M E M O R A N D U M

TO: All Schools

FROM: Information Technology Services

SUBJECT: **TEACHER AIDE FOR BASIC SKILLS (TABS)**

In 1990 the Teacher's Aid for Basic Skills (TABS) was put in elementary schools to provide schools with a way to measure the mastery of students' skills in Reading and Math. This application was used on personal computers running on DOS operating systems and required software for the different Reading and Math programs. As technology progressed, computers were replaced with operating systems that were not compatible with the TABS program. In addition, the Reading and Math programs software have not been updated since 1996. For these reasons, the TABS program has become obsolete and is no longer supported.

NOTE: The Demographic Download file, also known as the TABS download, is still available. The Demographic Download file (Student.dat) contains students' demographic information that is created for downloading into programs such as Excel or other spreadsheet software.

As an alternative to the TABS program, Miami-Dade County Public Schools offers programs that provide similar services.

- • **Assess2Learn** is an Online Assessment tool that offers an assortment of FCAT preparation test and allows teachers to create their own online tests. Assess2Learn is available from the M-DCPS Education Portal (http://portal.dadeschools.net/) by clicking on the Students, Teachers or Principals button.

- • **FCAT Explorer** is a practice and skills reinforcement tool based on Florida's Sunshine State Standards. FCAT Explorer is available from the M-DCPS Education Portal (http://portal.dadeschools.net/) by clicking on the Teachers or Principals button.

If you need assistance with the Education Portal, Assess2Learn or FCAT Explorer, please call Instructional Technology and Media Services at 305-995-1915. If you have any questions regarding the Demographic Download or this memo, please call Support Services at 305-995-3705(0)