

FAMU DRS is committed to providing a quality education for students by promoting rigor and innovative strategies for teaching and learning.

## Title I, Part A

August-September 2018 Newsletter

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### Title I Services at FAMU DRS

The Title I, Part A School-wide Program at FAMU DRS provides academic support and learning opportunities to enable our students to master challenging curricula and meet state standards in core academic subjects. A major program goal is to meet the educational needs of low-achieving children (limited English proficient children, migratory children, children with disabilities, Indian children, neglected or delinquent children, and young children in need of reading assistance) to close the achievement gap between high- and low-performing children. Additional program goals include (1) meeting the educational needs of all students by providing students with fair and equitable opportunities to obtain high-quality education; (2) By the end of the 2018-19 school year, all level 1 and level 2 students will increase proficiency by at least 10% on the 2019 State Assessment Data; (3) provide parents/family members with the ample opportunity to actively participate in meaningful activities, events, and workshops aimed at impacting student achievement; (4) target professional development to enable faculty and staff to increase pedagogical content knowledge and skills. FAMU DRS is awarded Title I funds to carryout program initiatives and monitored annually to ensure compliance with state/federal guidelines.

For further information, please visit the Florida Department of Education Office of Title I Programs and Academic Intervention Services:  
<http://www.fldoe.org/bsa/title1/>

### Parent's Right-to-Know

At Florida A&M University Developmental Research (FAMU DRS) we are very proud of our teachers and feel they are ready for the 2018-2019 school year and are prepared to give your child a high-quality education. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications and certification requirements for the grade level and subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, and
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates and additional degrees, and major(s) or area(s) of concentration.
- What are the methods used to insure that you are provided information on the level of achievement of your child in each of the State academic assessments?

### What is the SPAR?

Florida's School Public Accountability Reports (SPAR) has been generated to comply with federal legislation that requires annual report cards on the educational progress of schools, school districts, and the state. These reports are initially published prior to the beginning of the school year. The School Public Accountability Report contains several types of data (indicators) designed to inform parents and the general public about the progress of Florida's public schools. This report meets public reporting requirements and provides certain additional information of interest on the status of Florida's schools.

To see the SPAR report for FAMU DRS, please visit:  
<http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclb spar/index.cfm>

#### September at a Glance:

- Labor Day (Sept. 3)
- ACT Administration (Sept. 8)
- Hispanic Heritage Month Begins (Sept. 15)
- Progress Report (Sept 10) – [FAMUS.focusschoolsoftware.com](http://FAMUS.focusschoolsoftware.com)
- Open House (Sept. 11&12)
- State-wide Father Take Your Child to School Day (Sept. 26)

### English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

## Parent Involvement

Parents are the most powerful influence on a child's success in school. Research shows that a home environment that supports learning is more important to student success than income, education level, or cultural background. Parents, teachers, staff, and community members are members of the team. Let's work together to boost student achievement!

- Attend Open House, Title I parent meetings, and orientation
- Attend Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Participate in workshops and informational meetings
- Volunteer at school and classroom events
- Join any of the school's committees:
  - Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
  - School Advisory Council (SAC)
  - Family Involvement Committee
  - ESOL Parent Leadership Council

There are a variety of ways that you can find out information and communicate with FAMU DRS and your child's teacher(s).

- School website
- Elementary/Secondary Newsletters
- Classroom newsletters
- School marquee
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Online progress reports
- Report cards
- Student planners
- Teacher email, blogs, webpages, and/or telephone
- FOCUS parent portal
- Schoology
- Edmodo
- ClassDojo

Please visit [www.famudrs.org](http://www.famudrs.org) for membership information. You may also view our school marquee for meeting days and times.

English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is a state-funded instructional program for eligible English Language Learners (ELLs) in grades K-12. ESOL is designed to meet the diverse needs of English language learners (ELLs) who come from home environments in which the native language is other than English. The goal of our ESOL Program is to ensure that students of limited English proficiency, receive comparable and comprehensible instruction. The legal foundation for the requirements for teaching English language learners (ELLs) in Florida is based on the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) et al. vs. The State Board of Education (SBE) et al. Consent Decree (1990).

## Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Governor Rick Scott and First Lady Ann Scott have opened the annual art contest (grades K-3) & essay contest (grades 4-12) for all Florida students. This year's theme is "[A Celebration of Innovative Hispanic-American Leaders.](#)" Students are asked to share how Hispanic Floridians have impacted our state's history and culture. Each student who enter into the contest will be competing for a four-year Florida College Plan scholarship.

Student entries should be submitted to Ms. Labissiere or to the homeroom teacher by Thursday, October 11, 2018. For additional information about Florida's Hispanic Heritage, contests and other related events, please visit [www.FloridaHispanicHeritage.com](http://www.FloridaHispanicHeritage.com).

## Dad Take Your Child to School Day/Donut with Dad



FAMU DRS will be celebrating Dads Take Your Child to School Day/Donut with Dad on **Wednesday, September 26, 2018 (8am in the FAMU DRS Cafeteria)**. Dads Take Your Child to School Day is a statewide initiative of the Florida Department of Education to encourage fathers and male role models (i.e. fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, foster fathers and etc.) to become involved in the education of their children as a means for increasing student achievement. This initiative's intent is to highlight the significant difference fathers and father figures can make by taking a more active role in their children's educational experience. When fathers play a more active role in a child's education, children perform better academically, have fewer discipline problems and become more responsible adults.

## Sickle Cell Awareness Month

Congress has designated September as "National Sickle Cell Awareness Month" to help focus attention on the need for research and treatment of sickle cell disease, an inherited condition that currently affects 70,000-100,000 Americans. Sickle cell disease occurs when hemoglobin, a protein carried by the body's red blood cells that attaches to oxygen in the lungs and transports it to all parts of the body, is abnormal, causing the red blood cells to take on a rigid "C" or sickle, shape. Sickle cells can get stuck and block blood flow, causing pain and infections. Complications of sickle cell disease are a result of sickle cells blocking blood flow to specific organs, and include stroke, acute chest syndrome (a condition that lowers the level of oxygen in the blood), organ damage, and blindness. Millions of people do not know they have sickle cell trait, because the trait usually does not cause illness. That's why it's important to be tested. If you and your partner both have sickle cell trait, there is a 25% chance with EACH pregnancy that your child could be born with sickle cell disease

### **What to Expect in October:**

- DRS Fall Title I Parent Meeting (Oct. 10)
- Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration (Oct. 11)
- End of First Nine Weeks (Oct. 11)
- Teacher Planning Day (Oct. 12)
- Muffins with Mom (Oct. 19)
- Jumpstart's Read for the Record (Oct. 25)
- DRS Homecoming Week (Oct. 22-26)
- ACT Administration (Oct. 27)
- Rattler-O-ween (Oct. 31)