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MEMORANDUM

TO: District K-12 Reading Plan Contacts,
Assessment Coordinators, MIS Directors,
and Technology Contacts

FROM: Stuart Greenberg, Executive Director,
Just Read, Florida!

DATE: June 22, 2010

SUBJECT: **FAIR Updates for the 2010-2011 School Year**

Contact Information

Just Read, Florida!
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In an effort to keep you abreast of all Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR) refinements for the 2010-2011 school year, this memorandum includes a brief overview of the FAIR adjustments occurring over the course of the summer. The Department's main goal is to provide a stable FAIR system for all users statewide for the 2010-2011 school year, and therefore the refinements have been kept to those that the Department and the Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) believe are essential to assist teachers with making instructional decisions to meet the needs of all students. All adjustments are based on feedback from FAIR users across the state and data from 2009-2010 FAIR administration.

FAIR Refinements for Grades K-2

- Items have been adjusted on the first grade Word Reading task to include 10 items per Assessment Period (AP). This adjustment will ensure that a student's probability would maintain or increase if the student read all words correctly at each AP. This required a reprint of the first grade Student Score Booklet, Task Card Booklet, and the Probability of Reading Success (PRS) Chart. Information on ordering new first grade materials will be provided in an additional memorandum.

STUART GREENBERG
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JUST READ, FLORIDA!

- The Target Passage Expectation Guidance Document has been revised. During field studies, reading accuracy and comprehension data, from a large representative sample of Florida students were collected to initially establish benchmarks (or target stories). After completion of 2009-2010 FAIR administration, statewide data was used to refine these benchmarks (**Attachment 1**).

FAIR Refinements for Grades 3-12

- The number of passages at grades 3-12 will increase from approximately 60 to 135 passages, which will lead to a decreased likeliness of repetition of passages for students as they progress from grade to grade.
- Lexiles will be refined based on a recent linking study conducted this past winter.
- FCAT Success Probability (FSP) calculations for students without matched FCAT scores will rely solely on the Reading Comprehension (RC) screen rather than the school's FCAT mean score.
- An adaptive stop rule will be added for grades 3-5 students so that they will not receive passages that are too difficult. This will decrease student frustration at this level.
- The first passage provided to third grade students will be a less difficult passage than currently provided and additional below level passages will also be included.
- Changes will be made to items and reporting categories to match the new FCAT Item Specifications. The new reporting categories are: Vocabulary, Reading Application, Literary Analysis (fiction/nonfiction), and Informational Text/Research Process.

Rostering

- Initial rostering will occur during a new FTE Survey 8 – new survey solely for PMRN rostering.
- PMRN registration began May 10th and is projected to reopen this week.
- FAIR will be available on or around August 30th for Assessment Period (AP) 1.
 - FLKRS and K-2 FAIR may be delivered paper/pencil prior to this date for year round schools or schools with an Instructional Day 6 prior to the start of AP1.
- As of now, AP Windows will remain the same for 2010-11:
 - AP 1 Instructional Day 6 - 40
 - AP 2 Instructional Day 66 - 100
 - AP 3 Instructional Day 136 -170
- Differentiated Accountability (DA) reporting requirements have been moved to the end of each AP window.

FAIR Computer Minimum Specifications

- Updated minimum computer specifications (**Attachment 2**)
- Enhanced instructions on preparation of networks and hardware, including a FAIR readiness test link: <https://flassessments.fcrr.org/check.html>

Ongoing Progress Monitoring (OPM)

- Online OPM will not occur electronically for the 2010-2011 school year.
- The current paper/pencil tools are available for OPM at <http://www.fcrr.org/lookup/>
- The existing Excel templates that are available for recording OPM data have been enhanced to include a chart to graph student progress over time and to record instructional changes.

FAIR Data Analysis

- FCRR will compare FCAT to FSP to determine probability accuracy
- FCRR will analyze progress by student FCAT level across assessment periods to determine average progress and growth projections

Updated FAIR Training Materials

- K-5 and 6-12 FAIR Master Trainer and the K-5 and 6-12 FAIR Administrator Overviews have been updated to reflect these refinements. There are two additional trainings that have been developed for school administrators: K-5 and 6-12 FAIR Advanced Training for Administrators. FAIR Master Trainers and Advanced Master Trainers may access the updated and additional trainings at the secure FAIR website: <http://jrf.fcim.org/index.aspx>.
- By July 15th, the grade specific FAIR trainings will be updated for grades K, 1, and 2.

SG/cm

Attachments