

THE TEACHER ADVISOR

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Office of Teacher Certification and Recruitment

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The winds of change . . .

Whether you're new to teaching or a long-timer, you've probably felt the shift in focus over the past year or two—and a bit of a departure from the principles of the NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001.

Central to the NCLB initiative was “teacher quality” (as evidenced by college coursework and curriculum testing—famously called **HQ**). Today RACE TO THE TOP is spotlighting “teacher effectiveness”.

Over time, national trends may result in local policy changes; however, the PCSB Certification Office always adheres to the rules and regulations **currently** in place. We depend on guidance from the FL Department of Education (DOE). This newsletter is intended to share the latest news we have received from DOE.

PCSB OFFICE OF CERTIFICATION RESPONSE TO THE REPEAL OF MGIC:

TEACHERS ELIGIBLE FOR
“GRANDFATHERING” OF MIDDLE SCHOOL
CORE ACADEMICS WILL RECEIVE WRITTEN
CONFIRMATION – SIGN AND RETURN!

ESE TEACHERS WHO PASSED MGIC FOR
DESIGNATION AS “HIGHLY QUALIFIED FOR
THE SECONDARY-INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL”
WILL RECEIVE WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF
CONTINUED HQ STATUS- **SIGN AND RETURN!**

SENIOR HIGH TEACHERS USING MGIC TO
COVER ENGLISH AND SOCIAL SCIENCE
COURSES WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF
THE NEED TO ESTABLISH APPROPRIATE
CERTIFICATION FOR **SY 2012-13**.

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What's the fastest way to clear a room?

Tell teachers you want to talk about changes in certification. But wait!—even those with rock solid certification need current information. Here goes:

The Florida State Board of Education repealed Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum 5-9 certification on October 25, 2011.

What this action means to PCSB teachers:

- *MGIC professional certification may be renewed as usual.*
- *Teachers who are eligible for/hold temporary MGIC certification (prior to the repeal) may complete requirements and attain the professional credential. To facilitate this, the MGIC exam will be available until October 25, 2014.*
- *The “grandfathering” provision will allow those currently teaching **middle school** core academics (math, science, language arts—but NOT reading—and/or social science) to remain “in field” and “highly qualified” using MGIC if **ALL** the conditions described below are met:*
 1. *Teaching middle school core course(s) prior to July 1, 2012 (reflected in the SY2011-12 PCSB Master Schedule)*
 2. *Teach one or more core courses from any of the middle school core areas (math, science, language arts, and/or social science--not necessarily the same course) continuously.*
 3. *Teacher remains in the same District.*
- *Grandfathering is lost if course continuity is broken or the teacher leaves the District.*

Contact the Certification Office if you expect—but do not receive—information about YOUR Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum 5-9 certification options or ESE secondary HQ status by April 1st,