



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

JEFFREY J. HERNANDEZ
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

MEMORANDUM

December 4, 2009

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Jeffrey J. Hernandez
Chief Academic Officer

THROUGH: Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D.
Superintendent

SUBJECT: **FY2009 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE**

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has released the FY2009 graduation rates for the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) and the State of Florida. This year, for the first time, the FDOE has reported three graduation rates.¹ These rates are reported in Tables 1 through 4.

1. The Florida graduation rate (the rate it has used for many years), which counts both special and General Educational Development (GED) diploma recipients as graduates;
2. The National Governor's Association (NGA) graduation rate², which does not count GED diploma recipients as graduates;
3. The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) graduation rate, which does not count special diploma or GED diploma recipients as graduates.

Overall, the SDPBC's Florida graduation rate showed a significant increase from FY2008 to FY2009, and has demonstrated an upward trend since FY2005. An analysis of the data in Table 1 shows that

- From FY2005 to FY2009, the SDPBC's Florida graduation rate increased 11.1 percentage points³, while the rate for the State increased 6.7 percentage points;
- In FY2009, all three graduation rates for the SDPBC were higher than those of the State;
- The NGA and NCLB graduation rates were lower than the Florida graduation rate for the SDPBC and the State.

Table 1 reports the graduation rates for the SDPBC and the State. Tables 2 through 4 report graduation rates for comprehensive high schools, charter high schools, and alternative high schools, respectively.

¹ These three graduation rates include different students.

² This rate will be used for the FY2010 and FY2011 school year.

³ Charter and alternative schools were included in the computation of the District graduation rate. District disaggregated data is not available at this time.

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Should you have questions about the graduation rates, please contact Dean Stecker, Director of Research and Evaluation, at 432-6376. For information regarding SDPBC initiatives to increase graduation, please contact Constance Tuman-Rugg, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum and School Improvement, at 357-1113. For questions concerning specific schools, contact the area superintendents or school principals.

ACJ/AK/JJH/MB/DS:ds

Attachments

c: Chief of Staff
Chief Operating Officer
Chief Technology Officer
Chief, Human Resources
Chief, Performance Accountability
Chief, Public Information Officer
Chief, Safety and Learning Environment
Area/Assistant Superintendents
Academic Executive Directors and Directors
All Principals

Table 1. Graduation Rates for the SDPBC and the State of Florida

	Florida Graduation Rates					NGA FY2009	NCLB FY2009
	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009		
SDPBC	69.0	69.3	71.8	75.6	80.1	77.7	78.0
State of Florida	71.9	71.0	72.4	75.4	78.6	76.3	76.2

NGA = National Governor's Association; NCLB = No Child Left Behind

Table 2. Graduation Rates for SDPBC Comprehensive High Schools

	Florida Graduation Rates					NGA FY2009	NCLB FY2009
	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009		
A. W. Dreyfoos	86.4	88.5	92.1	96.9	99.4	99.4	99.4
Atlantic	57.9	60.5	69.2	78.7	84.3	84.3	82.6
Boca Raton	66.7	65.6	73.7	84.8	89.4	87.5	87.9
Boynton Beach	40.3	38.8	50.5	61.1	67.4	65.8	63.1
Forest Hill	45.4	43.3	57.8	69.9	76.8	75.0	74.5
Glades Central	47.2	47.9	52.7	69.7	80.0	80.0	72.5
John I. Leonard	49.7	48.2	55.5	72.4	80.7	78.1	77.4
Jupiter	88.2	87.4	94.2	94.9	93.8	90.9	93.6
Lake Worth	51.3	48.0	61.9	75.0	80.4	79.6	77.6
Olympic Heights	72.6	67.2	70.1	86.2	88.3	82.6	96.1
Pahokee Middle/Senior	47.4	44.0	56.5	67.4	70.9	70.6	67.5
Palm Beach Central	73.5	70.0	73.4	88.9	92.5	90.3	90.8
Palm Beach Gardens	62.6	58.3	76.9	87.5	87.2	84.5	85.5
Palm Beach Lakes	50.1	51.0	55.2	70.6	70.3	67.6	67.6
Park Vista Community	66.7	87.8	87.1	90.8	94.6	91.8	93.0
Royal Palm Beach	73.2	67.0	71.6	75.6	79.8	78.0	78.3
Santaluces	63.2	54.9	69.3	80.0	81.2	78.3	77.9
Seminole Ridge	NR	NR	78.4	86.7	88.3	85.4	86.6
Spanish River	79.1	81.6	88.8	93.7	94.3	91.9	93.0
Suncoast	91.3	90.8	89.9	97.3	99.6	99.6	99.6
W.T. Dwyer	70.9	70.3	76.0	85.4	84.1	83.6	79.8
Wellington	72.4	75.5	83.6	91.1	89.6	85.7	87.6
West Boca Raton	20.0	88.5	90.7	90.9	95.9	94.5	95.0

NGA = National Governor's Association; NCLB = No Child Left Behind

NR = Not reported because school had not yet opened or there was no graduating class.

Table 3. Graduation Rates for SDPBC Charter High Schools

	Florida Graduation Rates					NGA	NCLB
	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2009	FY2009
Delray Youth Vocational Charter	NR	24.3	NR	4.3	15.0	0.0	8.9
Ed Venture Charter School	NR	NR	NR	30.0	31.6	31.6	0.0
Everglades Preparatory Academy	61.4	23.4	40.3	21.6	30.3	30.3	30.3
G-Star School of The Arts	NR	NR	82.3	85.5	82.8	82.8	82.8
Gulfstream L.I.F.E. Academy	NR	NR	NR	50.0	77.8	77.8	0.0
Gulfstream Transition Academy	NR	NR	NR	100.0	NR	NR	NR
Inlet Grove Community High School	62.0	69.5	76.4	87.3	84.9	84.9	84.9
Leadership Academy West	NR	NR	NR	50.0	56.4	55.3	55.3
Life Skills Center of P.B. County	NR	NR	39.1	46.6	22.9	18.8	22.9
Riviera Beach Maritime Academy	NR	NR	NR	85.7	60.0	60.0	60.0
Seagull Academy	NR	NR	NR	60.0	40.0	40.0	0.0
South Tech Academy	51.7	69.6	51.5	73.5	78.4	78.4	76.3
Toussaint L'Ouverture High	33.3	30.7	20.9	8.3	12.5	12.5	12.5

NGA = National Governor's Association; NCLB = No Child Left Behind
 NR = Not reported because school had not yet opened or there was no graduating class.

Table 4. Graduation Rates for SDPBC Alternative High Schools

	Florida Graduation Rates					NGA	NCLB
	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2009	FY2009
Lake Shore Annex	11.8	NR	NR	12.5	9.3	7.0	9.3
Roosevelt Full Service Center	NR	NR	47.3	52.4	29.1	7.1	27.4
South Area Secondary Intensive Transition Program	12.9	NR	NR	10.0	14.3	14.3	14.3
Turning Points Academy	NR	NR	NR	40.0	11.1	11.1	11.1

NGA = National Governor's Association; NCLB = No Child Left Behind
 NR = Not reported because school had not yet opened or there was no graduating class.