

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Action Item

December 2, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Critical Teacher Shortage Areas for 2009-2010

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### PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

### AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1012.07, Florida Statutes  
State Board of Education Rule 6A-20.0131(2)

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Florida Statutes require the State Board of Education to approve areas of critical teacher shortage for use in implementing the Critical Teacher Shortage Tuition Reimbursement Program and the Critical Teacher Shortage Student Loan Forgiveness Program. State Board Rule requires the Commissioner to recommend specific projected public school teacher shortage areas for the next academic year.

Each fall the Department of Education surveys school districts to determine the number of teaching positions filled that fall. The survey results provide two indicators of subject fields currently facing critical shortages. These indicators include: (1) the number of new hires as a percentage of teachers in each field and (2) the number of positions filled by teachers who lack appropriate certification. A third measure of teacher shortage is the number of teachers currently teaching courses in subjects in which they are not certified. The projected numbers of teachers needed in the target year are then compared to the projected teacher supply.

Based on these indicators, the Commissioner recommends that the State Board approve the identification of the following fields as critical shortage areas for 2009-2010: (1) middle and high school level mathematics; (2) middle and high school level science; (3) middle and high school level English/language arts; (4) reading; (5) exceptional student education programs, (6) English for speakers of other languages (ESOL), (7) foreign languages; and (8) technology education/industrial arts. These are the same fields that were designated as critical shortage areas for 2008-2009.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Ranking, Critical Teacher Shortage Areas 2009-2010

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Jay Pfeiffer, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement