

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

**JAMES F. NOTTER
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Telephone: (754) 321-2600

Facsimile: (754) 321-2701

Signatures on file.

May 20, 2010

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 2010 FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST
(FCAT) RESULTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL RETAKES**

Today, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released the results of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Retake administration for Broward students who participated in March 2010. Specifically, these results include retained grade 10, grade 11, and grade 12 students, as well as, 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 2008 to 2010 are presented in Table 1. As displayed in Table 1:

- The percentage of Broward tenth grade students passing the March Reading Retake decreased by 11 percentage points from 2009.
- The percentage of Broward eleventh grade students passing the March Reading Retake decreased by 5 percentage points from 2009.
- Of the 2,117 twelfth grade students in Broward who took the Reading test in March, 15% met or exceeded the passing criteria. This represents a decrease of one percentage point in the Reading passing rate from the previous year.
- The Mathematics passing rate has increased for grades 10, 11, and 12 from 2009, while the rate for adult students decreased. However, the very small sample sizes (particularly for Grade 10 and Adult) render these percentages susceptible to large changes based on the performance of only a few students; therefore, it is inadvisable to generalize from these limited results.
- The decrease in the number of Grade 10 Retake students in Reading and Mathematics from previous years is due to a change in promotion criteria, through which students now typically progress through the high school grade levels with their cohort of students. Therefore, there are fewer retained students this year.

Table 1

Passing Rates among Broward Retake Students on FCAT-SSS, 2008 to 2010

| | | SSS READING | | | | SSS MATHEMATICS | | | |
|----------|------|-------------|---------------|--|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--|----------------|
| | | | Number Tested | | Percent Passed | | Number Tested | | Percent Passed |
| Grade 10 | 2008 | | 681 | | 16 | | 314 | | 30 |
| | 2009 | | 497 | | 18 | | 310 | | 24 |
| | 2010 | | 177 | | 6 | | 114 | | 25 |
| Grade 11 | 2008 | | 5,367 | | 22 | | 2,319 | | 38 |
| | 2009 | | 5,206 | | 29 | | 1,972 | | 36 |
| | 2010 | | 5,376 | | 24 | | 2,329 | | 40 |
| Grade 12 | 2008 | | 2,299 | | 14 | | 895 | | 32 |
| | 2009 | | 1,896 | | 16 | | 700 | | 22 |
| | 2010 | | 2,110 | | 15 | | 862 | | 32 |
| Adult* | 2008 | | 194 | | 10 | | 38 | | 11 |
| | 2009 | | 211 | | 15 | | 39 | | 31 |
| | 2010 | | 168 | | 12 | | 44 | | 16 |

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

These results should not be confused with the complete retake results from 2010 or high school graduation rates. 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 can be accessed on the Student Assessment Web site at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/studentassessment/AssessmentReleases.htm>. **If you have any questions regarding this release, please contact Paul Houchens, Director, Student Assessment & School Performance at 754-321-4257.**

JFN/JWH/KAB/PH:tje

cc: Executive Leadership Team
 Area Directors
 Principals
 Leslie Brown, Executive Director, Educational Programs
 PTA
 DAC