



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Board Members
School District of Palm Beach County

FROM: Ann Killets 
Chief Academic Officer

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

DATE: August 17, 2006

SUBJECT: **FY2002-FY2006 ACT Results**

The Department of Research and Evaluation has completed an analysis of the FY2006 ACT High School Profile Report produced by the ACT Corporation. Tables 1 and 2 contain data pertaining to the participation rate and the average composite scores for seniors in participating School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) high schools, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation. Table 3 contains the data for Black, Hispanic, and White seniors in the SDPBC.

Individual schools and districts can use the ACT results from multiple years to conduct self-evaluation and self-comparisons; however, the ACT Corporation cautions against using the results of the ACT to compare performance between states and the Nation. ACT states the following in their report: "State norms may differ from national norms for non-educational reasons such as the demographic make-up of a state's ACT-tested graduates compared to the Nation."

A brief summary of statistically significant participation rates and composite score changes since FY2002 is provided below.

Participation Rate

- ◆ This year, 3,105 SDPBC seniors took the ACT, which yielded a participation rate of about 32%. The participation rate of the SDPBC has shown a consistent upward trend and is significantly higher in FY2006 than in FY2005.
- ◆ The participation rate of Hispanic and White seniors has remained stable since FY2002.
- ◆ The participation rate of Black seniors has shown a consistent upward trend since FY2002 and is higher than that of White and Hispanic seniors.

Composite Scores

- ◆ The average composite score of the SDPBC continues to remain similar to the State average.
- ◆ The FY2006 average score of the SDPBC is significantly lower than the average score of FY2002. It is likely that the decline is due to the increase in participation rate.

These results will be shared with appropriate staff. Also, schools have received information about their ACT test takers and will use this information in the school improvement planning process.

For questions concerning the ACT, please contact Dean Stecker, Director of the Department of Research and Evaluation (432-6376). For information regarding District initiatives that are being implemented to increase student performance, please contact Brenda Magee, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Learning Support (963-3899). For questions concerning specific schools, contact the area superintendents or school principals.

ACJ:AK:MB:DS:gr:jl

c/attachments:

- Chief Academic Officer
- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief of Performance Accountability
- Chief Public Information Officer
- Chief, Safety & Learning Environment
- Area/Assistant Superintendents
- Academic Executive Directors and Directors
- High School Principals

Table 1. FY2002-FY2006 Number of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers and Participation Rate by High School, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

High School	Number of ACT Test-Takers						Participation Rate					
	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006		FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	
Atlantic	143	146	175	134	113		28%	35%	40%	36%	29%	
Boca Raton	122	126	116	85	152		30%	33%	29%	24%	40%	
Boynton Beach ^a		62	58	84	73			17%	17%	21%	24%	
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	108	129	138	121	123		35%	42%	45%	43%	40%	
Forest Hill	50	46	53	39	21		21%	20%	22%	16%	9%	
Glades Central	119	126	119	164	127		46%	58%	68%	78%	62%	
John I. Leonard	114	165	169	123	117		25%	30%	33%	28%	29%	
Jupiter	128	155	128	144	194		34%	40%	33%	33%	36%	
Lake Worth	104	152	211	187	223		22%	30%	41%	38%	46%	
Olympic Heights	158	153	173	175	105		31%	29%	33%	34%	33%	
Pahokee	46	54	62	47	68		36%	41%	61%	50%	72%	
P.B. Central ^b				101	124					27%	28%	
P. B. Gardens	111	105	105	132	150		24%	24%	22%	27%	30%	
P. B. Lakes	78	94	89	110	110		16%	19%	20%	28%	28%	
Park Vista ^c					114						27%	
Royal Palm Beach	102	130	126	122	145		23%	23%	22%	21%	24%	
Santaluces	173	128	132	164	134		28%	25%	22%	29%	31%	
Spanish River	200	190	173	181	175		32%	27%	25%	31%	37%	
Suncoast	137	147	142	136	173		47%	47%	45%	44%	52%	
Wellington	237	263	219	220	280		37%	35%	30%	35%	40%	
West Boca ^c					117						34%	
William T. Dwyer	90	104	115	116	151		21%	23%	28%	29%	34%	
SDPBC	2,236	2,541	2,590	2,693	3,105		28%	28%	29%	29%	32%	
Florida	51,935	55,784	56,431	58,302	66,299		40%	42%	44%	41%	44%	
Nation	1,116,082	1,175,059	1,171,460	1,186,251	1,206,455		39%	40%	40%	NR ¹	NR ¹	

Note. Participation rates for the SDPBC are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the ACT by the total number of seniors in the second nine weeks. The participation rates for Florida and the Nation are based on the estimated percent of graduates tested, as reported by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. ^aSchool opened in FY2002 without a senior class. ^bSchool opened in FY2004 without a senior class. ^cSchool opened in FY2005 without a senior class.

¹NR = not reported at this time.

Table 2. FY2002-FY2006 ACT Average Composite Scores of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers by High School, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

High School	ACT Average Composite Scores					
	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2006
Atlantic	22.5	21.4	21.2	21.9	21.0	21.0
Boca Raton	21.4	20.3	20.6	21.4	20.3	20.3
Boynton Beach ^a	.	18.2	19.4	17.4	16.5	16.5
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	21.7	22.1	22.9	23.4	23.5	23.5
Forest Hill	18.0	17.7	17.7	19.5	19.2	19.2
Glades Central	15.9	15.8	15.6	15.7	15.9	15.9
John I. Leonard	20.0	20.1	19.0	20.0	20.3	20.3
Jupiter	21.0	21.8	22.1	21.9	22.5	22.5
Lake Worth	18.4	19.6	19.2	18.7	18.2	18.2
Olympic Heights	22.1	21.6	21.8	22.0	21.2	21.2
Pahokee	16.3	16.4	15.9	15.5	16.2	16.2
P. B. Central ^b	.	.	.	19.2	20.5	20.5
P. B. Gardens	20.7	20.9	20.8	19.8	18.5	18.5
P. B. Lakes	18.5	17.8	17.6	16.5	16.2	16.2
Park Vista ^c	.	.	.	.	20.4	20.4
Royal Palm Beach	19.0	19.9	19.4	19.7	19.2	19.2
Santaluces	19.6	20.4	19.7	19.4	18.7	18.7
Spanish River	21.4	22.7	23.0	23.3	23.9	23.9
Suncoast	23.7	22.5	23.2	23.4	23.9	23.9
Wellington	22.2	22.1	21.7	22.7	22.0	22.0
West Boca ^c	.	.	.	.	21.2	21.2
William T. Dwyer	21.0	21.0	21.4	21.6	20.3	20.3
SDPBC	20.6	20.5	20.4	20.3	20.2	20.2
Florida	20.4	20.5	20.5	20.4	20.3	20.3
Nation	20.8	20.8	20.9	20.9	21.1	21.1

^aSchool opened in FY2002 without a senior class. ^bSchool opened in FY2004 without a senior class. ^cSchool opened in FY2005 without a senior class.

Table 3. FY2002-FY2006 SDPBC ACT Results for Black, Hispanic, and White Students

Fiscal Year	Black				Hispanic				White						
	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Number of Test Takers	488	612	673	772	814	271	309	344	353	378	1158	1270	1171	1186	1244
Participation Rate	24%	26%	29%	32%	33%	22%	22%	23%	22%	22%	26%	27%	25%	25%	26%
Average Composite Score	16.7	16.9	16.6	16.5	16.6	19.4	19.6	19.4	19.5	19.6	22.4	22.4	22.7	22.8	22.6

Note: The participation rate for a disaggregated group is determined by dividing the number of seniors in a group who took the ACT by the total number of district seniors in the group in the second nine weeks.