

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

T. WILLARD FAIR, *Chairman*

Members

DR. AKSHAY DESAI

ROBERTO MARTÍNEZ

PHOEBE RAULERSON

KATHLEEN SHANAHAN

LINDA K. TAYLOR

Dr. Eric J. Smith
Commissioner of Education



MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Assistant Superintendents
District Finance Officers
School Principals
Presidents, Florida College System

FROM: Dr. Eric J. Smith

DATE: July 17, 2008

SUBJECT: GOVERNOR CRIST SIGNS SENATE BILL 1908

By signing Senate Bill 1908, the Governor has kept Florida on a path to increased student achievement. Within this bill are several components in line with the Next Generation initiatives I have been discussing around the state, namely the adoption of Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, revision of the factors used to grade high schools, and the assessment of college readiness. These changes will impact education programs and services at all levels in Florida.

In addition, there are many other important topics addressed in Senate Bill 1908 that I wanted to bring to your attention as soon as possible (listed below). A summary of each is contained in the attached document and further technical assistance will be provided as identified under each topic. In the meantime, please feel free to use the contact information provided to seek answers to your questions.

- Next Generation Sunshine State Standards – page 1
- School Grading, Alternative School Improvement Rating System, School Recognition – page 2
- College Readiness – page 3
- Assessment – page 4
- FCAT Preparation Activities – page 5
- Electronic Personal Education Planner (ePep) – page 6

CONTACT INFORMATION

Holly Edenfield
Holly.Edenfield@fldoe.org
(850) 245-0509
Specific contacts are provided
under each topic within the
attached document.
K-12: 2008-90

Governor Crist Signs Senate Bill 1908

July 17, 2008

Page Two

- Arts Requirement for High School Graduation – page 6
- Standard High School Diploma Designations – page 7
- Dual Enrollment – page 7
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) – page 7
- School Advisory Council (SAC) Membership – page 8
- Teacher Certification – page 8
- Corporate Tax Credit (CTC) Scholarship Assessments – page 9
- Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) – page 9
- Florida Ready to Work Credential – page 9
- Florida Teachers Lead Program – page 10
- Cafeteria Sanitation Certificate – page 10

As you can see, this comprehensive legislation will affect your district staff, school-based administrators, teachers, and students. Please don't hesitate to contact our staff with any questions as we move forward to implement its provisions together. Additional information will be provided as soon as possible. The Office of Governmental Relations will be posting all pertinent publications on the implementation of this legislation at www.fldoe.org/gr.

ES/hre

Attachment