

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
May 13, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-4.0172, Specialization Requirements for Certification in the Area of Hearing Impaired (Grades K-12) Academic Class

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Sections 1001.02, 1012.55 and 1012.56, Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Rule 6A-4.0172, F.A.C., outlines requirements to become certified in the area of Hearing Impaired, Grades K-12. The proposed amendment will update the terminology used in this rule to reflect up-to-date language. The deaf or hard of hearing community finds "hearing impaired" offensive and the word "handicapped" has generally been replaced with "disability" as it is also considered offensive to some. We are also emphasizing knowledge of language development in American Sign Language (ASL) as well as in English as a requirement. This is currently included in the certification test competencies, but not in the rule.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6A-4.0172, F.A.C.

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Melissa Ramsey, Vice Chancellor, Division of Public Schools