

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

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May 8, 2009

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Joanne W. Harrison, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent
Educational Programs & Student Support

VIA: James F. Notter
Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: RELEASE OF 2009 FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST
(FCAT) RESULTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL RETAKES**

Today, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released the 2009 results of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Retake administration for Broward students who participated in the March 2009 FCAT for the purposes of meeting high school graduation requirements. Specifically, these results include retained tenth grade students who have taken the tenth grade FCAT previously but did not earn passing scores on the Reading and/or Mathematics portions, as well as grade 11, 12, and adult students who have not yet met the FCAT graduation requirement. Comparisons or judgments based solely on these data to overall district performance are inappropriate because they do not include students who met the graduation requirement during another FCAT administration or with ACT/SAT concordant scores.

The results released by FDOE today report the March administration 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 these students from 2007 to 2009 are presented in Table 1. As displayed in Table 1:

- The percentage of Broward tenth grade students passing the Reading Retake increased by two percentage points from 2008. Passing rates for Grade 10 students have shown a five percentage point increase with an upward trend in Reading over the three year period.
- The percentage of Broward eleventh grade students passing the Reading Retake increased by seven percentage points from 2008. Grade 11 students have shown an eleven percentage point increase in passing rates with an upward trend for Reading over three years.
- Of the 1,896 twelfth grade students in Broward who took the Reading test, 16% met or exceeded the passing criteria. This represents an increase of two percentage points in the Reading passing rate from the previous year.

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- The Mathematics passing rate has decreased for grades 10, 11, and 12 from 2008. The large proportionate decreases in grades 10 and 12 are primarily due to the smaller sample size of these groups.

Table 1

Passing Rates Among Broward Retake Students on FCAT SSS, 2007-2009

		SSS READING			SSS MATHEMATICS		
		Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed	Number Tested	Percent Passed	Number Passed
Grade 10	2007	434	13	56	294	27	79
	2008	681	16	109	314	30	94
	2009	497	18	91	310	24	73
Grade 11	2007	5,690	18	1,024	2,545	34	865
	2008	5,367	22	1,181	2,319	38	881
	2009	5,206	29	1,512	1,972	36	717
Grade 12	2007	2,750	15	413	1,019	23	234
	2008	2,299	14	322	895	32	286
	2009	1,896	16	308	700	22	152
Adult*	2007	279	11	31	69	19	13
	2008	194	10	19	38	11	4
	2009	211	17	36	39	31	12

*Adult Education students are not discussed due to the small sample sizes, particularly in Mathematics.

These results should not be confused with high school graduation rates and do not provide a complete picture of FCAT retake performance. These data represent a single administration of the FCAT retakes, which are administered twice per school year. There are several additional requirements for earning a high school diploma beyond passing the FCAT; additionally, some students are exempt from the FCAT graduation requirement and may meet the requirement via an alternative assessment. This memorandum and a summary of school level results are available on the Student Assessment & School Performance Web site. **If you have any questions regarding this release, please contact me at (754) 321-2470 or Paul Houchens, Director, Student Assessment & School Performance at 754-321-4257.**

JFN/JWH/KAB/PH:tje

cc: Executive Leadership Team
 Area Directors
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