

Pam Stewart Commissioner of Education

January 30, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: ELC Coalition/School District VPK contacts and VPK stakeholders

FROM: Rodney MacKinnon, Interim Executive Director

SUBJECT: 2013-14 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates

The purpose of the memo is to provide all parties with an update regarding the status of the 2013-14 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates. As you likely know, those rates have been delayed this year due to changes to the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS) and technical issues with its implementation.

Section 1002.69(5), Florida Statutes, requires the Office of Early Learning (OEL) to annually calculate the provider kindergarten readiness rates. However, due to the FLKRS changes, OEL is considering all available data sources and will propose rule changes to the calculation of the readiness rates. In the new rule we will propose use the FLKRS data from the Work Sampling SystemTM and data from the VPK Assessment tool (Program Year 2013-14).

The following timelines are expected. Please note that these timelines represent OEL's current estimates and are subject to change as we move forward.

February 2015: Provider Verification of Enrollment Data March/April 2015: Rule Development Workshops Early May 2015: Preliminary 2013-14 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates Posted May 2015: State Board of Education Approval of Rule and Release of the Final 2013-14 Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates

Understanding that this is a transition year, OEL is moving forward in a thoughtful manner that provides consistency and stability in the VPK accountability system. OEL will use the VPK Readiness Rate Website to provide the information above and any changes that occur. It is our suggestion that you visit that website periodically for updates and to refer individual providers and members of the public to the site for general information. The VPK Readiness Rate website is located at www.vpk.fldoe.org.

Should you have additional questions, please send those questions to <u>VPKQuestions@oel.myflorida.com</u>.

RM/th

RODNEY MACKINNON INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING 250 MARRIOTT DRIVE • TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399 • 850-717-8550 • Toll Free 866-357-3239 • www.FloridaEarlyLearning.com

