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MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Cheri Pierson Yecke, Ph.D.

DATE: January 11, 2007

SUBJECT: Resources for A++ Implementation

I am pleased to announce a recent analysis of current course offerings at Florida's public high schools that earned a school grade in 2006 found that, on average, high schools can offer 130 major areas of interest just with existing course offerings. An additional 89 major areas of interest, on average, could be offered if one or two courses were added. This analysis demonstrates Florida's commitment to offering a wide range of relevant courses and signifies that schools are well on their way to delivering phenomenal services for our students.

As districts prepare to report major areas of interest offerings for each high school and begin the process of assisting eighth grade students to successfully transition to the 2007-2008 academic year, several key resources are now available that are attached to this memo and will be posted on the A++ web site at <http://www.fldoe.org/APlusPlus/> including:

- 2007 Timeline of Activities for Major Areas of Interest (MAIs)
- Florida's New High School Graduation Opportunities, "*It's a Major Opportunity!*" for Students Entering Ninth Grade in 2007-2008, Technical Assistance Powerpoint;
- *Florida's Guide to Public High School Graduation- It's a Major Opportunity* (2007-2008)
- A++ Implementation and Academic Advising Assistance Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Additionally, resources that can be found on-line to support your schools ability to provide as many major areas of interest as possible to students:

- Excel files listing all the possible major areas of interest available at each school based on 2006 course offerings available at <http://www.fldoe.org/APlusPlus/>, link [Florida's 442 Approved Major Areas of Interest for Students Entering High School in 2007-2008 and Their Courses](#); links are named in district clusters.
- The listing of courses available through Florida Virtual school at <http://www.flvs.net/>.
- The listing of dual enrollment courses available to students available at <http://www.fldoe.org/APlusPlus/>, link [Florida's 442 Approved Major Areas of Interest for Students Entering High School in 2007-2008 and Their Courses](#); click courses for the approved AA degree major area of interest.

I encourage you to utilize these resources and share information with fellow educators, students, and parents in your district. Remember, selecting a high school major area of interest is not the same as selecting a college major or making a life-long commitment to a specific occupation; selecting a high school major area of interest is an opportunity for students to choose electives that truly interest them, providing a meaningful connection to coursework and time spent in school. **Major areas of interest and specific courses for each major area of interest must be reported for each high school by January 31, 2007**, on the web-based Major Areas of Interest submission site at <http://fldoe.org/APlusPlus/> (see instructions provided in K-12 Memo, December 8, 2006).

For questions or concerns, please contact Mary Jane Tappen at (850) 245-0818 or email at Mary.Tappen@fldoe.org.

Thank you for your support and attention to this matter.

CYP/mtl

cc: High School Principals
Middle School Principals
District Student Service Directors
District Guidance Directors
Directors of Curriculum Instruction