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**Walt Griffin, Ed. D.
Superintendent**

October 17, 2014

Tim Wyrosdick
Superintendent of Schools
Santa Rosa County Public Schools
5086 Canal Street
Milton, FL 32570



Dear Superintendent Wyrosdick:

The East Coast Technical Assistance Center (ECTAC) is a network comprised of thirty-six school districts across the state of Florida. ECTAC staff assist member school districts in the development and implementation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title I program.

The Exceeding Expectations (E²) Project, now in its 4th year, is an initiative of ECTAC to identify Title I schools across the state that are exceeding expectations and showing great progress in improving student achievement. For more information on ECTAC and the Exceeding Expectations Project, visit our website at www.ectacfl.net.

We are pleased to inform you that one of your Title I schools has been identified as exceeding expectations on academic indicators when compared to other schools with similar characteristics and populations. This school is invited to be a part of the 2014 - 2015 ECTAC Exceeding Expectations Project.

Bennet C. Russel Elementary School was identified using the following minimal criteria based on 2014 School Grade data from the FDOE:

- Maintain or increase total proficiency in Reading and Math 2013-2014
- Maintain or increase School Grade for 2 years (2012 to 2013, and 2013 to 2014)
- Learning Gains above the state median in both Reading and Math and Lower Quartile Reading and Math 2014
- Current School Grade of A or B
- Not in Lowest 300
- At or Above 50% in Reading and Math Proficiency in the Black and Hispanic Subgroup (if applicable)

If you choose to participate, a team comprised of ECTAC staff and member districts will visit the school for one day to observe practices in place that are contributing to the school's success. In order to avoid conflicting with FSA testing, school visits will occur November to February.

After all visits are completed, the selection team will make final determination of Exceeding Expectations Award Schools based on data and school visits. Award schools will be asked to participate in the Exceeding Expectations Conference to be held in Orlando on May 6 and 7, 2015. While there, they will share their strategies with other schools during breakout sessions and be recognized at an awards ceremony.

If you agree to have your school participate, please confirm via your Title I Administrator by October 24, 2014 and indicate a district liaison to coordinate procedures for communication with the school. We welcome this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary efforts of your school that lead to this recognition.

Thank you,

Marjorie Murray

Marjorie Murray
Director

Cc: Dr. Karen Barber