



# FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

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## 2012 SCHOOL GRADES UNDERSCORE THE COMPLEXITIES WITH FLORIDA'S ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Tallahassee, FL – Florida superintendents applaud the hard work of teachers, principals and support staff that assisted students in meeting the ever-increasing performance standards. Florida is in the midst of a monumental transition regarding public education accountability and assessment. The school grades that were announced today are a small, but important, part of the transition that Florida's education system has undertaken in order to further move our state toward increased student achievement and accountability. However, Florida's education accountability system has to be valid and trustworthy to ensure that Florida's 2.6 million students receive the quality education they deserve.

"Superintendents are Constitutional officers charged to oversee the education of Florida students and they have consistently supported and embraced high standards and rigor," states Florida Association of District Schools Superintendent Chief Executive Officer Bill Montford. "To that end, we must be careful not to make decisions without a thorough understanding of the impact on students, as well as the feasibility of successfully implementing those decisions in a timely manner with adequate resources. Superintendents are concerned that many decisions are being made without a comprehensive review of the full impact of education decisions on students and school districts, and the recent changes in the accountability system have cast doubt on the credibility of the system," adds Montford.

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*The mission of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents is to assist and support superintendents in providing leadership to ensure that every student in Florida acquires the skills, knowledge and attitude to be contributing members of our democratic society through leadership development programs focused on student achievement, building relationships with business and governmental leaders, and communication and networking services.*

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