

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

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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 HIGH SCHOOL RETAKES**

Today, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released the 2007 results of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) for those Broward students who participated in the March 2007 FCAT for the purposes of meeting high school graduation requirements. These results include those retained tenth grade students who had taken the tenth grade FCAT previously, but did not earn passing scores on the Sunshine State Standards (SSS) portion in Reading and/or Mathematics, as well as those grade 11, 12, and adult students who may have not yet met the FCAT graduation requirement, including those who are newly enrolled in the Florida public school system. The results indicate that:

- Students were more likely to retake the Reading test than the Mathematics test. In general, the passing rates for the Mathematics retakes were higher than the passing rate for the Reading retakes.
- Of the 2,750 twelfth grade students in Broward who took the Reading SSS subtest, 413 (15%) met or exceeded the passing criteria. This represents an increase of 2 percentage points in the passing rate from the previous year in Reading and equals the performance of twelfth grade students across the state.
- Of the 1,019 twelfth grade students who took the Mathematics SSS subtest, 234 (23%) met or exceeded the passing criteria; this is a 7% decrease in the passing rate from the previous year.
- At the eleventh grade, 5,690 Broward students took the Reading SSS subtest and 1,024 (18%) passed. Also at the eleventh grade, 2,545 Broward students took the Mathematics SSS subtest and 865 (34%) passed.

- The percentage of tenth grade students retaking the grade 10 FCAT who met the passing criteria on the SSS Reading increased by two percent. There is a one percent decrease in the passing rate on the SSS Mathematics from the previous year.

Disaggregated Retake Results for Broward

The results released by FDOE today report the passing rates for students in grades 10, 11, and 12 as well as students who are participating in adult education programs. The passing rates for those groups of students are presented in Table 1 for years 2004 to 2007. Although multiple years are data are presented, comparisons across year should be made with caution as the retake students are a non-representative sample of select individuals. As displayed in Table 1, there is an increase among the percent of students earning passing scores in Reading for grade 10, grade 12, and adult students, but a decrease for grade 11. There is a decrease among the percent of students earning passing scores in Mathematics in 2007 for grade 10, 11, and 12 students as compared to 2006, but an increase for adult students.

Table 1

Passing Rates Among Broward Retake Students on FCAT SSS, 2004-2007

		SSS READING		SSS MATHEMATICS			
		Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed
Grade 10	2004	176	25%	44	131	29%	38
	2005	349	23%	80	288	34%	98
	2006	353	11%	39	241	28%	67
	2007	434	13%	56	294	27%	79
Grade 11	2004	5,051	34%	1,717	3,472	30%	1,042
	2005	5,009	24%	1,202	3,247	38%	1,234
	2006	5,382	19%	1,023	2,817	35%	986
	2007	5,690	18%	1,024	2,545	34%	865
Grade 12	2004	1,722	36%	620	1,430	27%	386
	2005	2,198	18%	396	1,423	37%	527
	2006	2,665	13%	346	1,128	30%	338
	2007	2,750	15%	413	1,019	23%	234
Adult	2004	141	19%	27	101	10%	10
	2005	263	6%	16	100	18%	18
	2006	338	4%	14	91	13%	12
	2007	279	11%	31	69	19%	13

For the 2,337 twelfth grade students who did not meet the passing criteria in Reading and for the 785 who did not meet the passing criteria in Mathematics, there will be another opportunity to take the FCAT in late June 2007. These results should not be interpreted as high school graduation rates. There are additional requirements for earning a high school diploma beyond passing the FCAT, and, in some cases, students may be exempted from the FCAT graduation requirement or may meet the requirement via an alternative assessment.

Comparison to State-Wide Rates and Other Large Districts in Florida

Table 2 summarizes the FCAT Retake results for twelfth grade students in Broward, the state as a whole, and four of the largest school districts in Florida (Miami-Dade, Orange, Palm Beach, and Hillsborough Counties). In general twelfth grade students have had multiple opportunities (five previous attempts) to pass the Grade 10 FCAT.

Reading scores for Broward reflect a 15% passing rate at the twelfth grade level. This is in line with the passing rates statewide (15%) and above that of three of the four school districts displayed in the table (Miami-Dade, Orange, and Palm Beach Counties). In Mathematics, scores for Broward twelfth grade students reflect a 23% passing rate, which is below the statewide passing rate (26%) and the passing rates in three of the largest districts in the state (Orange, Palm Beach, and Hillsborough Counties), but above the passing rate for Miami-Dade County.

Table 2

FCAT 12th Grade Reading and Mathematics Passing Rates 2007

District/State	SSS READING			SSS MATHEMATICS		
	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed
State	25,815	15%	3,872	10,633	26%	2,765
Broward	2,750	15%	413	1,019	23%	234
Miami-Dade	4,992	13%	649	2,200	21%	462
Orange	1,832	13%	238	786	25%	197
Palm Beach	1,780	13%	231	708	28%	198
Hillsborough	1,482	16%	237	570	29%	165

Table 3 presents the retake results for eleventh graders. In general eleventh grade students have also had multiple opportunities (three attempts) to pass the grade 10 FCAT. In Reading, scores for Broward eleventh graders reflect a 18% passing rate, which exceeds the passing rate for Miami-Dade County, but below that of the state, Orange, Hillsborough, and Palm Beach Counties. Reading scores for Broward reflect a 19% passing rate at the eleventh grade level. This exceeds the passing rate statewide (17%) and is in line with or above the passing rates of three other large districts in Florida. In Mathematics, scores for Broward eleventh graders reflect a 34% passing rate, which exceeds the statewide passing rate (33%) and the passing rates for all large school districts.

Table 3

FCAT 11th Grade Reading and Mathematics Passing Rates 2007

District/State	SSS READING			SSS MATHEMATICS		
	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed
State	56,099	20%	11,220	27,120	33%	8,950
Broward	5,690	18%	1,024	2,545	34%	865
Miami-Dade	9,129	16%	1,461	4,523	25%	1,131
Orange	4,210	19%	800	2,222	33%	733
Palm Beach	3,816	19%	725	1,684	33%	556
Hillsborough	4,107	19%	780	2,059	31%	638

Table 4 presents the Retake results for students in grade 10. These are have been in tenth grade for more than one year have attempted the grade 10 FCAT at least once before. It is important to note that the results in the table do not reflect the performance of tenth grade students who attempted the FCAT for the first time in March 2007.

Table 4

FCAT 10th Grade Reading and Mathematics Passing Rates 2007

District/State	SSS READING			SSS MATHEMATICS		
	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed
State	4,912	12%	589	3,263	24%	783
Broward	434	13%	56	294	27%	79
Miami-Dade	1,582	9%	142	1,037	18%	187
Orange	352	11%	39	244	28%	68
Palm Beach	358	9%	32	238	28%	67
Hillsborough	33	21%	7	21	24%	5

*To provide meaningful results and to protect the privacy of individual students, data are printed only when the total number of students in a group is at least 10 and when the performance of individuals would not be disclosed.

Reading scores for Broward reflect a 13% passing rate at the tenth grade level. This exceeds passing rates statewide (12%) and exceeds three of the four other school districts displayed in the table (Miami-Dade, Orange, and Palm Beach Counties). In Mathematics, scores for Broward tenth grade Retake students reflect a 27% passing rate, which exceeds the statewide passing rate (25%) and is equal to or greater than the passing rates of two other large districts in Florida (Miami-Dade and Hillsborough Counties). Grade 10 Retake students in Orange and Palm Beach outperformed Broward students in Mathematics.

Individual student results are available in PDF format for schools to access on-line at the CTB McGraw Web site. This memorandum and a summary of school level results are available on the Student Assessment & School Performance Web site (<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentassessment/AssessmentReleases.htm>). Again, rising grade

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12 and adult students who did not meet the passing criteria in Reading and/or Mathematics during this FCAT administration will have another opportunity to take the FCAT in June of 2007. If you have any questions regarding this release, **please contact me at (754) 321-2470 or Dr. Russell Clement, Director, Student Assessment & School Performance at 754-321-4250.**

JFN/KB/RC

Attachment

cc: Senior Management
Area Directors
Principals
Diane Carr, Executive, Director, Core Curriculum
Frank Vodolo, Executive Director, Educational Programs
PTA
DAC