

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

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Approved memorandum with signatures is on file.

May 9, 2003

TO: School Board Members

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

VIA: Frank Till
Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST GRADUATION
REQUIREMENT SCORE**

Yesterday, Jim Horne, Florida Commissioner of Education, announced that current seniors are required to meet the **original passing score of 287 in Reading and 295 in Mathematics** on the tenth grade Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) in order to meet graduation requirements. Key points from the Commissioner's memorandum include:

- All 2003 graduating seniors are permitted to use the original FCAT passing score of 287 in Reading and 295 in Mathematics attained in this or any prior administration.
- The original FCAT passing scores are applied to students classified as 12th and 13th year students for the March 2003 FCAT administration and students who were in the 1999-00 ninth grade class.
- The grandfather provision will continue to apply to students who continue to take the test based on the original passing score.
- Beginning with the June 2003 FCAT administrations, all students are required to earn a score of 300 except those identified as part of the 2003 graduating class cohort (i.e., 9th graders in 1999-00 and/or 12th graders in 2002-03).

The Department of Education staff anticipates that approximately 1,000 students statewide are positively affected. Based on scores currently in the Broward student database (administrations through October 2002), 190 students have benefited from the revised graduation requirements. Of those, 129 have now met all FCAT requirements for graduation. The March 2003 individual scores have not been received for posting to the Broward student database. That information will be provided as soon as available.

Further information concerning the 12th grade FCAT graduation requirement and a copy of the Commissioner's memorandum can be found at:

http://info.fldoe.org/dscgi/ds.py/Get/File-1122/Grade_10_Passing_Score.pdf. If you have questions, **please contact me at (954) 760-7342 or Anne Dilgen, Director, Student Assessment at (954) 940-7627.**

FT/KAB/AD:tbm

cc: Senior Management
Area Directors
Principals