

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Items

March 20, 2007

SUBJECT: Approval of Rule 6A-1.099821, FAC - Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK)
Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

1002.73(2)(d), Florida Statutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS)

Section 1002.69(1), Florida Statutes, requires the State Board of Education to adopt a statewide kindergarten screening that assesses the readiness of each student for kindergarten based upon the VPK performance standards. The 2006-07 FLKRS consisted of the Early Childhood Observational System (ECHOS) and the Letter Naming Fluency and Initial Sound Fluency probes from the Dynamic Indicators of Basis Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS). Consistent with the above statutory requirements, both instruments were administered within the first 30 days of school. Statewide results for all public school kindergarten students were released on December 8, 2006.

VPK Provider's Kindergarten Readiness Rate

Section 1002.69(5), Florida Statutes, requires the State Board of Education (SBOE) to adopt procedures for the Department to annually calculate each VPK provider's kindergarten readiness rate, which must be expressed as the percentage of the provider's or schools. Section 1002.69(6)(a), Florida Statutes, requires the SBOE to, "...periodically adopt a minimum kindergarten readiness rate that...would demonstrate the provider's or school's satisfactory delivery of the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program."

Activities Related to Rule Development

Listed below are some of the activities, designed to both provide and solicit information related to the calculation of the readiness rate, that have occurred.

- September, 2005 Rule Development Workshops (3)
- July – October, 2006 VPK Provider Forums (14)
- December, 2006 Rule Development Workshops (3)
- December, 2006 Early Learning Advisory Committee Presentation

Policy issues (e.g., cell size and completion rate) were also discussed as part of the August and December 2006 State Board of Education meetings.

In collaboration with the Agency for Workforce Innovation, a VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Website (vpk.fldoe.org) has been created for the:

- verification by VPK providers of the cumulative list of all children served and the corresponding total number of hours
- release of the VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates for the 2005-06 School-Year and Summer Programs by individual provider
- creation of customized views based on provider and child characteristics
- transfer of VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate data to a MS Excel format.

In addition, an Improvement Process web page has been created for the:

- development and submission of Improvement Plans and Quarterly Progress Reports by VPK providers not meeting the readiness rate
- review and approval of improvement plans and progress reports by coalitions and school districts.

This presentation will provide an overview of the calculation methodology and the web page.

Supporting Documentation Included: Rule 6A-1.099821, FAC - Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate
VPK Accountability: Timelines for Activities Related to Provider Readiness Rate 2005-06 Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Readiness Rate Report

Facilitators/Presenters: Shan Goff, Executive Director and Martha Haynes, Ph.D., Director, Accountability, Office of Early Learning