

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

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May 23, 2007

TO: School Board Members

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

VIA: James F. Notter
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **RELEASE OF 2007 FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST
(FCAT) RESULTS FOR GRADES 4-10**

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) today released statewide, district, and school-by-school results of the 2007 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test—Sunshine State Standards (FCAT-SSS) in Reading and Mathematics for grades 4 through 10 and Science in grades 5, 8, and 11. This memorandum summarizes these results for Broward County Public Schools (BCPS).

The results released today include all students who participated in the 2007 FCAT administration and therefore do not represent the data that will be used to determine school grades under Florida's A+ Plan or Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. Only scores from eligible students will be included in school accountability calculations. Today's results also do not include students who participated in alternate assessments in place of the FCAT. The results from students who participated in the alternate assessments will be included in AYP calculations.

The results of the FCAT-SSS are reported via several types of scores. Student performance results are presented in terms of mean scale scores (ranging from 100 to 500 at each grade level), mean developmental scale scores (DSS; ranging from 86 to 3008 across all grade levels), and the proportion of students scoring at each achievement level, 1 through 5. Students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher are considered to be performing on or above grade level.

In the following summary you will find that:

- Increases in the percent of students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher on the SSS Reading subtest occurred in grade 5 (5 points) and grade 7 (2 points) compared to the 2006 school year.

- In Mathematics, Broward students performed better than students across the state at all grade levels. Increases in the percent of students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher on the SSS test were observed in grade 3 (1 percentage point increase), grade 5 (3 points), grade 7 (2 points), grade 8 (2 points), grade 9 (1 point), and grade 10 (1 point).
- At grade 10, passing rates among Broward students decreased from the previous year in Reading (from 54% to 53%) but increased in Mathematics (from 79% to 80%).
- In Science, Broward students in grades 5, 8, and 11 demonstrated increased scores relative to last year's performance. Specifically, grade 5 students earned average scores that were 10 scale score points higher than last year, grade 8 earned average scores that were 7 scale score points higher, and grade 11 students earned average scores that were 6 scale score points above last year.

The Florida Department of Education notified districts today that they have re-analyzed the 2006 third grade FCAT Reading scores. An error was found in the scale used to assign scores to students such that the scores were inflated. FDOE will rescore the 2006 third grade FCAT reading test. The rescored data will be used as the baseline for computing learning gains for the 2007 school grades. The corrected scores will not impact the 2006 school grade, AYP status, or the 2006 grade 3 promotion status.

Broward FCAT Results in Reading and Mathematics

Table 1 summarizes BCPS student performance on the Reading subtest from 2002 to 2007. Although third grade results were previously released, the data have been included in the tables that follow for comparative purposes. Examination of the Table 1 revealed that the largest gains on the Reading portion of the FCAT-SSS occurred at grade 5, with an increase of 5 percentage points noted in the proportion of students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher from 2006 to 2007. Gains in Reading were also demonstrated at grade 7. Performance in Reading at grades 8, 9, and 10 were maintained from the previous year. When the FCAT SSS Reading results are compared over the six-year period shown in Table 1, increases in student achievement were noted at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Performance in grade 10 has remained stable during the time period examined.

Table 2 presents the results of Broward student performance on the Mathematics subtest of the FCAT from 2002 to 2007. As Table 2 shows, the largest gains in SSS Mathematics were observed at grade 5, where a 3 percentage point increase in the proportion of students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher compared to 2006 was registered. Gains from the previous year were also observed in grades 3 (1 percentage point), 7 (2 points), 8 (2 points), 9 (1 point), and 10 (1 point) scored at Achievement Level 3 or higher as compared to the previous year. When the FCAT SSS Mathematics results were compared over the six-year period as shown in the preceding table, increases in student achievement were noted at all grade levels in the period from 2002 to 2007.

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Table 1

Broward FCAT Reading Results, 2002 to 2007

Grade	Year	SSS						
		Mean Scale Score	Percent of Students in Each Achievement Level					
			1	2	3	4	5	3 or Higher
3	2002	297	23	14	34	23	5	62
	2003	298	23	14	34	24	5	63
	2004	303	21	13	33	26	6	65
	2005	306	20	13	32	28	7	67
	2006*	314	13	12	38	33	5	75
	2007	310	19	13	33	28	8	68
	4	2002	304	27	15	30	22	7
2003		306	25	15	31	24	6	61
2004		318	15	15	36	27	7	70
2005		316	17	14	35	27	7	69
2006		318	16	15	34	27	8	69
2007		316	17	15	34	27	7	68
5		2002	287	27	19	31	19	4
	2003	289	25	19	33	20	3	56
	2004	296	22	18	32	22	6	60
	2005	302	19	17	34	24	7	65
	2006	306	17	16	34	26	7	68
	2007	311	13	14	36	30	7	73
	6	2002	298	26	18	30	20	6
2003		300	25	18	31	20	6	57
2004		300	24	20	32	18	6	56
2005		302	23	20	32	19	6	57
2006		315	17	17	31	27	8	66
2007		308	19	19	33	22	7	62
7		2002	298	27	21	30	17	5
	2003	303	24	21	30	19	6	55
	2004	303	24	21	31	18	6	56
	2005	304	24	21	31	19	6	56
	2006	315	16	19	35	23	7	64
	2007	318	15	19	35	22	9	66
	8	2002	300	26	26	30	14	3
2003		305	23	26	31	17	3	51
2004		301	26	26	28	15	4	47
2005		301	24	29	31	13	3	47
2006		305	20	29	34	15	2	51
2007		306	20	29	33	15	2	51
9		2002	289	44	27	17	8	4
	2003	291	42	27	18	8	5	31
	2004	295	40	30	18	8	5	30
	2005	302	34	29	21	10	6	37
	2006	308	28	31	26	11	5	42
	2007	309	27	31	25	12	5	42
	10	2002	307	29	36	21	8	6
2003		304	33	33	20	8	7	35
2004		303	35	30	18	7	10	34
2005		294	41	30	16	6	7	29
2006		302	36	30	17	7	9	34
2007		302	38	28	17	7	10	34

*The 2006 third grade FCAT Reading scores will be recomputed by the FDOE.

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Table 2

Broward FCAT Mathematics Results, 2002 to 2007

Grade	Year	SSS						
		Mean Scale Score	Percent of Students in Each Achievement Level					
			1	2	3	4	5	3 or Higher
3	2002	314	17	18	33	24	9	66
	2003	313	17	17	33	24	9	66
	2004	318	15	17	34	25	9	68
	2005	328	13	14	33	28	13	73
	2006	334	10	14	33	30	14	77
	2007	337	9	13	32	29	17	78
	4	2002	303	21	22	33	18	5
2003		305	19	21	36	18	5	59
2004		321	13	19	36	24	8	68
2005		320	13	19	37	23	8	69
2006		334	9	14	35	29	13	77
2007		329	9	16	37	27	11	75
5		2002	327	21	24	23	22	10
	2003	326	21	24	23	23	9	55
	2004	331	17	24	24	24	10	58
	2005	335	14	25	26	28	8	61
	2006	339	12	23	26	28	11	65
	2007	343	10	22	27	29	12	68
	6	2002	310	29	20	26	16	9
2003		312	27	22	26	16	9	51
2004		312	28	19	26	18	9	53
2005		316	26	20	27	18	9	54
2006		322	22	19	28	20	11	59
2007		317	24	20	27	18	10	56
7		2002	302	27	20	27	16	10
	2003	304	27	20	27	17	9	53
	2004	310	25	19	26	18	11	56
	2005	313	21	21	28	19	11	58
	2006	318	18	19	30	21	11	63
	2007	320	16	19	31	22	11	65
	8	2002	310	24	21	30	15	10
2003		316	20	20	32	15	12	59
2004		317	21	20	29	16	15	60
2005		320	19	18	30	17	15	63
2006		322	17	19	32	17	15	64
2007		323	16	18	32	18	16	66
9		2002	288	28	25	26	15	7
	2003	295	22	26	28	17	7	52
	2004	297	22	23	28	18	9	55
	2005	305	18	21	30	21	11	62
	2006	308	16	21	30	21	12	63
	2007	308	15	21	30	23	11	64
	10	2002	323	17	21	26	27	9
2003		322	18	21	26	26	9	61
2004		325	15	21	26	28	10	65
2005		321	15	22	28	27	8	63
2006		327	14	19	26	32	10	67
2007		326	13	19	28	33	8	68

Superintendent Schools

Table 3 presents the percent of Superintendent Schools registering improvement in the percent of students scoring in Achievement Level 3 or higher in Reading and Mathematics by grade level.

Table 3

Percent of Superintendent Schools Registering Improvement by Grade Level, 2007

Grade	Number of Schools	Percent of Schools Registering Improvement	
		Reading	Mathematics
3	19	0	32
4	19	47	37
5	19	84	63
6	3	33	0
7	2	50	0
8	2	0	50
9	16	44	75
10	16	31	44

Graduation Requirements (Grade 10)

Table 4 summarizes the proportion of 10th grade students (10th grade students taking the FCAT for the first time and retained 10th grade students retaking the FCAT) in Broward who scored at or above the passing score required by the state Board of Education for graduation from high school with a standard diploma.

Table 4

Broward 10th Grade FCAT Graduation Requirements, 2002 to 2007

Subject Area	School Year	Percent Passing	
		Broward	State
Reading	2002	60	58
	2003	57	58
	2004	55	54
	2005	49	52
	2006	54	52
	2007	53	52
	Mathematics	2002	75
2003		74	73
2004		78	76
2005		76	77
2006		79	77
2007		80	78

The percent of grade 10 students in Broward passing the Reading portion of the FCAT decreased from 54% to 53% in the past year, while the statewide passing rate remained the stable at 52% from the prior year. The grade 10 passing rate among Broward students for Mathematics increased from 79% to 80% in the past year, and the statewide passing rate increased from 77% to 78%. Broward's passing rates continue to exceed the statewide passing rates in Reading (53% vs. 52%) and in Mathematics (80% vs. 78%). Students who have not yet earned passing scores on the 10th grade FCAT will have additional opportunities to retake the examination prior to graduation.

Comparisons to Statewide Results and Other Large Districts in Florida

The results released today demonstrate that students in Broward County continue to demonstrate achievement comparable to statewide averages and at or exceeding the performance of students in other large districts throughout the state. Table 5 presents comparative data for Broward County, Florida as a whole, and four of the other largest school districts in the state (Miami-Dade, Hillsborough, Orange, and Palm Beach). The table includes the percentages of students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher and the mean scale score (SS) on the Reading and Mathematics subtests.

In Reading, the percentage of Broward students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher equaled or exceeded the statewide rate in all grades, except for grade 3 where we are in line with the statewide rate. In Mathematics, Broward students performed better than students statewide at all grade levels.

In Reading, the percentage of Broward students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher equaled or exceeded other large school districts at all grade levels, except for Palm Beach County at grades 9 and 10. In Mathematics, the percentage of Broward students scoring at Achievement Level 3 or higher equaled or exceeded other large school districts at all grade levels.

Table 5

FCAT SSS Reading and Mathematics Results on the 2007 FCAT

Grade	District/State	FCAT SSS			
		Reading		Mathematics	
		% Scoring Level 3 or Above	Mean SS	% Scoring Level 3 or Above	Mean SS
3	State	69	309	74	328
	Broward	68	310	78	337
	Miami-Dade	63	299	70	322
	Hillsborough	67	307	72	327
	Orange	65	302	67	317
	Palm Beach	69	310	76	333
4	State	68	316	69	319
	Broward	68	316	75	329
	Miami-Dade	64	311	67	316
	Hillsborough	65	313	65	316
	Orange	65	312	66	315
	Palm Beach	68	318	72	325
5	State	72	310	59	332
	Broward	73	311	68	343
	Miami-Dade	66	302	54	326
	Hillsborough	69	307	59	332
	Orange	70	307	57	329
	Palm Beach	72	312	61	335
6	State	62	306	50	307
	Broward	62	308	56	317
	Miami-Dade	55	297	44	298
	Hillsborough	60	305	53	311
	Orange	60	304	48	303
	Palm Beach	62	308	52	312
7	State	63	313	59	312
	Broward	66	318	65	320
	Miami-Dade	59	306	55	305
	Hillsborough	59	308	59	313
	Orange	63	312	57	310
	Palm Beach	64	315	63	317
8	State	49	303	63	318
	Broward	51	306	66	323
	Miami-Dade	40	292	54	307
	Hillsborough	47	302	64	321
	Orange	47	302	60	315
	Palm Beach	48	303	66	322
9	State	41	308	60	302
	Broward	42	309	64	308
	Miami-Dade	33	296	51	290
	Hillsborough	42	309	61	306
	Orange	43	310	61	304
	Palm Beach	44	310	64	309
10	State	34	300	65	323
	Broward	34	302	68	326
	Miami-Dade	27	288	57	315
	Hillsborough	36	304	67	326
	Orange	31	296	63	321
	Palm Beach	35	302	68	326

Broward FCAT Results in Science

Table 6 summarizes the results of the FCAT Science test for students in Broward County. Note that this is the fifth year of administration for the Science assessment. The table displays grade 10 results from 2003 and 2004, but these should not be directly compared to grade 11 results from 2005, 2006, and 2007.

Table 6

Broward FCAT Science Results, 2003 to 2007

Grade	Year	SSS						
		Mean Scale Score	Percent of Students in Each Achievement Level					
			1	2	3	4	5	3 or Higher
5	2003	281	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2004	288	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2005	295	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2006	298	30	35	27	6	2	35
	2007	308	24	33	33	8	2	43
8	2003	286	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2004	286	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2005	292	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2006	290	36	32	26	6	1	32
	2007	297	32	32	28	7	1	36
10	2003	289	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2004	286	**	**	**	**	**	**
11*	2005*	290	**	**	**	**	**	**
	2006	296	33	34	28	4	0	32
	2007	302	30	35	29	5	1	34

*In 2003 and 2004, FCAT Science was administered at Grade 10. Beginning in 2005, Science was administered at Grade 11.

**Achievement Levels were first reported in 2006.

In Broward County, average Science scaled scores increased at grade 5 (10 points), grade 8 (7 points), and grade 11 (6 points) from 2006 to 2007. As mentioned, because the Science assessment at the high school level was previously administered to grade 10 students and is now administered at grade 11, direct comparisons between 2005, 2006, and 2007 results and prior year data are not possible. The 2007 administration was the second time that achievement levels were assigned for Science. The percent of Broward's students scoring at proficiency (Achievement Level 3 or higher) increased substantially at grade 5 from 35% in 2006 to 43% in 2007. Smaller increases were noted at grades 8 and 11.

The results released today reflect that students in Broward County continue to demonstrate achievement in Science comparable to statewide averages. Table 7 presents comparative data for Broward County, Florida as a whole, and four other of the largest school districts in the state (Miami-Dade, Hillsborough, Orange, and Palm Beach).

Table 7

FCAT SSS Science Results on the 2007 FCAT

Grade	District/State	FCAT SSS Science	
		% Scoring Level 3 or Above	Mean Scale Score
5	State	42	306
	Broward	43	308
	Miami-Dade	34	295
	Hillsborough	40	304
	Orange	37	299
	Palm Beach	49	316
8	State	38	298
	Broward	36	297
	Miami-Dade	29	280
	Hillsborough	40	300
	Orange	36	295
	Palm Beach	41	301
11	State	37	302
	Broward	34	302
	Miami-Dade	26	286
	Hillsborough	41	307
	Orange	36	301
	Palm Beach	42	309

School-level data were also released today. A preliminary review of those data revealed that:

- Among elementary schools, Bayview, Riverglades, and Chancellor Charter at Weston registered 90% or more of students scoring at or above Achievement Level 3 in Reading and Mathematics in grades 4 and 5. In Science, the proportion of students scoring at proficiency was above 70% for these schools.
- At the middle school level, Falcon Cove registered more than 70% of students scored at Level 3 or above in Reading and Mathematics in grades 6, 7, and 8. More than 70% of students at Pembroke Pines Charter and Westglades scored at Achievement Level 3 or above in Reading for grade 6, 7, and 8. In Mathematics, the proportion of student at Falcon Cove, and Pioneer who scored at Achievement Level 3 or above equaled or exceeded 80%.
- Among high schools, McFatter Technical and Pompano Beach High consistently scored at or near the top of all schools in Reading, Mathematics, and Science.
- Pompano Beach, McFatter Technical, Atlantic Technical, and Stoneman Douglas High Schools ranked in the top five schools for proportion of students passing the Grade 10 FCAT in both Reading and Mathematics. Furthermore, 100% of grade 10 students tested at Atlantic Technical passed the Mathematics test.
- 94% of students at the College Academy @ BCC scored at Achievement Level 3 or above in Science.

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This memorandum can be accessed on the Student Assessment & School Performance Department Web site at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentassessment/AssessmentReleases.htm>. School-by-school results, as well as state and district summary data, may be found on the Florida Department of Education Web site at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/>. Shipments of Individual Student Reports for Reading, Mathematics, and Science as well as Certificates and Performance Task Student Reports will be delivered to districts from May 23-31 and will be distributed to schools as quickly as possible. On Friday, May 25, individual student reports will be available on the FCAT Parent Network web site at www.FCATParentNetwork.com. **If you have any questions regarding this release, please contact me at (754) 321-2470, or Dr. Russell Clement, Director of Student Assessment & School Performance, at (754) 321-4257.**

JN/KB/RC

cc: Senior Management
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