MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Richard Corcoran

DATE: June 26, 2020

SUBJECT: Out-of-Field Teachers

Due to recent events, many teachers who taught last year in an out-of-field position have been unable to complete the college credits or in-service training required to continue their teaching positions. As a result, many of these teachers are in peril of losing their job and unless some relief is provided, school districts will be unable to fill positions or will be forced to fill positions with teachers with less experience or fewer qualifications. In order to avoid this, I am prepared to grant requests by district superintendents and charter school chief administrators, to allow educators who are teaching subjects other than ESOL or reading, to continue in an out-of-field assignment during the 2020-21 school year. Pursuant to Rule 6A-1.0503(3)(b)4., Florida Administrative Code, superintendents and charter school administrators wishing to take advantage of this flexibility should send a statement to Daniel Moore, Chief, Bureau of Educator Certification at Daniel.Moore@fldoe.org.

This flexibility will only apply to the 2020-2021 school year. All educators must obtain certification coverage in the out-of-field subject or successfully demonstrate progress toward obtaining the required certification coverage during the 2020-2021 school year in order to continue working in the out-of-field coverage area.

While this flexibility does not apply to educators who are out-of-field in ESOL or Reading, educators who are out-of-field in Reading may remain out-of-field until December 31, 2020 per DOE ORDER NO. 2020-EQ-02, which states that sections 1008.25(7)(b)3., 1011.62(9)(c)5., and 1011.62(9)(d)1., F.S., and Rule 6A-6.6053(9)(c)5., F.A.C., are suspended to allow teachers who are not certified or endorsed in reading to provide intensive reading interventions out of-field until December 31, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact Daniel Moore, Chief, Bureau of Educator Certification.

RC/dm