

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy Issue for Concurrence

October 16, 2007

**SUBJECT: VPK Accountability: Calculation of 2006-07 VPK Provider  
Kindergarten Readiness Rate**

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### **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Concurrence

### **AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

1002.69(5), Florida Statutes

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### Calculation of 2005-06 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates

Section 1002.69(5), Florida Statutes, requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt procedures for the Department of Education (DOE) to annually calculate each VPK provider's kindergarten readiness rate, which must be expressed as the percentage of the providers or schools who are assessed as ready for kindergarten. On March 20, 2007, the State Board of Education adopted Rule 6A-1.099821, FAC., Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Readiness Rate, which prescribed the procedures for calculating the 2005-06 kindergarten readiness rate. These procedures included:

- An opportunity for VPK providers to verify the cumulative list of children served in their program and the total number of hours enrolled via the readiness rate website (<https://vpk.fl DOE.org>) prior to the DOE's calculation of the preliminary readiness rate (see paragraph (2)(a) of the rule).
- The calculation of a kindergarten readiness rate for each public and private VPK provider that served at least four children who:
  - were enrolled in the VPK program for eighty-five percent (85%) of the program, including allowable absences
  - participated in each of the kindergarten screening measures (see paragraph (3)(a) of the rule).
- The posting of information on the VPK Readiness Rate website as to why a public or private provider was not included in the readiness rate calculation (i.e., did not have four children who were in attendance for at least 70% and participated in the kindergarten screening measures)(see paragraph (3)(b) of the rule).

- The assignment of one point for each percent of “Children Ready for Kindergarten” on each screening measure and that the readiness rate was the sum of this percent on each screening measure with a maximum of 300 points (see paragraphs (4)(a)-(c) of the rule).
- The ranking of VPK providers according to their final readiness rate (see paragraph (4)(e) of the rule).
- The requirement that low performing providers acknowledge their status (see paragraph (5) of the rule).

#### Calculation of 2006-07 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates

Seven rule development workshops were advertised in the August 17, 2007, Florida Administratively Weekly and announced statewide through additional correspondence. Seven rule development workshops were held in September. Two-hundred fifty (250) individuals representing VPK providers and teachers, early learning coalitions, and public school districts were in attendance.

This agenda item will include a presentation and discussion of the above policy issues related to the calculation of the 2006-07 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate. In addition, the following will be included:

- impact of provider change in ownership, location, and/or name on readiness rates
- usage of IDEL scores (Spanish Letter Naming Fluency) probes for selected providers.

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#### **Supporting Documentation Included:**

- Rule 6A-1.099821, FAC, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate
- Screen Shot of VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate Website
- Screen Shots of 2005-06 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate Report

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Shan Goff, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning