenings are aligned with the VPK

SHAN GOFF
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING

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Education Standards and will be administered by the kindergarten teacher. Information on the new screening instruments was initially provided during the 2007-08 Readiness Rate Rule Development workshops and at various statewide conferences. This information will again be provided at the rule development workshops referenced above.

For more information regarding the proposed rule, please contact the Office of Early Learning, at 1-866-447-1159 or via email, earlylearning@fldoe.org.

SG/ep

Attachments (2)

cc: Brittany Birken
Matt Guse
Early Learning Coalition Chairpersons
District Assessment Coordinators
District Assistant Superintendents of Instruction