



FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

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FLORIDA SUPERINTENDENTS SUPPORT A TRANSITIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN AS PROPOSED BY SB1368

Tallahassee, FL – Florida’s accountability system is no longer credible in the eyes of the public – from the adoption of new standards to the nationally recognized awarding of school grades. Unless public confidence is restored, the entire system is at risk. This would be a mistake as the goal of the accountability system is to increase student performance.

Florida must realign and revamp the accountability system and regain the trust of students, teachers, parents and Floridians. Otherwise, the system will buckle due to the unrealistic expectations of the individual components of the system and the impending implementation date of 2014-2015. To that end, Florida superintendents fully support a transitional accountability system as proposed in SB-1368 sponsored by Sen. Bill Montford (D-Tallahassee) and Rep. Joe Saunders (D-Orlando), which provides for a three-year transition period culminating in full implementation in 2017-2018.

“It is unrealistic to expect a full and quality implementation across all grades and courses (K-12) by the 2014-2015 school year when we don’t even know what the assessment will look like,” states FADSS President Wally Cox. “The goal of having an integrated system that can accurately and fairly assess student performance, evaluate teachers, implement pay for performance and assign school grades is in jeopardy, and we need to slow down and get it right,” adds Cox.

As Constitutional officers charged to oversee the education of Florida’s 2.6 million public education students, Florida’s superintendents are committed to the ultimate goal of educational success for each and every student – and that starts with ensuring Florida has a credible, fair and reliable accountability system. Our students deserve it, our teachers and administrators deserve it, our businesses deserve it and ultimately Florida taxpayers deserve it.

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