FCAT TUTORIAL GRANT PROFILE

OBJECTIVE:
80% of the students in the FCAT TUTORIAL will pass the March administration of the FCAT.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT:
Currently there are students who are seniors in Palm Beach County who have not passed the FCAT. Passing the FCAT is important as a student who does not pass FCAT, does not get a regular high school diploma. The student receives a Certificate of Completion even if he or she has the courses and grade point average to earn a diploma. By the time a student is a senior, he/she has had several opportunities to take the test. If they have been unsuccessful, they do not have hope of passing unless an immediate intensive intervention is provided to meet their specific needs.

Most test preparation in our school system is provided to ninth and tenth grade students who have not yet taken the test. English, Reading and Mathematics teachers provide test hints and practice with the standards. They provide questions that are formatted like they are on FCAT as part of their regular programs. This is greatly reduced after tenth grade as the emphasis shifts to another focus – that of preparing our students for higher education and/or a career.

Our District supports FCAT remediation for seniors with classes held on Saturdays in the weeks leading up to FCAT. We also provide classes through community schools offered at night. Additionally, the State of Florida has an on-line program called FCAT EXPLORER that we share with students. They use their password in school and at home. The common thread of all of these programs is that they provide a prepared curriculum and deliver it to a group of students. They do not prescribe an individual program for a student based on their specific needs. Students are equally exposed to curriculum they have mastered and curriculum they have not.

IMPLEMENTATION:
Our belief is that in order to maximize success for these students, we need to administer a diagnostic assessment that gives us data on the individual strands tested. Then, design a program to address only the areas of weakness. Students would then be put in skill groups that address their needs. They would be taught the standard, given supervised practice and then assessed. When the students show that they have mastered the standard, they would move to anew skill group that will address another standard.

This initiative would begin in September thereby giving students just in time remediation for the October administration of the FCAT. All students would be encouraged to remain in the tutoring after taking the test while awaiting the results which come in December. If they were successful, they would be congratulated and dismissed from the program at that time. If they did not, they would remain until the March test. In December, our District gives all students a diagnostic that is good predictor of FCAT success. Each student's results would be provided to the tutor who would prescribe a program based on this specific information.

We believe this is a model for success for our students: It will begin early in the school year and be ongoing. It will be during the school day (during their elective) and/or immediately following to attempt to capture students when they are at school. It will be teaching in small, flexible skill groups that the student understands are prescribed for him/her.

Data will be kept on the students who participate in the program. Our goal is that when our seniors walk across the stage at graduation, they will receive a diploma.

FCAT Data Panel District
High Schools - All Curriculum Groups District

FCAT Sunshine State Standards:
% Level 3 & Above

Reading

	Grade							
	09				10			
	W	B	H	T	W	B	H	T
MAR 2001	43	8	16	28	54	12	26	38
MAR 2002	44	9	20	28	54	13	24	38
MAR 2003	47	11	21	31	50	10	23	32
MAR 2004	50	12	23	33	50	13	24	35
MAR 2005	52	14	26	36	51	13	24	35

Mathematics

	Grade							
	09				10			
	W	B	H	T	W	B	H	T
MAR 2001	68	20	38	48	76	27	48	58
MAR 2002	67	21	40	47	82	31	51	64
MAR 2003	73	30	47	55	77	28	51	57
MAR 2004	76	32	51	58	82	38	61	67
MAR 2005	78	36	52	60	85	45	63	71

W = White, B = Black, H = Hispanic, T = Total
Empty boxes indicate that the test was not administered.

DATA PANEL
For High School Students Failing FCAT

FCAT Data	Number Students
Current students who have taken FCAT at least one time and not passed one or both sections	4974