

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

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Approved Memorandum with Signatures is On File

July 16, 2002

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Katherine Blasik, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent
Office of Research and Evaluation

VIA: Frank Till
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **2002 PRELIMINARY SAT/NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFYING
TEST RESULTS**

This is the second year that Broward has participated in the partnership between the College Board and the Florida Department of Education (DOE) utilizing the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) to identify student readiness for college level work. Not only can results be used as an important achievement indicator of Honors and Advanced Placement study, but the data provided can assist staff in identifying areas where additional attention is needed in order to move students to college level coursework.

The 2002 PSAT Report is attached to this memorandum. The report presents data regarding the 2000, 2001 and 2002 administrations of the PSAT for both 10th and 11th grade participants as provided by the vendor, College Board. Broward's focused efforts on increasing student participation in high rigor assessments have resulted in an increase in student participation in the PSAT/NMSQT at both 10th and 11th grade levels, as well as across major ethnic groups. Highlights of the report indicate:

- Grade 10 student participation on the PSAT/NMSQT over the three year period has increased dramatically. Beginning in 2000, only 15% (2,364) of the sophomore class took the PSAT/NMSQT. The following years grew to 38% (5,406) in 2001 and 45% (6,392) in 2002. This participation *increase* from 2001 to 2002 far exceeded the districtwide 10th grade enrollment *decrease* of one percent (80) during that same time frame.
- Participation rose to 6,392 (18% *increase*) in one year and far exceeded the districtwide 10th grade enrollment *decrease* of one percent (80) during that same time frame.
- At the 11th grade level, annual increases in the number of students taking the test are demonstrated over the last three-year period, ranging from just over 3,955 in 2000 to 4,287 in 2002. From 2001 to 2002, the number of Grade 11 students participating in PSAT testing *increased* by one percent (51) topping the district Grade 11 enrollment *decrease* of one percent (130).
- When reviewing the data by ethnicity, dramatic increases in participation rates are noted, with several schools reporting large increases in the number of Black and Hispanic students taking the PSAT/NMSQT this year.
- The mean scores for 10th grade participants in the three areas of Verbal, Mathematics, and Writing in 2002 remained stable compared to 2001. Grade 10 mean scores across the Nation reflect three years of slightly decreasing scores in the areas of Verbal and Mathematics. Broward Grade 10 student PSAT/NMSQT Verbal and Mathematics mean scores showed a slight improvement in 2002. Writing

scores across the Nation remained consistent in both 2001 and 2002. However, in Broward, Grade 10 Writing scores decreased slightly.

- Regarding Broward Grade 11, when reviewing Verbal mean scores, while the Nation evidenced slightly higher scores when compared to Broward (48 compared to 47, respectively), both groups' scores remained stable over the three-year period. Mathematics scores decreased slightly both across the Nation and in Broward (approximately 49 to 48). Finally, in Writing, while national scores hovered around 49, Broward scores decreased slightly, settling to just over 47 during the three years.
- In 2002, Black and Hispanic students earned mean scores equal to or greater than mean scores in 2001. White students mean scores reflect a negative trend line in all areas.
- Three charter schools participated in PSAT testing this year. The City of Coral Springs, North Lauderdale Academy and Pembroke Pines Charter High School tested students in Grades 10 and 11.

The continued increase in PSAT participation is evidence of Broward's commitment to providing broader educational opportunities, which provide students with experience and knowledge needed for success in college-level coursework. Prior to 2002, College Board provided each participating school reports to assist in identifying academically promising young people to participate in Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Beginning this year the College Board has posted this information on their website. Each school is provided with a logon and password to access the information for their school.

School staff will use PSAT results as an additional source of information to identify students for Honors or Advanced Placement courses for the coming school year. Area Directors and Principals will examine school participation rates, particularly at Grades 10 and 11. While increases in Grade 10 participation have occurred, there remains a need for additional efforts to ensure all Grade 10 students recognize the benefits of PSAT testing.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact **me at 954-760-3242** or **Anne Dilgen, Director, Student Assessment at 954-712-1748.**

FT/KAB/AD/DG:sm

Attachment

cc: Senior Management
 Area Directors
 Diane Carr, Executive Director, Core Curriculum
 Frank Vodolo, Executive Director, Educational Programs
 Dr. Margery Marcus, Director, Advanced Academic Programs
 High School Principals

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA



Office of Research and Evaluation Student Assessment

2002 PRELIMINARY SAT/NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFYING TEST

This year is the second year of a partnership between the College Board and the Florida Department of Education (DOE) to help improve student academic performance and prepare for a college education or a rewarding career (College Board, 2002). Beginning in 2000-2001, Florida's Specific Appropriation 107, allocated \$1.6 million statewide for administration of a preliminary college entrance examination to all tenth grade students. Broward, after a review of available preliminary college entrance examinations, selected the College Board's Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) for administration to tenth grade students. As directed by the state, student participation in districtwide PSAT/NMSQT testing was voluntary. Furthermore, a student may choose to take an examination not selected by the district at his/her expense.

This report presents data regarding the 2000, 2001 and 2002 administrations of the PSAT/NMSQT for both 10th and 11th grade participants as provided by the vendor, College Board.

Test Description

The PSAT/NMSQT measures verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities that are important for academic performance in college. The PSAT/NMSQT includes two verbal sections consisting of a total of 52 questions, two mathematics sections with a total of 40 questions and a writing skills section with 39 questions. Each verbal and mathematics section is 25 minutes, while the writing skills section is 30 minutes. The full examination requires two hours and ten minutes for administration. The test focuses on students' ability to reason with facts and concepts, rather than the ability to recall and recite information, while assessing knowledge and skills that students develop through course work in English, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign languages, and fine arts, as well as through experiences outside the classroom.

In Grade 10, students gain familiarity with the format of the PSAT/NMSQT and gain experience for the SAT. The examination is intended to permit an opportunity for students to practice for SAT Program tests by providing questions similar to those on that assessment. By taking the PSAT prior to the SAT, students become cognizant of the skills tested on the SAT and other college entrance examinations.

For students in Grade 11, the PSAT/NMSQT is a qualifying examination for scholarship and recognition programs including the National Merit Scholarship Competition, National Achievement Scholarships for Outstanding Negro Students, and the National Hispanic Scholar Recognition Program. Of the more than one million National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) program entrants, about 55,000 students with 2000 PSAT/NMSQT scores meeting the recognition requirements will be notified through their high schools in September 2002 (National Merit Program, 2002). Scholarships will then be awarded to students who meet additional academic requirements and criteria specified by NMSC on a one-time basis in 2002.

Of the more than two million students who take the PSAT/NMSQT, most are high school juniors (College Board, 2002). Nearly all students nationwide who take the test indicate they plan to attend college. The PSAT/NMSQT gives the students the opportunity to participate in the Student Search Service used by colleges to contact students directly with information about their programs and offerings.

The PSAT/NMSQT is administered twice during the month of October each year. Schools may elect either the Tuesday or Saturday scheduled test dates to administer the test.

PSAT/NMSQT Assessment Results

College Board mails each examinee a PSAT/NMSQT Student Score Report in December or January, which offers skills assessment that students can use to identify their levels of proficiency in each of the reasoning skill areas and then work on improving them before entering college, or taking the SAT. The reverse side of the Score Report contains interpretive and college planning information. Each student receives three scores (Verbal, Mathematics, and Writing Skills) as well as two estimated scores on the SAT I: Reasoning Test (Verbal and Mathematics), and one on the SAT II: Writing Test.

In the spring of each year, College Board sends to each school participating in PSAT/NMSQT testing additional reports and materials. The PSAT/NMSQT Summary of Answers includes three different ways for school staff to analyze their students' performance. College Board staff suggests that the Summary of Answers keeps the focus on the students' skills, not their scores. Accompanying the Summary of Answers is the *Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT Summary of Answers*, which contains suggestions about understanding and using information from the report.

Prior to 2002, College Board provided each participating school reports to assist in identifying academically promising young people to participate in Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Beginning this year the College Board has posted this information on their website. Each school is provided with a logon and password to access the information for their school. According to College Board, studies have shown that student performance on the PSAT/NMSQT can be useful in identifying students who may be successful in AP courses. These reports, according to College Board, are not intended to be used as the only criteria for selection of students to enter an AP course, nor are they to be used to deny student access to these high rigor courses. The reports should be used in conjunction with the following to identify more students who can potentially benefit from AP courses and be successful in those courses:

- Self-nomination
- Teacher recommendations
- Previous courses completed
- Grades in relevant previous high school courses
- Discussions with students and their parents
- Scores on achievement tests

Accompanying these reports, each participating school receives a copy of College Board's *Using the PSAT/NMSQT and Course Grades in Predicting Success in the Advanced Placement Program*.

As indicated in the PSAT/NMSQT Summary of Answers, students who take the PSAT/MNSQT are assumed to be planning to continue their education beyond high school with the Summary of Answers report referring to participants as college-bound students. Comparisons of performance on the test relate to the national group of college-bound students, a self-selected group of greater academic ability, rather than all high school students.

Participation Rates

The test results included in this report are for Broward students who participated in the PSAT/NMSQT administration over the past three years of 2000 to 2002. The rates are disaggregated for Grade 10 and Grade 11 participants.

As displayed in Table 1 and illustrated in Chart 1, 10th grade participation on the PSAT/NMSQT over the three year period has increased dramatically. Beginning in 2000, only 15% (2,364) of the sophomore class took the PSAT/NMSQT. The following years grew to 38% (5,406) in 2001 and 45% (6,392) in 2002. This participation *increase* from 2001 to 2002 far exceeded the districtwide 10th grade enrollment *decrease* of one percent (80) during that same time frame.

When reviewing three year trends, the proportion of Grade 11 participants has *increased* by one percent (51) compared to the district Grade 11 enrollment *decrease* of one percent (130).

Table 1: Broward Enrollment/PSAT/NMSQT Participation 2000-2002			
Year	District Enrollment	Participants	
		Number	Percent
Grade 10			
2000	16,255	2,364	15%
2001	14,355	5,406	38%
2002	14,275	6,392	45%
Grade 11			
2000	13,772	3,955	29%
2001	14,633	4,236	29%
2002	14,503	4,287	30%

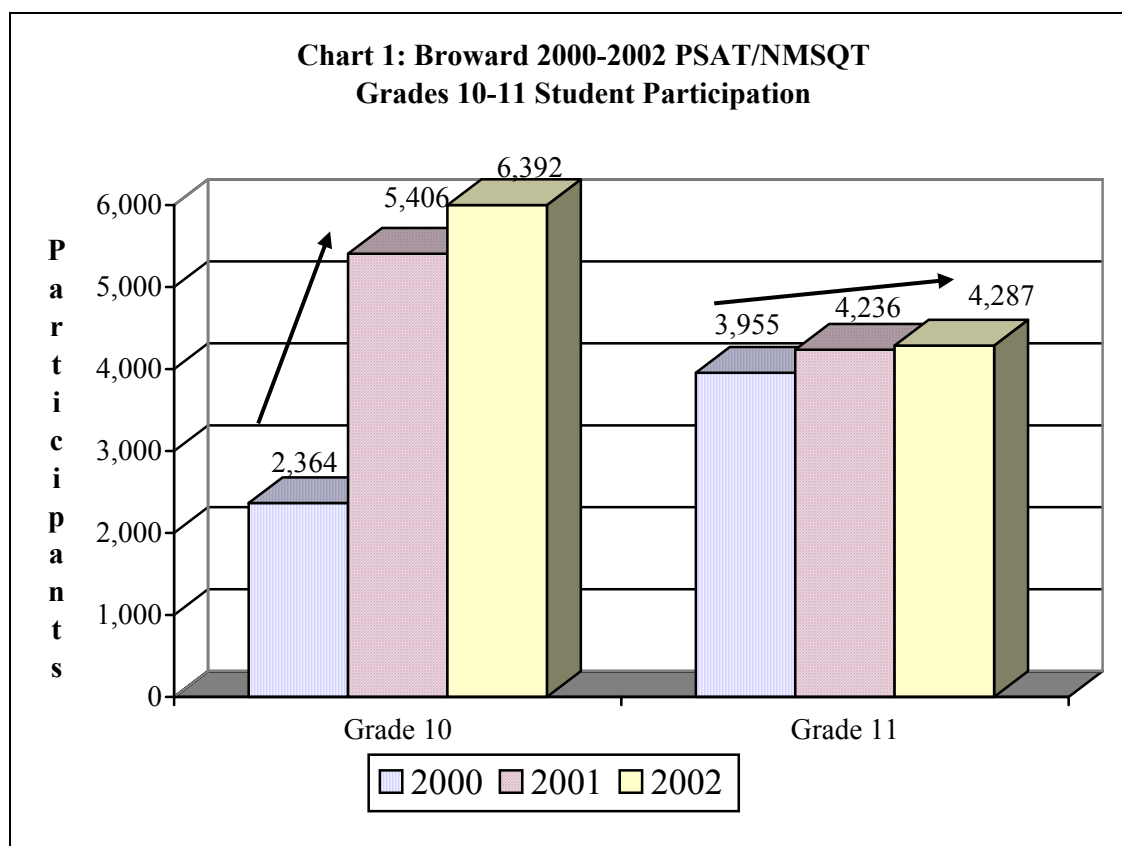


Table 2 provides three years of National, Florida and Broward data. The College Board reports national and state mean scale scores for only college-bound students. It should be noted that Broward mean scores are based on *all* students participating in the PSAT/NMSQT administration.

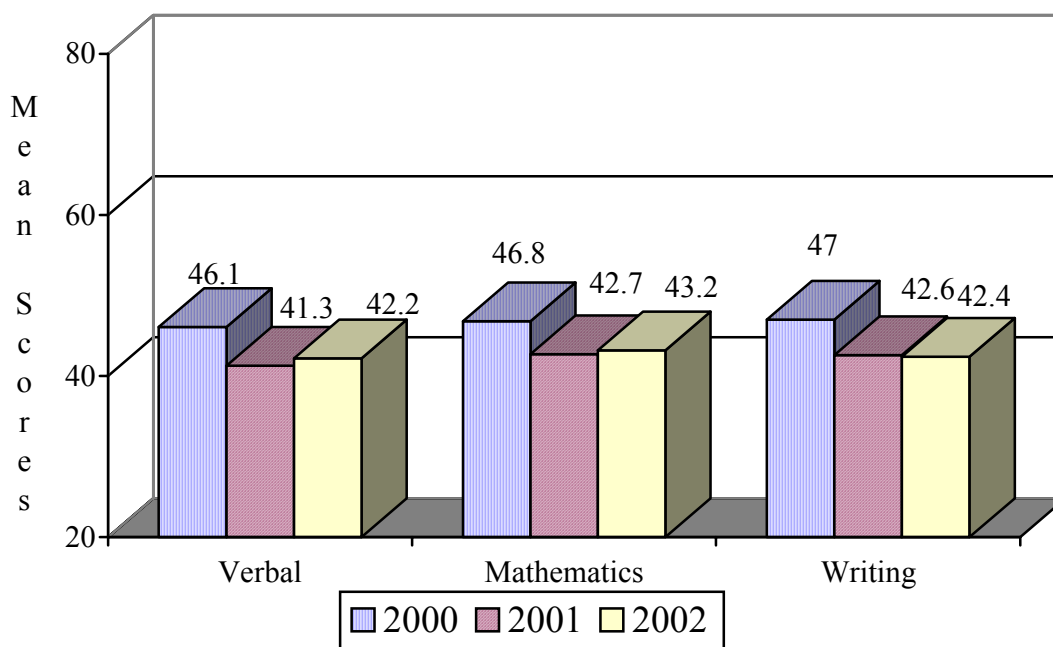
At Grade 10, mean scores across the Nation reflect three years of slightly decreasing scores in the areas of Verbal and Mathematics. Writing scores across the nation remained flat in 2002. As indicated in Table 2 and shown in Chart 2, Broward mean scores for 10th grade participants in the three areas of Verbal, Mathematics, and Writing in 2002 remained stable compared to the previous year. The Grade 10 Verbal mean score rose less than two points this year (42.2) from 41.3 during the previous year. Mathematics mean scores for Grade 10 students increased by less than one point (43.2) in 2002 compared to (42.7) in 2001. Broward Grade 10 Writing mean scores also remained steady with a drop of less than one point this year (42.4 from 42.6) from 2001 to 2002.

Once again, in reviewing the data, note must be made regarding special educational initiatives made in Florida, which are not evidenced nationally. Only three states (Florida, Georgia and South Carolina) have initiatives that provide such testing at no cost to the student. Therefore, comparisons of district and national results for 2001 must be made with caution, as the majority of states do not fund PSAT/NMSQT testing which may limit the range of students who participate in the assessment at the early point of Grade 10.

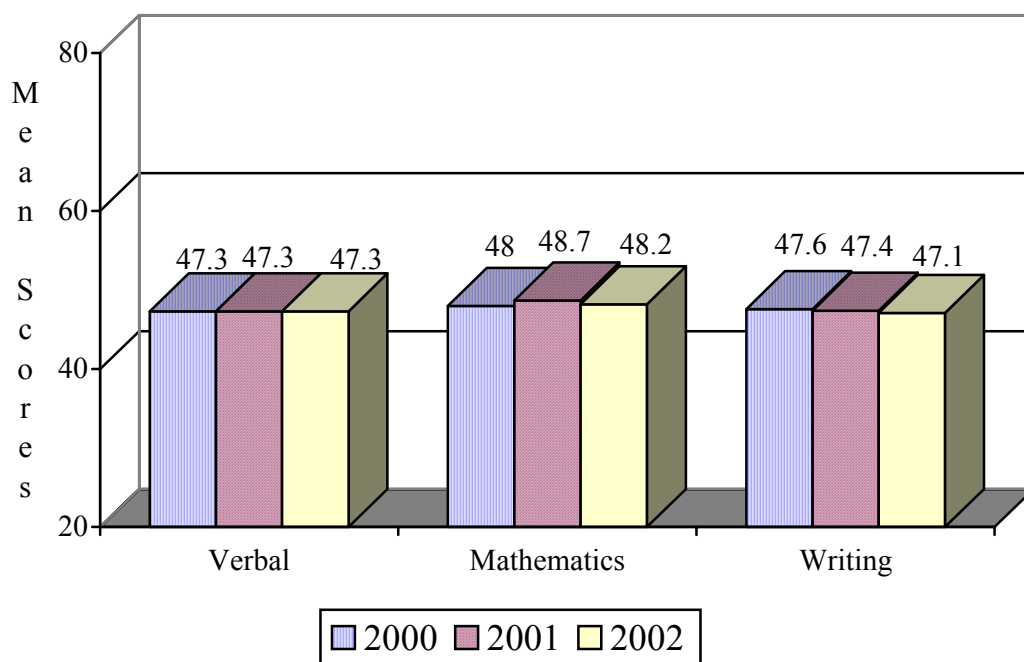
At Grade 11, when reviewing Verbal mean scores, while the Nation evidenced slightly higher scores when compared to Broward (approximately 48 compared to 47, respectively). During this same time frame, Mathematics scores decreased slightly both across the Nation and in Broward (approximately 49 to 48). A clear pattern is not evident when viewing Mathematics scores during the same period. Mathematics scores rose to a small extent from 48.0 in 2000 to 48.7 in 2001 and decreased slightly to 48.2 in 2002. Finally, in Writing, while national scores hovered around 49, a trend of slightly decreasing scores was noted in Broward Writing from 47.6 in 2000 down to 47.1 in 2002. It is not unexpected that Grade 11 scores are higher than Grade 10 students as Grade 10 students are most likely to have no prior experience with the PSAT/NMSQT.

Table 2: Nation, Florida and Broward PSAT/NMSQT Mean Scores 2000-2002									
	Verbal			Mathematics			Writing		
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002
Grade 10									
Nation	45.7	45.2	45.1	46.6	45.9	45.5	47.2	46.2	46.2
Florida	43.8	40.7	41.6	44.8	41.5	42.0	45.0	42.2	42.5
Broward	46.1	41.3	42.2	46.8	42.7	43.2	47.0	42.6	42.4
Grade 11									
Nation	48.3	48.3	48.3	49.2	49.4	49.0	49.2	48.7	48.9
Florida	48.6	48.1	48.8	49.3	48.7	48.8	48.8	48.1	49.1
Broward	47.3	47.3	47.3	48.0	48.7	48.2	47.6	47.4	47.1

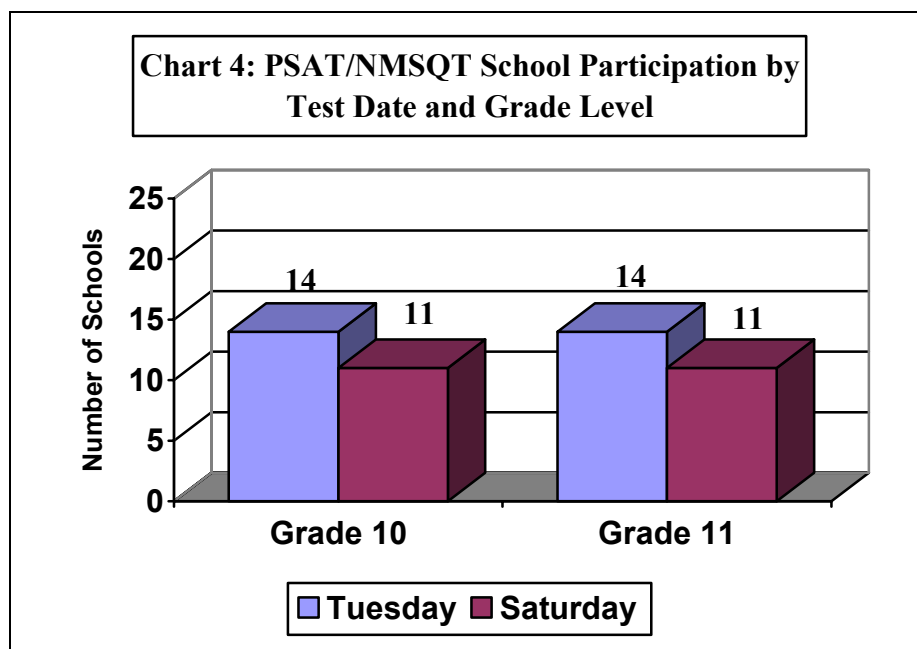
**Chart 2: Broward 2000-2002 PSAT/NMSQT Grade 10
Verbal, Mathematics, Writing Mean Scores**



**Chart 3: Broward 2000-2002 PSAT/NMSQT Grade 11
Verbal, Mathematics, Writing Mean Scores**



As indicated earlier, the PSAT/NMSQT is administered twice during the month of October each year and schools may elect either the Tuesday or Saturday scheduled test dates to administer the test. As depicted in Chart 4, of the 25 Broward high schools participating in PSAT/NMSQT this year, 14 (56%) administered the test to both Grade 10 and 11 students on the Tuesday test date and 11 (44%) schools administered the test to both Grade 10 and 11 students on the Saturday test date. Of the 10,679 Grade 10 and 11 students participating in PSAT/NMSQT this year, 5,277 (49%) selected to participate on the Tuesday administration date and 5,402 (51%) chose the Saturday administration date.



District Mean Scores by Ethnicity

Broward Grades 10 and 11 mean scores are displayed by ethnicity in Table 3. Although all groups at Grade 10 reported lower mean scores in 2001 from 2000, Black and Hispanic students earned mean scores in 2002 equal to or greater than mean scores in 2001. Grade 10 White students mean scores reflect a negative trendline in all areas. Mean scores at Grade 11 remained stable for all groups.

Table 3: Broward PSAT/NMSQT Mean Score by Ethnicity 2000-2002									
	Black			Hispanic			White		
Grade 10									
Year	V	M	W	V	M	W	V	M	W
2000	42.0	42.1	43.5	45.3	45.3	46.0	48.2	48.9	48.7
2001	35.9	37.2	38.9	40.2	41.4	41.8	46.4	47.6	46.2
2002	38.2	38.3	39.2	41.6	42.5	41.8	45.9	47.2	45.3
Grade 11									
2000	41.9	42.4	43.2	46.8	46.5	46.8	50.2	51.1	50.0
2001	41.8	42.6	42.7	46.2	47.3	46.8	50.4	51.9	50.0
2002	42.5	42.2	42.9	46.9	47.4	45.9	50.4	51.5	50.0

Table 4 illustrates PSAT/NMSQT mean scores for Grades 10 and 11 by gender. At Grade 10 improved mean scores are seen in all areas except for females in Writing. At Grade 11, only Verbal scores for females show an increase this year, with females matching last year's Writing scores. Mean scores for Grade 11 males slipped in all areas this year.

Table 4: Grade 10 Broward PSAT/NMSQT Mean Score by Gender 2000-2002						
Year	Female			Male		
	V	M	W	V	M	W
Grade 10						
2000	45.4	45.0	47.2	47.1	49.4	46.7
2001	41.3	41.9	43.0	41.2	43.9	42.0
2002	42.0	42.0	42.7	42.6	44.8	42.1
Grade 11						
2000	46.7	46.2	47.8	48.2	50.5	47.4
2001	46.5	46.8	47.1	48.5	51.5	47.8
2002	46.8	46.7	47.1	48.1	50.6	47.2

Table 5 provides three years of data – 2000 to 2002 – regarding total participation and by ethnicity of Black, Hispanic and White for Grade 10 participants. School-by-school participation data were provided by the College Board. As displayed in the table, over two-thirds (17) of Broward's 25 high schools participating in PSAT/NMSQT testing posted increased participation rates this year over the previous year. Piper High evidenced a significant increase (336%) in Grade 10 students participating in PSAT/NMSQT, up from 120 students in 2001 to 523 this year. Deerfield Beach High experienced dramatic decreasing participation rates from 2001 to 2002, down from 518 to 170 Grade 10 students. Deerfield Beach High staff indicates all Grade 10 students participated in PSAT/NMSQT in 2001. Staff reported this was not productive as those students who were not interested in participating were disruptive. In 2002, school staff continued to advertise the availability of the PSAT/NMSQT, at no cost to Grade 10 students. However, only interested Grade 10 students participated.

As displayed in Table 5, participation rates this year for Grade 10 students varied widely at Broward high schools. Participation ranged from 93 percent at William T. McFatter Technical and Pompano Beach high schools to 17 percent at South Broward High School. Fifteen high schools (60%) administered the PSAT/NMSQT to less than half of their Grade 10 students.

Table 5: PSAT/NMSQT Grade 10 Participation Results by School 2000-2002

High School	Total # Part. 2000	Total # Part. 2001	Total # Part. 2002	% of Eligible Part. 2002	Total # Black Part. 2000	Total # Black Part. 2001	Total # Black Part. 2002	Total # Hisp. Part. 2000	Total # Hisp. Part. 2001	Total # Hisp. Part. 2002	Total # White Part. 2000	Total # White Part. 2001	Total # White Part. 2002
Blanche Ely	84	226	282	46%	37	142	178	6	19	23	20	17	21
Boyd Anderson	96	279	368	80%	33	158	259	13	18	27	26	31	29
Coconut Creek	66	330	265	50%	19	117	91	15	66	35	22	102	83
Cooper City	83	167	175	35%	2	4	0	6	18	21	71	131	131
Coral Springs	68	212	199	29%	1	25	20	4	21	34	50	140	128
Deerfield Beach	40	518	170	42%	5	188	38	4	76	18	19	167	62
Dillard	123	239	313	64%	100	188	248	5	15	15	9	18	21
Flanagan, Charles W.	158	319	399	33%	21	48	70	43	115	116	71	103	130
Fort Lauderdale	49	97	232	76%	15	47	105	6	13	16	18	28	62
Hallandale	41	127	155	49%	16	73	85	15	21	39	2	17	17
Hollywood Hills	52	85	253	49%	1	8	31	7	21	63	35	49	130
McArthur	51	181	261	44%	8	28	63	7	68	87	26	61	79
William T. McFatter Technical	*	127	132	93%	*	20	13	*	28	29	*	65	64
Miramar	20	275	201	38%	14	166	105	3	48	43	1	15	16
Northeast	52	143	136	30%	15	35	27	6	28	27	24	63	69
Nova	248	287	224	57%	38	74	47	25	27	24	156	142	117
Piper	142	120	523	75%	22	21	149	20	22	93	84	60	189
Plantation	113	215	278	51%	17	67	90	15	33	45	61	77	91
Pompano Beach	29	84	162	93%	15	25	50	3	16	21	7	30	73
South Broward	47	96	79	17%	2	25	12	14	20	18	26	47	37
South Plantation	124	274	237	51%	19	87	66	21	47	33	72	120	111
Stoneman Douglas	260	292	425	49%	9	7	32	31	38	49	188	214	291
Stranahan	85	171	219	49%	33	80	122	15	25	23	16	36	28
Taravella, J.P.	178	280	330	44%	2	21	16	18	32	62	139	197	217
Western	155	262	374	35%	4	4	6	30	78	98	103	147	207

* Data not provided by College Board this year.

Table 6 provides total enrollment of Grade 10 students by ethnicity and data indicating participation in each ethnic group by school in PSAT/NMSQT in 2002. Participation rates ranged from 0% Black Grade 10 students participating in PSAT/NMSQT at Cooper City to 100% participation of Grade 10 Hispanic students at William T. McFatter Technical High School. Caution should be used when looking at the percentage of students who participated due to the small number of students, by ethnicity, enrolled in the school. Data reflects enrollment counts in May, 2002.

Table 6: PSAT/NMSQT Grade 10 Enrollment/Participation Results by School 2002									
	Black			Hispanic			White		
	Number Enrolled	Number Part.	Percent Part.	Number Enrolled	Number Part.	Percent Part.	Number Enrolled	Number Part.	Percent Part.
District	4,474	1,923	43%	2,663	1,059	40%	5,787	2,403	42%
High School									
Blanche Ely	465	178	38%	60	23	38%	63	21	33%
Boyd Anderson	371	259	70%	28	27	96%	39	29	74%
Coconut Creek	226	91	40%	86	35	41%	182	83	46%
Cooper City	12	0	0%	68	21	31%	404	131	32%
Coral Springs	144	20	14%	124	34	27%	391	128	33%
Deerfield Beach	154	38	25%	59	18	31%	173	62	36%
Dillard	431	248	58%	18	15	83%	29	21	72%
Flanagan, Charles W.	233	70	30%	420	116	28%	451	130	29%
Fort Lauderdale	173	105	61%	23	16	70%	94	62	67%
Hallandale	190	85	45%	76	39	51%	39	17	44%
Hollywood Hills	69	31	45%	139	63	45%	285	130	46%
McArthur	150	63	42%	207	87	42%	207	79	38%
William T. McFatter Technical	19	13	68%	29	29	100%	91	64	70%
Miramar	350	105	30%	106	43	41%	54	16	30%
Northeast	102	27	26%	100	27	27%	239	69	29%
Nova	94	47	50%	55	24	44%	215	117	54%
Piper	262	149	57%	119	93	78%	279	189	68%
Plantation	231	90	39%	86	45	52%	198	91	46%
Pompano Beach	56	50	89%	22	21	95%	90	73	81%
South Broward	132	12	9%	119	18	15%	191	37	19%
South Plantation	153	66	43%	66	33	50%	227	111	49%
Stoneman Douglas	78	32	41%	116	49	42%	628	291	46%
Stranahan	273	122	45%	64	23	36%	82	28	34%
Taravella, J.P.	65	16	25%	154	62	40%	493	217	44%
Western	41	6	15%	319	98	31%	643	207	32%

When reviewing the data by ethnicity, once again, dramatic increases in participation rates are noted. Three schools, Hollywood Hills, McArthur and Piper reported remarkable gains in all three categories of Black, Hispanic and White. Several schools reported large increases in the number of Black students taking the PSAT/NMSQT this year compared to 2001: Blanche Ely (142 to 178), Boyd Anderson (158 to 259), Dillard (188 to 248), Charles W. Flanagan (48 to 70), Fort Lauderdale (47 to 105), Plantation (67 to 90), Pompano Beach (25 to 50), Stoneman Douglas (7 to 32), and Stranahan (80 to 122). Regarding Hispanic student participation, three schools noted impressive increases: Hallandale (21 to 39), J.P. Taravella (32 to 62) and Western (78 to 98).

Table 7 provides Grade 10 PSAT/NMSQT mean scale scores for Black, Hispanic and White students. Data are provided over a three-year period where available. Please note no data reported when less than 30 students tested. Caution must be used when viewing gains or declines in this table as the number of students in each ethnic group will vary widely from school to school and year to year.

A positive trendline is seen for White students at two schools (Cooper City and South Plantation) in Mathematics.

One-year gains made by students in 2002 over the previous year are noted for Black students in all areas at five schools (Blanche Ely, Deerfield Beach, Dillard, Miramar and South Plantation). In addition, one-year Verbal gains are evidenced for Black students at four schools (Boyd Anderson, Charles W. Flanagan, Fort Lauderdale and Nova). Black students at Hallandale posted one-year gains in both Verbal and Mathematics.

Gains are also noted for Hispanic students from 2001 to 2002. Hispanic students at two schools (Coconut Creek and Miramar) recorded higher mean scores in all areas. Gains in Verbal and Writing are seen at South Plantation and in Mathematics and Writing at Plantation. Additionally, one-year gains for Hispanic students are evident in Verbal at McArthur, in Mathematics at J.P. Taravella and Western.

Gains for White students were posted for all areas at six schools (Coconut Creek, Deerfield Beach, Charles W. Flanagan, McArthur, William T. McFatter Technical and Nova). One-year gains are depicted for South Plantation in both Verbal and Writing, with Cooper City earning gains in Verbal.

As reported in Table 7, not all schools have made gains. A negative trendline is seen for Black students in all areas at Stranahan, in Mathematics and Writing at two schools (Boyd Anderson and Nova). Likewise, Hispanic students posted negative trends in all areas at two schools (Charles W. Flanagan and Stoneman Douglas). A negative trend in all areas is noticed for White students at three schools (Coral Springs, Hollywood Hills and Plantation), with three schools (Piper, J.P. Taravella and Western) posting negative trends in Verbal and Writing.

Also illustrated in this table are one-year drops in mean scores from 2001. Hispanic students experienced a decline in mean scores this year at McArthur in both Mathematics and Writing. One-year declines are also seen at two schools (J.P. Taravella and Western) in Writing. Declines in all areas are noted for White students at Stoneman Douglas. Mean scores for White students at Northeast slipped this year in Verbal and Mathematics, with four schools (Piper, Plantation, J.P. Taravella and Western) showing declines in Mathematics and Cooper City students showing a one-year drop in Writing.

Table 7: PSAT/NMSQT Grade 10 School Mean Scale Score by Ethnicity 2000-2002													
High School	Year	Black				Hispanic				White			
		#	V	M	W	#	V	M	W	#	V	M	W
Blanche Ely	2000	37	44.9	42.9	46.7	6*				20*			
	2001	142	35.1	37.2	37.5	19*				17*			
	2002	178	40.3	40.8	39.5	23*				21*			
Boyd Anderson	2000	33	47.3	44.5	47.8	13*				26*			
	2001	158	36.6	37.6	40.5	18*				31	57.5	54.8	53.7
	2002	259	36.9	36.7	38.0	27*				29*			
Coconut Creek	2000	19*				15*				22*			
	2001	117	33.0	35.0	37.0	66	36.1	37.8	37.9	102	38.3	39.5	40.1
	2002	91	35.6	35.5	38.9	35	38.9	42.4	39.8	83	42.9	43.0	42.0
Cooper City	2000	2*				6*				71	47.7	48.2	46.8
	2001	4*				18*				131	47.6	48.6	46.8
	2002	0				21*				131	47.9	50.2	46.5
Coral Springs	2000	1*				4*				50	50.8	51.5	50.6
	2001	25*				21*				140	48.4	50.0	46.8
	2002	20*				34	41.5	42.9	44.0	128	46.4	47.6	46.6
Deerfield Beach	2000	5*				4*				19*			
	2001	188	33.2	34.4	37.0	76	35.2	38.4	37.9	167	44.5	44.4	45.3
	2002	38	37.7	37.1	39.0	18*				62	49.0	48.1	47.6
Dillard	2000	100	36.6	39.1	40.2	5*				9*			
	2001	188	32.3	34.3	37.0	15*				18*			
	2002	248	35.0	36.5	37.3	15*				21*			
Flanagan, Charles W.	2000	21*				43	45.2	47.0	46.7	71	48.7	48.1	49.5
	2001	48	42.3	41.9	42.4	115	45.1	45.8	45.4	103	46.5	47.8	47.6
	2002	70	42.5	41.3	41.6	116	42.9	44.5	43.5	130	47.4	50.1	48.2
Fort Lauderdale	2000	15*				6*				18*			
	2001	47	37.4	38.1	39.6	13*				28*			
	2002	105	38.1	36.9	39.2	16*				62	44.5	42.9	43.6
Hallandale	2000	16*				15*				2*			
	2001	73	33.0	35.6	37.8	21*				17*			
	2002	85	36.1	36.3	36.8	39	38.5	38.2	38.5	17	39.8	37.4	39.2
Hollywood Hills	2000	1*				7*				35	48.1	48.9	49.3
	2001	8*				21*				49	45.9	46.2	45.1
	2002	31	33.8	35.1	36.1	63	40.5	42.4	40.3	130	43.5	44.1	42.1
McArthur	2000	8*				7*				26*			
	2001	28*				68	37.9	39.3	39.8	61	42.7	43.0	43.2
	2002	63	35.9	37.3	38.3	87	38.4	38.7	38.0	79	43.0	46.2	43.6

Table 7 Cont'd.: PSAT/NMSQT Grade 10 School Mean Scale Score by Ethnicity 2000-2002													
High School	Year	Black				Hispanic				White			
		#	V	M	W	#	V	M	W	#	V	M	W
William T. McFatter Technical	2000**												
	2001	20*				28*				65	44.5	45.2	42.6
	2002	13*				29*				64	45.9	46.0	43.4
Miramar	2000	14*				3*				1*			
	2001	166	32.8	34.3	36.0	48	33.8	33.9	37.0	15*			
	2002	105	40.6	40.3	40.4	43	42.2	41.4	41.6	16*			
Northeast	2000	15*				6*				24*			
	2001	35	41.7	41.6	41.8	28*				63	47.8	47.6	47.5
	2002	27*				27*				69	46.2	45.6	45.8
Nova	2000	38	45.2	44.8	45.8	25*				156	50.3	51.7	50.8
	2001	74	40.1	42.2	42.2	27*				142	47.1	49.8	47.1
	2002	47	41.7	41.4	41.4	24*				117	48.5	50.6	47.3
Piper	2000	22*				20*				84	44.5	43.9	45.9
	2001	21*				22*				60	43.0	45.7	44.3
	2002	149	36.8	35.8	38.2	93	39.5	38.4	39.0	189	41.7	42.8	41.4
Plantation	2000	17*				15*				61	46.8	47.4	48.7
	2001	67	39.2	39.8	41.3	33	40.0	40.1	41.5	77	46.7	47.9	47.8
	2002	90	37.9	37.4	40.6	45	39.0	41.3	42.5	91	45.7	47.6	46.4
Pompano Beach	2000	15*				3*				7*			
	2001	25*				16*				30*			
	2002	50	40.7	40.2	40.5	21*				73	44.1	44.1	42.9
South Broward	2000	2*				14*				26*			
	2001	25*				20*				47	45.0	44.7	46.2
	2002	12*				18*				37	46.5	46.9	46.4
South Plantation	2000	19*				21*				72	48.4	47.0	48.5
	2001	87	36.7	37.4	39.6	47	39.3	41.4	41.4	120	44.4	47.1	44.5
	2002	66	39.5	39.9	39.7	33	41.5	42.9	42.3	111	47.0	47.6	46.0
Stoneman Douglas	2000	9*				31	48.5	47.1	48.2	188	47.9	49.0	47.5
	2001	7*				38	44.3	44.0	44.8	214	48.4	50.3	47.5
	2002	32	43.4	41.6	41.8	49	44.0	43.9	44.4	291	47.1	49.2	46.3
Stranahan	2000	33	45.9	46.6	45.6	15*				16*			
	2001	80	41.5	41.8	41.9	25*				36	48.3	47.9	47.3
	2002	122	41.4	41.5	41.7	23*				28*			
Taravella, J.P.	2000	2*				18*				139	48.8	50.5	50.0
	2001	21*				32	44.8	42.6	46.1	197	48.6	51.0	48.6
	2002	16*				62	44.1	46.2	45.1	217	45.8	48.8	45.9
Western	2000	4*				30*				103	48.2	48.5	48.7
	2001	4*				78	42.8	44.3	44.9	147	47.8	49.1	47.8
	2002	6*				98	42.6	45.0	42.0	207	47.4	47.9	46.3

* Data not reported if 30 or fewer students were tested.

** Data not provided by College Board this year.

Table 8 displays mean scores for Grade 10 and Grade 11 participants in 2002 for high schools in Broward. Five Broward schools (Cooper City, Nova, Stoneman Douglas, J.P. Taravella and Western) surpassed the Grade 10 Verbal national mean score, and seven schools (Cooper City, Coral Springs, Charles W. Flanagan, Nova, Stoneman Douglas, J.P. Taravella and Western) exceeded the national Grade 10 Mathematics mean score. One school, Cooper City, equaled the national Grade 10 Writing mean score.

In Grade 11, seven schools (Cooper City, Deerfield Beach, Hollywood Hills, Nova, Stoneman Douglas, Taravella and Western) eclipsed the national Verbal mean score, and nine schools (Cooper City, Coral Springs, Deerfield Beach, Charles W. Flanagan, Hollywood Hills, Nova, Stoneman Douglas, J.P. Taravella and Western) earned Mathematics mean scores higher than the national average. In addition, seven Broward schools (Cooper City, Deerfield Beach, Hollywood Hills, Nova, Stoneman Douglas, J.P. Taravella and Western) posted higher Grade 11 Writing scores than the national average score. Comparisons among schools are not advised, particularly at the 10th grade level. Recall that all 10th grade students are encouraged to take the PSAT/NMSQT – at no cost to the student – for use in identifying readiness for college level work. Differing participation rates may greatly influence mean scores.

Table 8: Broward PSAT/NMSQT Participation and Mean Scores 2002								
	Grade 10				Grade 11			
	#	V	M	W	#	V	M	W
Broward	6,392	42.2	43.2	42.4	4,287	47.3	48.2	47.1
Nation		45.1	45.5	46.2		48.3	49.0	48.9
High School								
Blanche Ely	282	40.4	41.4	40.2	184	42.8	43.1	42.5
Boyd Anderson	368	38.9	39.1	40.0	199	46.3	46.6	46.5
Coconut Creek	265	38.2	39.0	39.6	91	41.6	41.9	42.9
Cooper City	175	48.0	50.0	46.2	201	51.7	52.9	49.7
Coral Springs	199	45.0	46.0	45.5	220	48.1	50.3	48.8
Deerfield Beach	170	44.7	44.6	44.2	112	51.7	52.8	50.7
Dillard	313	36.5	37.6	38.3	115	41.5	41.8	42.7
Flanagan, Charles W.	399	44.1	46.1	44.7	332	47.2	49.3	46.4
Fort Lauderdale	232	39.9	39.4	40.8	122	45.9	44.1	46.2
Hallandale	155	37.4	37.0	37.7	76	43.6	42.1	42.3
Hollywood Hills	253	40.8	42.1	40.6	78	50.6	49.5	50.2
McArthur	261	39.0	40.8	39.9	76	46.8	48.6	45.9
William T. McFatter Technical	132	45.0	44.6	43.3	132	45.6	46.6	44.1
Miramar	201	41.3	41.2	41.0	59	43.3	43.5	42.2
Northeast	136	43.4	44.3	43.6	86	46.4	46.5	46.6
Nova	224	46.6	47.9	45.6	200	52.3	53.4	51.4
Piper	523	39.5	39.5	39.9	282	43.6	43.7	44.0
Plantation	278	41.0	42.4	43.0	213	45.5	46.3	45.9
Pompano Beach	162	42.9	42.8	41.7	67	46.0	45.0	47.3
South Broward	79	42.8	42.9	43.5	101	45.7	45.8	45.4
South Plantation	237	43.4	44.2	43.2	212	47.2	47.6	46.3
Stoneman-Douglas	425	46.6	48.2	45.7	380	50.0	51.1	50.0
Stranahan	219	42.3	42.9	42.8	148	45.1	44.8	45.6
Taravella, J.P.	330	45.5	48.3	45.7	352	49.1	51.2	49.0
Western	374	45.5	47.0	44.8	249	51.6	53.2	51.3

Charter Schools

As reported in Table 9, three charter schools, City of Coral Springs, North Lauderdale Academy and Pembroke Pines Charter High School, participated in PSAT/NMSQT testing this year. The City of Coral Springs Charter School's Grade 10 Verbal, Mathematics and Writing mean scores approximate the District average, with Pembroke Pines Charter High School matching the District Writing score.

	Grade 10				Grade 11			
	#	Verbal	Mathematics	Writing	#	Verbal	Mathematics	Writing
Broward	6,392	42.2	43.2	42.4	4,287	47.3	48.2	47.1
Nation		45.1	45.5	46.2		48.3	49.0	48.9
Charter School								
City of Coral Springs	51	43.4	43.3	44.6	51	44.3	42.8	44.7
North Lauderdale	227	34.1	35.6	37.2	4*			
Pembroke Pines	311	41.7	40.6	42.4	177	47.0	45.5	46.3

* Data not reported if 30 or fewer students were tested.

Cost Impact

Due to the increased number of Grade 10 students participating in PSAT/NMSQT this year, many school staffs indicated the need for additional proctors. The district reimbursed schools requiring additional proctors for Grade 10 students at the rate of \$100 per 30 students. Analysis of the number of students registered and cost impact in light of actual participation is being conducted.

Discussion

An analysis of Broward's participation in PSAT/NMSQT assessment detailed in this report indicates mixed results. Districtwide Grade 10 participation on the PSAT/NMSQT in 2002 (6,392) has increased by 18 percent (986) over the previous year (5,406). This participation *increase* from 2001 to 2002 far exceeded the districtwide Grade 10 enrollment *decrease* of one percent (80) during that same time frame.

Participation rates among individual high schools varied widely at Broward high schools. Participation ranged from 93 percent at William T. McFatter Technical and Pompano Beach high schools to 17 percent at South Broward High School. Fifteen high schools (60%) administered the PSAT/NMSQT to less than half of their Grade 10 students.

Broward's increased PSAT/NMSQT participation rate demonstrates a commitment to provide students with increasing educational opportunities. This year, PSAT/NMSQT results will be used by school staff as additional information to identify students for Honors or AP classes. Schedules for next year will be revisited where warranted.

In addition, the following steps are advised:

Next Steps

1. Student Assessment staff will participate in the fall District Guidance Meeting to discuss Grade 10 participation in the PSAT/NMSQT assessment. The low participation rates at some schools indicate the need to emphasize the importance of PSAT/NMSQT not just as a practice for the SAT but as an opportunity to identify individual strengths and weaknesses compared to college bound students nationwide.
2. Student Assessment staff will schedule a BECON broadcast dealing with the use of PSAT/NMSQT scores to assist schools in identifying potential candidates for enrollment in Advanced Placement (AP) courses.
3. Area Directors and Principals will continue to look at individual school participation rates as related to enrollment at Grades 10 and 11. Based on the analysis, schools will be identified where increased efforts are needed to ensure students are apprised of the benefit of participation in October 2002 testing. For Grade 11 students, the availability of a fee waiver is critical information that must be communicated early in the school year.

References

College Board. (2002). www.collegeboard.com

National Merit Scholarship Program. (2002). www.nationalmerit.org