

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 10-94 (Establishing Florida's Race to the Top Working Group)

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education sponsored Race to the Top to provide \$4.35 billion to states that will lead the way with ambitious yet achievable plans for implementing coherent, compelling, and comprehensive education reform; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida was selected as one of 16 finalists for Phase I of the Race to the Top grant; and

WHEREAS, Florida was awarded the fourth highest number of points for its application in Phase I; and

WHEREAS, Phase I of the Race to the Top grant was awarded solely to the top two finalists; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida intends to apply for Phase II of the Race to the Top grant, where \$3.4 billion remain available to states; and

WHEREAS, the State seeks to foster broader stakeholder support for its Phase II application to enhance Florida's success; and

WHEREAS, the Race to the Top grant requires a Memorandum of Understanding to support the grant application; and

WHEREAS, broad stakeholder support requires a collaborative, open, and transparent review of the State's Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, stakeholder support will be furthered by an understanding of the potential benefits to and responsibilities of Florida's Phase II application.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHARLIE CRIST, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws and Constitution of the State of Florida, issue the following Executive Order, effective immediately:

Section 1.

Florida's Race to the Top Working Group (the "Working Group") is hereby created to facilitate stakeholder participation in the review of the State's Memorandum of Understanding. The Working Group shall continue in existence until its objectives are achieved, but no later than June 1, 2010, unless extended by further executive order.

Section 2.

The responsibilities of the Working Group shall include the following:

- a. Reviewing the current Memorandum of Understanding and comparing the Memorandum with the objectives of the competition.
- b. Identifying and discussing issues relevant to the Memorandum of Understanding.
- c. Collaborating in a transparent manner to gather input on the benefits to and responsibilities of the various parties resulting from agreements made in the Memorandum of Understanding.
- d. Recommending revisions to the final draft of the Memorandum of Understanding to position Florida in the strongest position possible if the Working Group determines revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding would assist in furthering the award of the grant.

Section 3.

The Working Group shall, no later than April 30, 2010, provide recommendations on the Race to the Top Phase II application to the Governor, the State Board of Education and the Department of Education.

Section 4.

The Working Group will consist of members appointed by the Governor. Members shall

serve a term that commences on the day of the appointment. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and the Governor may fill any vacancy that occurs. Membership of the Working Group shall include the following:

- a. Alberto Carvalho, Superintendent, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
- b. Kim Black, President, Pinellas Classroom Teachers Association
- c. Karin Brown, President, Florida Parent Teacher Association
- d. Mark Wilson, President and CEO, Florida Chamber of Commerce
- e. Andy Ford, President, Florida Education Association
- f. Debra Dowds, Executive Director, Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
- g. Ronald Blocker, Superintendent, Orange County Public Schools
- h. Megan Allen, 2010 Florida Teacher of the Year, Hillsborough County
- i. W.C. Gentry, Duval County School Board
- j. Candace Lankford, Volusia County School Board and President, Florida School Boards Association
- k. Senator Rudy Garcia, District 40
- l. Representative Jimmy Patronis, District 6

Section 5.

Superintendent Alberto Carvalho, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, shall serve as the Chair of the Working Group. The Commissioner of Education shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member. The Department of Education shall provide administrative support to the Working Group, and the Working Group is authorized to call upon any state agency, department, division or office to supply such data, reports or other information as it deems reasonably necessary to achieve its objectives.

Section 6.

Members of the Working Group shall serve without compensation; however, to the extent allowed by Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, members from public entities may be reimbursed for travel expenses at the discretion of their respective employers.

Section 7.

The meetings of the Working Group shall be noticed and open to the public.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this **21** day of April, 2010.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA