

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
September 23, 2016

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-6.0950, Notice Requirements for Opportunity Scholarship Program

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1002.38(4), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP) is to provide additional opportunities for students to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in college, career and life. The OSP allows a public school student's parent to request and receive an opportunity scholarship for the student to attend a higher-performing public school if the student has been in attendance at or is assigned to attend a school that received a school grade of "F" or three consecutive grades of "D."

Upon release of school grades, each district is required to notify parents of the OSP option if their child is in an OSP-designated school. Prior to the 2014-15 school year, school grades for high schools were released in the winter, and the rule had a separate deadline for parent notifications. Now that all school grades are released in the summer, the separate deadline is no longer necessary and is being removed in this proposed rule revision.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-6.0950, F.A.C.

Facilitator: Adam Miller, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

6A-6.0950 Notice Requirements for Opportunity Scholarship Program.

The following provisions have been established to administer the requirements of Section 1002.38(3)(a), F.S.

(1) through (2) No change.

(3) The school district shall notify the parent of each student enrolled in or assigned to an Opportunity Scholarship Program eligible school of the opportunity to enroll the student in a higher-performing school in the district and of the opportunity to enroll the student in a higher-performing school that has available space in any other school district in the state.

~~(a) For Opportunity Scholarship Program eligible schools that receive their school grade at the end of the school year and prior to the start of the following school year, T~~the school district shall notify parents of the opportunity to transfer to a higher performing school no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the district receives notification by the Department of Opportunity Scholarship Program eligible schools.

~~(b) For Opportunity Scholarship Program eligible schools that receive their school grade pursuant to Section 1008.34(3)(b)3., F.S., the students assigned to that school are eligible to transfer to a higher performing school for the school year following that in which they receive the school grade. After receiving notification by the Department of the Opportunity Scholarship Program eligible schools under this paragraph, the school district shall notify parents of the opportunity to transfer to a higher performing school no later than (30) calendar days prior to the start of the next school year.~~

(4) through (5) No change.

Rulemaking Authority 1002.38(4) FS. Law Implemented 1002.38 FS. History—New 6-20-12.