

September 22, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: Basic Skills Advisory Board

FROM: Randy Whitfield, Ed.D.
Associate Director, Basic Skills

SUBJECT: NCCCAEA Basic Skills Update and New Legislation

After several years of work, the US Congress has passed legislation that replaces the Adult Education Act and the National Literacy Act. The overall legislation is entitled the Workforce Investment Act, and the adult education component is the "Adult Education and Family Literacy Act."

I am enclosing the following information about the legislation which was featured in the Basic Skills Update at the fall NCCCAEA Conference.

- A copy of the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act.
- A side-by-side comparison I drafted of the new and old legislation.
- A report from the National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium entitled "Direct and Equitable: Six Years Later" containing information from a survey of state directors.

In the next few months, our System Office Basic Skills staff will be crafting a new state plan. Mary Siedow, Terry Shelwood, and I will be going to Washington, DC, in September to get guidelines from the United States Department of Education on drafting the State Plan. We will be meeting with the Basic Skills Advisory Board on September 16 to discuss the plan. Over the next few months, you will be given the opportunity to have input into the plan. We should have a final draft of the plan in early December 1998.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Presidents
Senior Continuing Education Officers

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