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State Board of Education

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DPS: 2021-06

MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: January 8, 2021

SUBJECT: Transition from the Battelle Developmental Inventory to the Child Outcomes

Summary for Exceptional Student Education Prekindergarten Annual

Performance Report (APR)

This memorandum provides initial details regarding Florida's transition from the Battelle Developmental Inventory, 2nd Edition, Normative Update (BDI-2 NU) to the Child Outcome Summary (COS), effective July 1, 2021. The COS will be used for reporting the State Performance Plan/APR to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs for Indicator 7, which measures improved preschool outcomes for children ages 3-5 with an individual educational plan in the following areas:

- Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language and communication and early literacy); and
- Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

The COS was chosen by a committee of prekindergarten stakeholders to best serve Florida's prekindergarten students. The COS uses a team-based decision-making process for summarizing information on a seven-point rating scale to indicate where the child is developmentally, based on the child's functioning across settings and situations in each of the three APR reporting outcome areas. The process is <u>not</u> a single assessment tool; therefore, districts will also choose an age-anchoring tool from an approved list that aligns with the K-12 standards and will also include observations and family and teacher input. As COS is an on-going process, it assists in the implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports and progress monitoring.

One of the many benefits of utilizing the COS is that it lends itself to completing evaluations when a school year is abruptly interrupted. Teams can use underlying tools based on observation and interviews that are valid for remote administration. Training and technical assistance, provided by the federally funded Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) center and the BEESS discretionary project Technical Assistance and Training Systems, can begin

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CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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immediately. Professional development, pre-generated forms, technical assistance, data conversions for APR, and state-to-state support through ECTA are all available at no cost.

Implementation of the COS will begin July 1, 2021, for all incoming eligibile students. A child must exit with the same tool used at entry; therefore, children entering with a BDI score will continue to exit with a BDI score.

District prekindergarten contacts will receive additional information regarding implementation of the COS at the state prekindergarten contacts' meeting in February 2021.

Questions can be directed to LeNita Winkler, prekindergarten program specialist, at LeNita.Winkler@fldoe.org.

JO/lw