

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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CONTACT PERSONS

Name: Mary Jo Butler
Phone: (850) 245-0479
Suncom: 205-0479
Email:
maryjo.butler@fldoe.org

Name: Heather Sherry
Phone: (850) 245-0407
Suncom: 205-0407
Email:
heather.sherry@fldoe.org

Name: Rose Raynak
Phone: (850) 245-9020
Suncom: 205-9020
Email:
rose.raynak@fldoe.org

DPS: 04-083

MEMORANDUM

To: District School Superintendents
Community College Presidents

From: Jim Warford, Chancellor
K-12 Education

J. David Armstrong, Jr., Chancellor
Community Colleges

Date: February 18, 2004

Subject: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION – HOUSE BILL 23B

The 2003 Legislature passed House Bill 23B to provide learning opportunities to certain students to meet high school graduation requirements and to authorize an alternate assessment for the Grade 10 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) for students in the graduating class of 2002-2003. Florida Department of Education staff developed and disseminated information related to this legislation via DPS Memo #04-023, dated August 29, 2003. Clarification on policy issues related to community college admissions was provided by Chancellor Armstrong to the Community College Presidents via DCC Memo #03-27, dated July 18, 2003.

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Please find enclosed a technical assistance paper that provides more specific information and addresses issues and concerns identified by school district and community college personnel. Department staff, representing the K-20 system, collaborated in the development of this technical assistance paper and will continue to develop additional materials to provide guidance for implementing this legislation. We are available to provide assistance as you and your staff address this new legislation.

If you have questions or need additional information regarding K-12 curriculum, instruction, or guidance services, please contact Mary Jo Butler or Helen Lancashire at hlancash@tempest.coedu.usf.edu. If you have questions regarding career and technical education, please contact Rose Raynak. Questions related to admission requirements for state community colleges should be directed to Heather Sherry.

JW/JDA:mjbf/hss

Enclosure

cc:Assistant Superintendents for Instruction
Student Services Directors
ESE Directors
Guidance Supervisors
ESOL Coordinators
High School Principals
Adult Education Directors
Area Technical Center Directors
Local Vocational Educational Directors
Community College Occupational Deans
Community College Admissions Officers