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MEMORANDUM

TO: Early Learning Coalition Executive Directors
School District VPK Coordinator

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: October 3, 2014

SUBJECT: Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2015

The Just Read, Florida! Office and the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), in partnership with other FDOE offices, Florida's Office of Early Learning, school districts, Early Learning Coalitions and numerous other state agencies, are planning the seventh annual statewide Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! event. Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2015 is scheduled for the week of **January 26-30, 2015**, so mark your calendars now for this important week of events!

The goals of Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! are to promote literacy throughout the state by raising awareness of the many exciting things happening in classrooms along with the programs and projects offered by the FDOE and its partner agencies and organizations. Most of all, the objective is to promote the enjoyment of reading for children and adults of all ages.

As part of the Just Read, Florida! Celebrate Literacy Week, we are providing multiple opportunities for early childhood programs to support this effort and to promote literacy in your center/schools.

Once again, voluntary pre-kindergarten and pre-school programs are encouraged to participate in the simultaneous reading. Details around this event will be provided by Florida's Office of Early Learning at a later date. The simultaneous reading is a great opportunity for teachers and students to bond together, celebrate literacy and recognize the importance of reading every day.

In addition, and NEW this year, centers may enter the Celebrate Literacy Week! "Reading Accelerates Success" photo contest. Providing students with a welcoming, exciting and ever changing reading nook is a key focal point in every early childhood classroom. Reading nooks provide students with opportunities to read and explore the elements of reading in a "special" location. Providers wishing to participate in the contest must send in two photos of their classroom's "reading nook" for a chance to win a gift basket filled with useful resources for your

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classroom and center. First, second and third place winners will be awarded. Please see the attached submission form for specific submission details and the submission deadline.

For more information, please visit the Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! website at <http://www.justreadflorida.com/literacyweek.asp>. We look forward to your participation in these literacy events and thank you for your commitment to making literacy the highest priority every day in your centers and schools!

Let's continue celebrating together!

PS/hc

cc: K-12 Reading Contacts

Attachment