

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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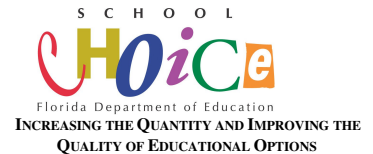
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July 7, 2008

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Charter School Administrators  
Charter School District Contacts  
Charter School Stakeholders

**FROM:** Jean Miller, Acting Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Governance Board Training

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The State Board of Education approved Rule 6A-6.0784, FAC, Approval of Charter School Governance Training at its meeting on June 17, 2008. The rule implements section 1002.33, F.S., by requiring every member of the governing body of a charter school operating in Florida to participate in governance training on or before August 1 of each calendar year. The training must be delivered consistent with a training plan that has been submitted and approved by the Department of Education, as described in the rule.

The Department recognizes the challenges faced by charter schools and their sponsors in ensuring that all charter school governing boards participate in approved training by August 1, 2008. Therefore, to ensure fair and equitable implementation of the rule, the following guidelines will be in effect for the remainder of the current calendar year:

- All charter school governing board members are to participate in four hours of approved governance training by December 31, 2008.
- Training plans submitted to the Department of Education no later than the close of business on July 18, 2008, will be included in the first round of review. Forms for submitting training plans are posted at: [http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/Charter\\_Schools/](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/Charter_Schools/).
- The training plan review committee will complete the first-round review process and present recommendations to the Commissioner of Education by July 28, 2008.

**JEAN MILLER**  
*Acting Executive Director*  
*Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice*

- The Department will post the names and contact information for approved trainers on or before August 1, 2008, at [http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/Charter\\_Schools/](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/Charter_Schools/).

You will note that the rule contains a grandfathering clause for governance training that was provided prior to approval of the rule. Governing boards that participated in governance training between January 1, 2008, and the effective date of the rule will be considered to have met the training requirement if it was delivered according to a training plan that is subsequently approved by the Department.

It is important to remember that the training cycle for the 2009-2010 school year will begin on January 1, 2009, and training for all governing boards is to be completed by August 1. You will note that the rule includes a two-hour refresher option for governing boards with members who have served continuously on the board and met the four-hour training requirement.

The rule, along with the necessary the forms to be completed by persons interested in providing training, are attached. For assistance or additional information, please contact Karen Hines-Henry at (850) 245-0502 or e-mail [CharterSchools@fldoe.org](mailto:CharterSchools@fldoe.org).