

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

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Approved memorandum with signatures is on file.

August 8, 2003

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Katherine Blasik, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent
Research, Evaluation, Assessment, & Boundaries

VIA: Frank Till
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **RELEASE OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) RESULTS**

Today the Florida Department of Education (DOE) released data pertaining to the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act for students throughout the state of Florida. The NCLB uses a standard known as Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) to gauge learning achievement for all students and for specified student subgroups. Under the NCLB Act, each state submitted an Accountability Plan to the Federal Department of Education. Each state's plan identifies levels of proficiency based on the state's assessment, criteria for meeting the proficiency level and a progression of how the state will reach the NCLB required proficiency rate of 100% by the 2014 school year. Each state was allowed to develop its plan based on state specific criteria. Under this provision, as the data is reviewed, it is important to recognize that the formula for satisfying the requirement of AYP varies from state to state.

In Florida, the NCLB requirements were merged with the existing A+ Plan to form a single Accountability Plan. The Florida Plan, which is available at <http://fldoe.org/NCLB/> is based on the rigorous standards employed in the A+ state plan. Although the 2003 school year is the first year for the measure of AYP under NCLB, Florida has been measuring progress and individual student learning gains for multiple years under the pre-existing A+ Plan.

The comprehensive Florida plan now includes a measure of quality as evidenced by school grades as well as a measure of areas that may still need improvement. The information garnered from the calculation of AYP will allow schools to provide a more focused approach to students who may be in need of more intensive instruction. AYP measures the percent of students who have reached proficiency in Reading and Mathematics, improvement in Writing, and for high schools, the AYP measures improvement in graduation rates.

Recall that both Districts and Schools receive AYP designations. In Florida, for the 2003 school year, no District met AYP criteria. As can be seen on the attached District Report, Broward County met proficiency criteria for 7 of the 9 subgroups in Reading and for 8 of the 9 subgroups in Mathematics. In the Other Indicator component, all subgroups met improvement in Writing criteria and 7 of the 9 subgroups met the increased graduation rate criteria. However, in Broward, only one subgroup (Asian) met the required participation rate of 95%.

Around the state, 88% of schools did not reach AYP criteria. In Broward County, 43 schools (18%) have been identified as having met AYP for the 2003 school year. A list of the Broward County schools meeting AYP is attached to this memorandum. A complete listing of Broward County school AYP results is available at the DOE Website <http://web.fldoe.org/NCLB/Default.cfm>.

The Broward County Public Schools has as its primary mission statement: “All Students Will Achieve at their Highest Potential.” This goal reflects the district’s overall awareness of, and commitment to, the importance of improving achievement for students from every ethnic background and subgroup. As we continue working towards the goal of 100% proficiency, the data obtained via the AYP calculation will be used to make instructional decisions regarding increased student achievement. If you have any questions about this release, **please contact me at 954-760-7342 or Anne Dilgen Director, Student Assessment at 754-321-4257.**

FT/KAB/AD:sjm
Attachments

cc: Senior Management
Principals
Diane Carr, Executive Director, Core Curriculum
Frank Vodolo, Executive Director, Educational Programs
Maria de L. Rodriguez, Director, Diversity & Cultural Outreach
PTA
DAC