

**Polk County
Voluntary Public School Choice (VPSC)
Grant**

**Performance Report
April 2009**

(Performance January through March 2009)

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Project Activities Tied to Polk County's VPSC Grant Outcomes with State Objectives to Include Local Performance to Date

Polk County's VPSC grant narrative presents specific outcomes to be achieved in relation to each of its two goals. *Tables 2,3 and 4* correlate Polk County's goals and related outcomes to the State's Performance Measures. The status statements included within each table represent activities reported for Year 1 as well as an update to include activities through the second quarter of Year 2. Activities to be completed during this reporting period (January through March 2009) are highlighted in gray.

Table 2—Polk County's Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 1		
<p>State Objective 1. In target public school districts, increase the number of families that exercise inter-district public school choice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Measure 1a. By the end of the second quarter in the inter-district agreement models planning period, 100% of the inter-district partnerships or multi-inter-district transfer partnerships will implement plans to create or expand school choice programs, particularly at middle or high schools, for operations to commence August 2009. • State Measure 1b. By the end of the third quarter of the planning grant period, 100% of the inter-district and/or multi-inter-district partnerships that require transportation will have a transportation plan for inter-district students for selected school choice schools by August 2009. 		
<p>Polk Goal #1: 1a—Review current choice offerings and transfer policies</p>		
Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County's VPSC Grant		Status in Polk County's VPSC Grant as of March 2009
1.1.a Contract to Marie Sneed <i>(Hire a consultant to review practices and make recommendations.)</i>	September 2008	All contract work has been completed with recommendations received.
1.1.b Model inter-local agreement <i>(Develop a comprehensive master plan to move students among districts.)</i>	May 2009	As of September 2008, inter-district agreements are in place to allow student transfers as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polk County to Osceola County • Osceola County to Polk County • Polk County to Hillsborough County • Hillsborough County to Polk County
1.3.a Submit inter-district transfer report to Coalition audience. <i>(Present an update on inter-district transfers at coalition choice summit.)</i>	October 2009, 2010 and 2011	Not yet applicable
1.3.b Create and distribute policy and inter-district transfer agreements. <i>(Send each district copies of the modifications to district policy, model inter-district transfer agreements and other relevant documentation to facilitate replication.)</i>	August 2009	Not yet applicable
1.1.c District transportation plans with regards to choice, charter and Title I options <i>(Develop a transportation plan in each district to assure that transportation is not a barrier to choice enrollment.)</i>	March 2009	As of April 2009, there are no formal inter-district transportation plans in place. Options have been reviewed with sustainability being a focus and concern. However,

Table 2—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 1

		strategies are being implemented to finalize a plan while collaborating with Yolanda Miranda-Hill, program manager for this grant.										
<p>State Objective 1. In target public school districts, increase the number of families that exercise inter-district public school choice. (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Measure 1c. Increase the number of families that exercise public school choice via the inter-districts models by 2% each year after models’ implementation in August 2009, thus increasing overall number of student transfers by 6% at end of grant period. 												
<p>Polk Goal #1: 1a—Review current choice offerings and transfer policies. (continued)</p>												
<p>Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County’s VPSC Grant</p>		<p>Status in Polk County’s VPSC Grant as of March 2009</p>										
<p><u>1.2.a</u> Report of students transferring between Polk, Hillsborough and Osceola <i>(Evaluate effectiveness of current agreements with schools in Osceola and Hillsborough Counties.)</i></p>	<p>November 2009</p>	<p>The number of students in Polk, Hillsborough and Osceola Counties who exercised school choice via the inter-district models to date for the 2008-2009 school year is as follows.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2008-2009</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Polk to Osceola</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Osceola to Polk</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Polk to Hillsborough</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hillsborough to Polk</td> <td>7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2008-2009	Polk to Osceola	38	Osceola to Polk	3	Polk to Hillsborough	13	Hillsborough to Polk	7
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<p><u>1.2.b</u> Report of students moving between districts and their free-and-reduced-lunch status <i>(Formalize and prioritize student movement between districts to emphasize needs of high poverty students.)</i></p>	<p>March 2010</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>										
<p><u>1.2.c</u> Needs assessment including types of choice and barriers to choice <i>(Create and utilize a needs assessment to identify choices appealing to students and parents, barriers to accessing choices, and steps to overcome barriers.)</i></p>	<p>May 2009, 2010 and 2011</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>										
<p><u>1.2.d</u> Marketing media to include but not be limited to brochures, videos and web based media <i>(Develop and disseminate marketing and information tools in multiple languages.)</i></p>	<p>March 2010</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>										
<p><u>1.2.e</u> Report of number and type of marketing information used <i>(Evaluate effectiveness of marketing and information tools.)</i></p>	<p>March 2010, 2011, and 2012</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>										
<p><u>1.3.c</u> Brochures, videos and other marketing tools <i>(Provide coalition members with brochures, videos and other marketing tools developed via this grant.)</i></p>	<p>June 2009, 2010 and 2011</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>										

Table 3—Polk County's Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 2		
<p>State Objective 2. In target communities, increase the number of families with children in lower-performing schools who transfer to higher-performing schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Measure 2a. Number of school choice activities conducted for parents at targeted schools, specific to those schools that have failed to make AYP for two or more years, will be increased by 25% at the end of 2011. • State Measure 2b. From 2007 through 2011, training participation of community and parent volunteers at the School Choice Parent Resource Centers will increase by 30%. • State Measure 2c. By end of grant 25% more families at each School Choice Parent Resource Center operating under this grant will use personalized assistance in comfortable community settings with community volunteers and Public School choice staff. 		
<p>Polk Goal: No Polk County VPSC goal addresses State measures 2a, 2b or 2c.</p>		

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<p>State Objective 2. In target communities, increase the number of families with children in lower-performing schools who transfer to higher-performing schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Measure 2d. Increase number of student transfer applications to public school choice options in targeted lower-performing schools to higher-performing schools and/or programs by 2% in 2009, 3% each year after, totaling 11% gain in transfers by 2011. 		
<p>Polk Goal #1: 1b—Provide training to promote high quality-high yield choice schools.</p>		
<p>Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County's VPSC Grant</p>		<p>Status in Polk County's VPSC Grant as of March 2009</p>
<p>1.b.1 Self assessment instrument data <i>(Complete self assessment instrument in each participating district.)</i></p>	<p>June 2009</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>
<p>1.b.2 Contract for specific, high yield training addressing key areas of improvement as identified <i>(Identify key areas of improvement in each district; plan and contract for training to address these areas.)</i></p>	<p>June 2009</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>
<p>1.b.3 Training program to include introductory, advanced and train-the-trainer models for district and school-based personnel <i>(Meet to share training results and develop a targeted training program.)</i></p>	<p>June 2010, 2011, and 2012</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>
<p>Polk Goal #1: 1c—Offer a summit for choice staff, career academy instructors and charter authorizers to promote high quality-high yield programs</p>		
<p>Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County's VPSC Grant</p>		<p>Status in Polk County's VPSC Grant as of March 2009</p>
<p>1.c.1.a Enewsletters <i>(Take active roles in the central region of the FPSCC to include updates via the newsletter, presentations at meetings and serving in leadership roles.)</i></p>	<p>October 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011</p>	<p>Enewsletter was transmitted October 2008 through the Florida Public School Choice Consortium via online newsletter link. (http://www.fpscc.net/newsletter/05polkvpssc.htm)</p>
<p>1.c.1.b Training for the north and south regions of the state to share online resources, tools and key learnings <i>(Provide training for the north and south regions to share resources and provide tools and</i></p>	<p>June 2011 and 2012</p>	<p>Not yet applicable</p>

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<i>key learnings.)</i>		
1.c.1.c Agendas and sign-in sheets <i>(Present at state and national conferences to disseminate information.)</i>	March 2010, 2011, and 2012	Not yet applicable
1.c.2.a A self evaluation and needs assessment <i>(Share self evaluation and needs assessment materials developed and implemented through the project in summer workshops.)</i>	March 2009 and 2010	A self evaluation and needs assessment is scheduled for April 23-24, 2009. Data from the districts will be shared following this meeting.
1.c.2.b Agendas, curriculum maps and models <i>(Focus workshop strands during years 3 and 4 on teacher training resources available via the career academy model and implementation of inter-district transfer agreements, transportation options and solutions as well as authorizer intervention plans.)</i>	June 2010	Not yet applicable
1.c.2.c Agendas <i>(Focus training strands in years 4 and 5 on high yield strategies to recruit and retain students, particularly high need students.)</i>	June 2011 and 2012	Not yet applicable
1.c.2.d Agendas <i>(Continue workshops beyond proposal funding period.)</i>	June 2013	Not yet applicable
1.c.3.a A web address and hard copy print material as applicable to site, training or material <i>(Coordinate information and web based offerings.)</i>	December 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012	www.fpssc.net/vpsc/index.htm contains Voluntary Public School Choice data and print material from summer trainings and presenters.
Polk Goal #2: 2—Create a comprehensive, sequential model for the development and implementation of career academies.		
Anticipated Outcomes in Polk County's VPSC Grant		Status in Polk County's VPSC Grant as of March 2009
2.1.a Implementation plan <i>(Create a detailed implementation plan for academies to include</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academy types Locations Recruitment of students Development of intra and inter district choice options An application system and process by district) 	August 2009	Not yet applicable
2.1.b Participant roster for career academy staff attending a week-long summer curriculum mapping workshop <i>(Send career academy teachers to a summer curriculum mapping workshop.)</i>	June 2010	Not yet applicable
2.1.c Participant roster for career academy staff attending a week-long summer curriculum mapping workshop <i>(Schedule an additional summer institute to refine curriculum maps and focus on additional career academy models lacking maps or training.)</i>	June 2011	Not yet applicable
2.1.d Participant roster for career academy staff attending a week-long summer curriculum mapping	June 2011 and	Not yet applicable

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workshop <i>(Create additional curriculum maps for new academies, refine existing maps, and offer introductory instructional strategies for professionals new to the career academy model.)</i>	2012	
<u>2.1.e</u> Career Academy Cadre list of at least five representatives from respective districts to total a group of 50 <i>(Identify and train a select and dedicate cadre of professionals from each district to spearhead the continued development and implementation of curriculum maps and instructional strategies.)</i>	June 2012	Not yet applicable
<u>2.2.a</u> List of participants for computer conference <u>2.2.b</u> List of best practices and issues for discussion from participating districts <i>(Share a written best practice and a challenge or issue with group during the winter meeting via computer conferencing.)</i>	December 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012	2.2a-A formal computer conference has not been implemented to date. 2.2.b-Through January 15, 2009 FACSA meeting committees were developed to include the best practices in the following areas: new application and appeal process, charter renewal and termination process, legal and contract, and district processes and procedures. Eight of the nine partnering districts are members of these committees.
<u>2.3</u> Hard copy of website and bulletin board including web address or link <i>(Coordinate with FPSCC to maintain a web based bulletin board.)</i>	April 2009	Not yet applicable

Table 4—Polk County’s Voluntary Public Schools Choice (VPSC) Grant Actual and Anticipated Outcomes as Related to State Objective 3		
<p>State Objective 3. Increase the methods to improve capacity, parental involvement and academic significance for choice public school initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Measure 3a. Increase membership of Parent Advisory Councils by 25 memberships the first year with an increase of 10% each year thereafter, resulting in an increased of involvement at School Choice Parent Resource Centers (SCPRC) sites and the number of volunteer attendance at trainings. State Measure 3b. For each year of the grant, the attendance of Parent Advisory Council members at all FPSCC events will increase by 5% each year, totaling 25% by the end of the grant in 2011. State Measure 3c. By 2011, the Parent Advisory Council and the parent volunteers at the SCPRC sites will collaboratively develop and produce a publication to provide technical assistance and guidance to parents on statewide school choice policies and issues that will be distributed at all SCPRC sites. State Measure 3d. By 2011, students who participate in the school choice inter-district models will show an overall average increase of 2% in FCAT reading and math scores. 		
<p>Polk Goal: Polk County’s VPSC Grant does not address State Measures 3a, 3b, 3c or 3d.</p>		

Marketing/Dissemination Plans for Year 2 with Second Quarter Activities

Polk has reviewed a vendor process to request quotes for development and print of marketing material. Upon completion of this review it was determined that the development and printing of this material will be completed in house at the central offices of the Polk County School Board. These tools will be circulated to the nine participating districts. Staff has been in communication with the Public Relations Department to begin the design process on these documents.

Data Collection/Project Evaluation for Year 2, Second Quarter

During January through March 2009, data collection and project evaluation activities focused on refining electronic reports that can be used throughout the Polk County VPSC partnership to collect, organize and present VPSC project performance. A DRAFT copy of the report format was submitted as part of the first quarter report. USF personnel then created a format that includes the components from Polk's report and is to be used to submit data from all districts and partnerships as required for VPSC reporting.

At the end of the second quarter, spreadsheets based on the VPSC report format have been received from Polk, Osceola, Lake and Sumter Counties. Spreadsheets have been requested but not yet received from Hillsborough, Indian River, Manatee, Orange, and Pasco Counties.

As spreadsheets from partnering districts are reviewed and then verified for content, they will be submitted to USF electronically.