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MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Dr. Michael Grego

DATE: August 12, 2011

SUBJECT: **House Bill 1255 Provisions Relating to Middle Grades Promotion and Course Requirements**

House Bill 1255 passed in the 2011 legislative session, and the Governor signed the legislation on June 17, 2011. This memorandum addresses revisions to s. 1003.4156, F.S., entitled *General requirements for middle grades promotion*.

Subsection (1)(a), paragraph 5, of the statute has been expanded to require that a student with a disability, as defined in s. 1007.02 (2), F.S., for whom the individual education plan team determines that an end-of-course assessment cannot accurately measure the student's abilities, taking into consideration all allowable accommodations, shall have the end-of-course assessment results waived for purposes of determining the student's course grade and completing the requirements for middle grades promotion.

In addition, subsection (1)(b) of the statute has been expanded to require that a middle grades student who scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on FCAT Reading, but who did not score below Level 3 in the previous three years, may be granted a one-year exemption from the reading remediation requirement. It also requires that such a student must have an approved academic improvement plan already in place, signed by the appropriate school staff and the student's parent, for the year for which the exemption is granted.

The changes made by House Bill 1255 became effective July 1, 2011. If you have questions relating to the above changes in legislation, please contact Ann Whitney, Director, Office of Humanities, at (850) 245-9965, or via email at Ann.Whitney@fldoe.org.

MG/aw

cc: District Curriculum Directors

DR. MICHAEL GREGO
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS