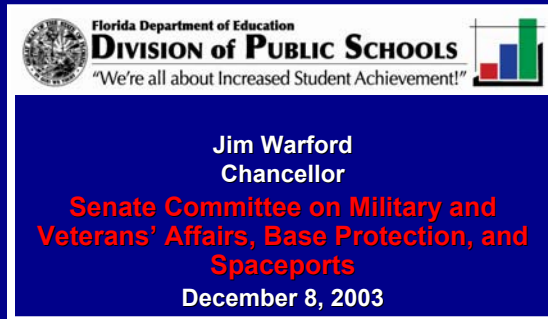


Military Student Education Report



Jim Horne, Commissioner of Education

2003 Senate Bill 2802

2003 Legislature created new section in Florida Statutes that required the Department of Education to assist in transition of school-age dependents of military personnel

SB 2802 Required DOE to

- Improve timely transfer of student records
- Establish procedures to lessen adverse impact of moves in junior and senior years
- Encourage or enhance partnerships between military bases and school districts
- Identify efforts and strategies for assisting military-connected students and report findings to Legislature

DOE Methodology

- Reviewed national research to identify best and promising practices and provide framework for local collaborative efforts
- Developed on-line survey
- Analyzed survey results and prepared report

Military Bases in Florida

11 School Districts

- Bay
- Brevard
- Clay
- Dade
- Duval
- Escambia
- Hillsborough
- Monroe
- Okaloosa
- Pinellas
- Santa Rosa

Review of Literature

United States Army Community and Family Support Center and Military Child Education Coalition conducted the *Secondary Education Transition Study*

- Memorandum of Agreement
- Best and Promising Practices

Best Practices

- Improving timely transfer of records
- Developing systems to ease student transition
- Fostering access to extracurricular activities
- Establishing procedures to lessen adverse impact of moves during junior and senior year

Best Practices (cont.)

- Encouraging or continuing partnerships between military base and school system
- Providing services for transitioning students when applying to and finding funds for postsecondary education
- Providing other assistance as identified by schools and military personnel

DOE Survey Results

Of school districts that responded...

- 87.5% of school districts with military installations and 90% of contiguous districts provide names and contact information of school personnel for additional information pertaining to transfer of records
- 75% of districts with military installations and 40% of contiguous districts monitor support systems and practices to increase likelihood of quick/smooth assimilation

DOE Survey Results (cont.)

- 87.5% of districts with military installations include or plan to include senior level military representation as ex-officio member or advisor to school board
- 75% of districts with military installations collaborate or plan to collaborate with military installation to provide community orientation program for military families

DOE Survey Results (cont.)

- 100% of districts with military installations publicize scholarships and grants available to all students and those designed for military-connected students
- 100% of districts with military installations and 40% of contiguous districts have developed or plan to develop and support joint professional development between district and military installations

Recommendations for DOE

- Disseminate results of survey
- Encourage districts to continue and expand current collaborative efforts
- Facilitate development and implementation of Memorandums of Agreement between districts and military installations
- Provide districts with technical assistance related to development of student progression plans and transfer of student records

Recommendations for DOE (cont.)

- Facilitate conference calls with districts to maximize access to cross-district assistance for implementation of best practices
- Review graduation requirements in other states to identify barriers to transferring credits and courses from out-of-state
- Conduct survey in 2004 to determine degree to which districts implemented the “plan to implement” activities