

From: Baker, Josh
To: Soura, Christian <ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 1/14/2013 2:20:49 PM
Subject: FW: Info on Florida's Third Grade Reading Policy
Attachments: One-page Brief on Third Grade Literacy-Based Promotion_v2.pdf
Florida's Reading for Learning Brief w FAQ_.doc
Literacy-Based Promotion_Model_Legislation_v3.docx

From: Kate Wallace (Kate@excelined.org) [mailto:Kate@excelined.org]
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2013 4:32 PM
To: Baker, Josh
Cc: Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org)
Subject: Info on Florida's Third Grade Reading Policy

Josh:

It was nice speaking with you earlier today. As promised, attached are some helpful documents reviewing and explaining Florida's K-3 Literacy/Ending Social Promotion policies. As you delve into the material, feel free to send over any questions you have. Attached are a one-pager on the policy; an expanded white paper and the results Florida has experience in the wake of the policy; and model legislation (which is different and improved from Florida's, since we had to learn some things the hard way and amend our laws later on!)

Also, I'd like to tell you what services we can offer at no cost to you:

- In person or online presentations explaining and detailing any of Florida's reform policies. Pioneered in Florida were A-F school grading and our highly successful, clear and easy-to-understand student-achievement based grading formula that complies with federal waiver requirements; as well as our K-3 Literacy policies, including our hard line in the sand on third grade retention.
- We can review any draft legislation and provide commentary and feedback.
- We can offer expert testimony in committee or before any executive boards/task forces at the invitation of a legislator, superintendent or the governor.
- With respect to third grade reading, we can do a policy audit of South Carolina's existing laws and financial categoricals to see what infrastructure is already in place that would lend itself to a successful K-3 literacy policy implemented statewide.
- And speaking of implementation, we can also usher you and/or your department every step of the way with implementation of any reforms.

I know this is a lot of information, so thank you for your time and I look forward to being in touch.

Have a great weekend-

Kate Wallace

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P.S. I will send you A-F school grading info in a separate email.