

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Requested Reports, Updates, and Discussions  
October 18, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Issues Relating to Selecting a Kindergarten Screening Instrument

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

n/a

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

n/a

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The 2004-05 school year is the third year that all school districts have used a uniform system for assessing readiness for kindergarten (referred to as the School Readiness Uniform Screening System (SRUSS)). This screening system consists of the administration of the Early Screening Inventory – Kindergarten (ESI-K) and the first two measures of the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Literacy Skills (DIBELS), *Letter Naming* and *Initial Sounds Fluency*.

HB 1A, passed during the 2004 Special Session to implement the VPK Program, repealed section 1008.21, Florida Statutes, *Readiness uniform screening (kindergarten)* and created section 1002.69, Florida Statutes, *Statewide kindergarten screening; kindergarten readiness rates*.

The Kindergarten Screening and Readiness Rate Workgroup met on September 1-2, 2005 and made recommendations for the selection of a kindergarten screening instrument. Recommendations were generated that include number of measures, timing, importance of high validity and reliability, norms, culturally sensitive, scoring, and assessment administration.

The presentation will provide a more in depth description of the above recommendations.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:**

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

Shan Goff, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning