

## *Promoting Science among English Language Learners (P-SELL)*

University of Miami – School of Education

### **Principal Interview**

The primary purpose of this interview is to understand the leadership strategies principals use to meet the increasing demands of the current accountability reform and how they react to the performance of their school on the FCAT each year.

**Opening:** The purpose of this interview is to get a sense of what you think about how the Sunshine State Standards, FCAT, and school grades affect your leadership strategies. Participation in this interview is voluntary, and information you provide will be kept strictly confidential.

1. How do you feel about how your school did on the FCAT this year?
2. Thinking about the past school year what policies influenced you and your school most?

**PROBE:**

How did they influence you?

Decision making

Leadership strategies

Relationships with teachers, staff, APs, parents, students

How did they influence the school?

Organization

Grouping

Planning

Relationships

Instruction

Science instruction

3. How did these policies make you alter your priorities?

**PROBE:**

What decisions did you make that you might not have made without the policy?

How did they affect science instruction?

4. How do your priorities get played out in classrooms?

**PROBE:**

Have you been in your teachers' classrooms? How often?

Have you seen your teachers teaching science?

5. What are you proudest of this school year? Why?

PROBE:

How was this related to your plans or goals for the year?

How was this related to FCAT performance? (or accountability policy?)

What led up to this?

What decisions were involved?

What resources were involved?

What people or groups were involved?

6. What is the most important thing you learned during the year?

PROBE:

Why was this the most important?

How will what you learned help you plan for the future?

How will what you learned help you plan for science during the next couple years as the FCAT science approaches?

Thank you very much!