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MEMORANDUM

TO: District Assessment Coordinators and District Alternate Assessment Coordinators

FROM: Victoria Ash, Chief
Bureau of K–12 Student Assessment

DATE: August 3, 2015

SUBJECT: **Florida Standards Alternate Assessment – Datafolio Trial Administration**

The *NEW Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA)* is coming in 2015–2016! In addition to the new performance-based assessment, which is administered in a manner similar to the former Florida Alternate Assessment (FAA), we will be conducting the trial administration of the FSAA-Datafolio. The FSAA-Datafolio is designed to provide a second option for assessing students with the *most* significant cognitive disabilities. Teachers who instruct students that meet the qualifying requirements can sign up to volunteer to participate in the *FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration* in 2015–2016.

The purpose of the *FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration* is to provide valuable feedback to the Florida Department of Education and Measured Progress regarding the *FSAA-Datafolio* program to ensure a valid, beneficial, and suitable method for assessing students with the *most* significant cognitive disabilities.

Teachers in your district may be interested in participating in the *FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration* if they support students for whom:

- no formal mode of communication has been established (e.g., limited communication/vocalization – not reliable, inconsistent, and/or unrecognizable);
- reactions to stimuli are evident (i.e., student only communicates that he or she is hungry, tired, sleepy, uncomfortable, etc.); however, the student does not communicate in other ways; **and/or**
- prior Florida Alternate Assessment (FAA) results have provided limited information (e.g., student required support to answer all or most FAA items) and/or reflected limited growth within Level 1.

Please distribute the attached flyer to those teachers in your district who anticipate having students who will participate in the *FSAA* in 2015–2016. As outlined in the flyer, *teachers interested in participating in the FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration must complete the online application survey by September 1, 2015: <http://www.measuredprogress.org/fsaadatafoliotrial>*. Teachers who complete the online application survey will receive notification regarding participation selection within two weeks of their survey completion date. Participation selection is based on meeting (draft) eligibility criteria, student demographics, and teacher commitment to the *FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration* process.

Teachers who are selected to participate in the *FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration* will need to attend one of the one-day offsite face-to-face administration trainings. Alternate Assessment Coordinators of teachers participating in the *FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration* are also invited to attend this training. Mileage and substitute reimbursements will be provided. Location detail will be provided as it becomes available. Please save the date for the training closest to you.

Date	City	Location
September 22, 2015	Tallahassee	TBD
September 23, 2015	Gainesville	TBD
September 24, 2015	Orlando	TBD
September 29, 2015	Tampa	TBD
September 30, 2015	Ft. Lauderdale	TBD
October 1, 2015	Miami	TBD

Note: Anyone traveling over 50 miles to a training location must receive authorization from Measured Progress prior to travel.

If you receive *FSAA-Datafolio Trial Administration* questions from teachers that you need assistance answering, please contact **Angela Nathaniel** at the Florida Department of Education via e-mail Angela.Nathaniel@fldoe.org or phone (850) 245-0972.

Teachers experiencing technical difficulties with the online survey should contact **Jessica Reinert** at Measured Progress. Support is available Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern Time at 1-800-431-8901 at ext. 7346.

VA/sa

Attachments

cc: Angela Nathaniel
 Jessica Reinert
 Monica Verra-Tirado

Vince Verges
 Assistant Deputy Commissioner
 Accountability, Research, and Measurement
 Office of Assessment