

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 18, 2003

SUBJECT: *Reading First* update

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

This is an update.

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

N/A

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Just Read, Florida! Office recently completed the review process for Round I of the federal *Reading First* grant. Part of the No Child Left Behind Act, the purpose of the *Reading First* grant is to assist Florida districts and schools in the implementation of proven methods of scientifically based reading instruction in classrooms in order to prevent reading difficulties in grades K-3. The competitive sub-grant process ensures that Florida school districts meet the eligibility criteria prescribed by the *Reading First* federal legislation and Florida's state grant application.

Florida, Alabama and Colorado were the first states in the nation to be awarded *Reading First* state grants. Florida will receive over \$300 million over the next six years to help reach Governor Bush's goal that every child will read at or above grade level by 2012.

Supporting Documentation Included: press release, spreadsheet of awardees

Facilitators/Presenters: Mary Laura Openshaw