

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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July 13, 2006

### **MEMORANDUM #06-15**

**TO:** Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS)

**FROM:** Shan Goff, Executive Director, Office of Early Learning

Bambi J. Lockman, Chief, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services

**SUBJECT:** 300-Hour Summer Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program

The 300-Hour Summer Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education program is being offered throughout the state by local school districts and some private providers. For some children, this is their first opportunity to participate in a "structured" educational setting. For these children, the demands of a full day learning program, although designed to be developmentally appropriate, may be challenging.

In an effort to address the learning and behavioral/social needs of all children, we are asking that you continue to build a collaborative partnership with the VPK programs in your region and provide resources that may help discern when a referral to Child Find is appropriate. Any technical assistance and support you can share with teachers and families in the areas of classroom management, positive behavioral supports, and age appropriate behavioral interventions (i.e., social and conflict resolution skills training) will help to ensure that all children have an opportunity to succeed in VPK.

We appreciate your collaborative efforts and support.

SG/BJL/db