

# FACT SHEET

## for Sunshine Connections

### Introduction

This fact sheet is for teachers, administrators, and parents. It is designed to assist you with two of Florida's priorities: improving student achievement and informing parents about a useful on-line tool that is available and accessible to their children's teachers and administrators.

### What is Sunshine Connections?

It is a collection of on-line tools designed to save time, expand capabilities, maximize efficiencies, and ultimately help teachers perform their challenging jobs of improving student performance. With *Sunshine Connections*, teachers will have on-line access to a basic set of "core functions" that can assist with instructional, administrative, or communication duties; or they may instead choose to customize *Sunshine Connections* around similar products developed or purchased at the local level.

### Who created Sunshine Connections?

The Florida Department of Education partnered with the Microsoft Corporation to develop an on-line teacher tool to assist teachers, school leaders and parents who will be able to use up-to-date, relevant data to better individualize teaching and learning and ultimately improve student achievement.

### What is the purpose of Sunshine Connections?

- To connect teachers with resources that encourage improvement within the teaching and learning environment.
- To provide teachers with information they need to make decisions about curriculum and instruction after viewing data regarding individual student performance.
- To shift the culture of education in Florida, transforming classrooms into 21st century learning environments and enabling teachers to individualize instruction for every student.
- To provide current student progress information for parent/teacher conferences.



For more information on Sunshine Connections, contact:

**Florida Department of Education  
Bureau of Family and Community Outreach**  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 544  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  
Phone: (850) 245-0847 or Suncom 205-0847, Fax: (850) 245-0849  
<http://www.fldoe.org/family/>  
[www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org)

# Sunshine Connections



## What are the benefits of utilizing Sunshine Connections?

- *Sunshine Connections* brings together the entire learning community to share resources, creative ideas, and best practices that create vast opportunities for new teaching strategies.
- This on-line tool allows educators to manage daily functions and plan a quality education for all students in a unique paperless environment.
- With *Sunshine Connections*, administrators can easily keep up with student records as students move between districts in Florida's mobile society.
- *Sunshine Connections* will continually evolve and improve as the result of direct input from teachers.



### **Bureau of Family and Community Outreach**

325 West Gaines Street, Suite 544

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Phone: (850) 245-0847 or Suncom 205-0847, Fax: (850) 245-0849

<http://www.fldoe.org/family>

[www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org)