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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Principals

FROM: Cheri Pierson Yecke, Ph.D.

DATE: February 27, 2006

SUBJECT: **Technical Assistance Paper: The Response to Intervention (RtI) Model**

Contact Information:

Name: Heather Diamond

Phone: (850) 245-0478

E-mail: heather.diamond@fldoe.org

K12: 2006-22

We are pleased to provide you with this technical assistance paper (TAP) designed to introduce and clarify the nature of the Response to Intervention (RtI) model to schools, as this model may be applied to any student or group of students who are not progressing adequately in the core curriculum academically and/or behaviorally. This document was developed in response to requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004. In this initial stage of the introduction to RtI, it is important to learn about the process, disseminate related technical information, and promote positive discussions surrounding the ultimate benefits to all students. These efforts are in accordance with the Department's commitment to improve student rates of learning so that every student is proficient on grade level in reading, writing, and mathematics.

This TAP is not intended to dictate action, but to encourage it. It is not intended to fully prepare the reader for implementation of RtI because successful implementation will involve extensive professional development efforts. This TAP addresses how high-quality RtI practices may contribute to the eligibility decision for exceptional student education. It does not provide specific criteria for determination of eligibility for specific categorical primary and/or secondary disabilities. Professional development efforts, State Board of Education Rule revisions, and policy changes will be forthcoming dependant upon the finalization of the Federal Regulations for IDEA 2004.

If you have any questions regarding this document, you may contact Heather Diamond, Program Specialist, at (850) 245-0478 or by electronic mail at heather.diamond@fldoe.org.

CPY/hdt

Attachment: RtI TAP

cc: Student Support Services Directors
Exceptional Student Education Directors
District Curriculum Specialists
Florida Center for Reading Research Directors

CHERI PIERSON YECKE, PH.D.
CHANCELLOR, K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS