

School Board of Brevard County

2700 Judge Fran Jamieson Way • Viera, FL 32940-6601

Brian T. Binggeli, Ed.D., Superintendent



Dear Parent/Guardian:

A revision in the U. S. Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Statistical Policy, Directive No. 15, requires changes to the collection and reporting of Ethnicity and Race data for the U.S. Department of Education (USDE). In order to report accurate data, school districts must re-identify the race and ethnicity of all students and staff during the 2008-09 school year. Re-identification is an opportunity for students and staff to select more than one race and to report both their ethnicity and their race separately. The new data will more accurately reflect the diversity of the population. All changes must be implemented by July 1, 2009.

Every school district in Florida is required annually to report to the Florida Department of Education all students' race and ethnicity categories that are set by the federal government. The Department of Education does not report individual student data to the federal government but does report the total number of students in various categories in each school. These reports help track changes in student enrollments and ensure that all students receive the educational programs and services to which they are entitled.

In accordance with the federal requirement, you have the opportunity to update the student data for your child. With the new reporting categories, you may now identify your child by ethnic group (either Hispanic/Latino or not Hispanic/Latino) **and** by *one or more* racial groups (American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African- American, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, White). Starting with the 2009-10 school year, all schools in Florida will report student data to the Department of Education using the new categories.

Please complete the form on the reverse side of this letter, and return it to your child's school.

For more information about the student data reporting categories for ethnicity and race, please contact:

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian T. Binggeli, Superintendent
Brevard Public Schools

Reverse Side Enclosure: Student Data Collection Form

Student Data Collection Form

A revision in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Statistical Policy, Directive No. 15, requires changes to the collection and reporting of Ethnicity and Race data for the U.S. Department of Education (USDE)

Student's name: _____

Student's Id: _____

Please complete this form and return it to your child's school.

Please answer **BOTH** questions 1 and 2.

1. Is your child Hispanic or Latino? *(Please, mark only one.)*

- No, my child is not Hispanic or Latino
- Yes, my child is Hispanic or Latino -- A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

2. What is your child's race? *(Please, mark all that apply.)*

- American Indian or Alaska Native -- A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- Asian -- A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, e.g., Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam.
- Black or African American -- A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. The term "Haitian" can be used in addition to "Black or African American".
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander -- A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa or other Pacific Islands.
- White -- A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East or North Africa.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____