

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Reports, Updates, and Discussions  
November 15, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program Update

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Information

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

N/A

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This presentation will provide an update on the status of the emergent literacy course for VPK instructors, planning for the summer VPK program, and on the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 2006-07 Kindergarten Screening Instrument(s).

Emergent Literacy Course

On March 15, 2005, the State Board of Education approved the standards for the development of the Department of Education's (DOE's) Five-Hour Course on Emergent Literacy to satisfy the requirements of Section 1002.59, Florida Statutes. This course was developed via a grant to the North East Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC) in collaboration with early childhood experts and practitioners and experts in the field of emergent literacy. This course is now available free in various formats.

Planning for the 2006 Summer VPK Program

Section 1002.61, Florida Statutes, specifies the requirements for the summer VPK program. Section 1002.53(6)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that, "...the school district must provide for the admission of every eligible child within the district whose parent enrolls the child in a summer prekindergarten program delivered by a public school under s. 1002.61." A meeting of the Summer Planning VPK Workgroup was held in Tampa on November 8<sup>th</sup> to provide a DRAFT of the *Summer VPK Planning Tool* and to provide a forum for the discussion of the details related to implementing this program.

RFP for 2006-07 Kindergarten Screening Instrument

The DOE is developing this RFP, consistent with the information provided to the SBE on October 18<sup>th</sup> and the corresponding priority project for Strategic Imperative 2.0: Set, Align, and Apply Academic Curricular and Testing Standards, for release in November/December 2005.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Emergent Literacy Course Brochure  
*DRAFT Summer VPK Planning Tool*

**Facilitators/Presenters:**

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