



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA


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ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Board Members
School District of Palm Beach County

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

DATE: October 9, 2006

SUBJECT: Proposed Changes in FY2008 Summary Results of the Superintendent's Performance Objectives

I am proposing a number of reporting adjustments in the FY2008 Summary Results of the Superintendent's Performance Objectives. Highlights of the proposed adjustments are listed below. Please review them and the attached mock-up reporting matrices.

Proposed Changes

Format of Reported Data

1. Percent meeting standard during current year will be used instead of change from prior year (e.g., 2%).
2. Percent difference between the two groups will be reported instead of the change in the gap from prior year (e.g., -2.5%).
3. *Substantial Progress* will replace *Making State Learning Gains*. The standard will measure the percent of students who have been level 1 or 2 in reading and mathematics for two years but have made substantial progress toward achieving Level 3 or higher (i.e., proficient).

Data Reported

1. Additional Levels will be reported in FCAT SSS Reading, Mathematics, and Science.
2. FCAT SSS Science results will be reported.
3. Additional scores will be reported in FCAT Writing.
4. Whenever available, the analysis in the text report will include a comparison of District results to those of the three large, demographically similar districts in Florida (i.e., Broward, Hillsborough, and Orange).

Cell Color and Participation Rate

1. Cells will be colored grey only when statistically positive gain from the prior year occurred but the participation rate declined statistically or when statistically negative gain from the prior year occurred but the participation rate increased statistically.
2. A cell will be colored yellow when the participation rate declined or increased statistically but the change in the percent of students making the standard was not statistically significant.
3. A cell will be colored red when the participation rate declined statistically and the change in the percent of students making the standard declined statistically.
4. A cell will be colored green when the participation rate increased statistically and the change in the percent of students making the standard increased statistically.

Changes in Reporting Terminology

1. Acronym *ELL* (English Language Learner) will be used instead of *LEP* (limited English proficient) to reflect current state and national practice.
2. The term *statistically* will replace the term *significantly*.

For your convenience I have attached two summary tables, one annotated and the other un-annotated. Feel free to contact me regarding any concerns or questions you may have.

ACJ:AK:MB:DS:jl

Attachments