



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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**ANN KILLETS**  
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

**ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.**  
SUPERINTENDENT

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** School Board Members  
School District of Palm Beach County

**FROM:** Ann Killets *AK*  
Chief Academic Officer

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

**DATE:** August 15, 2007

**SUBJECT:** **FY2007 ACT Results**

The Department of Research and Evaluation has completed an analysis of the FY2007 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."

Overall, in FY2007, the District participation rate increased from that in FY2006, but the average composite score decreased. It is likely that the decrease in the composite score is due to the increase in the participation rate. A brief summary of statistically significant participation rates and composite score changes is provided below.

- ◆ In FY2007, 4,334 SDPBC seniors took the ACT (a participation rate of 40%). This is a large increase from FY2006, when 3,105 students took the ACT (a participation rate of 32%). The State also had a large increase in participation rate from FY2006 to FY2007 (from 45% to 53%), while the Nation increased slightly (from 40% to 42%).
- ◆ From FY2006 to FY2007, participation rates have increased significantly for SDPBC Black (from 33% to 42%), Hispanic (from 22% to 27%), and White seniors (from 26% to 29%).
- ◆ The participation rate of the SDPBC has shown a consistent upward trend since FY2003. The increase in participation rate has paralleled a decrease in average composite score over the same time period.
- ◆ In FY2007, the average composite score of the SDPBC (19.8) is similar to the State average (19.9), as it has been since FY2003. Both the State and the SDPBC composite scores in FY2007 are lower than that of the Nation (21.2).

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 Constance Tuman-Rugg, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum (434-8549). For questions concerning specific schools, contact the area superintendents or school principals.

ACJ:AK:MB:DS:rj:jl

c/attachments:

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

Table 1. FY2003-FY2007 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				
	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007
Atlantic	146	175	134	113	225	35%	40%	36%	29%	46%
Boca Raton	126	116	85	152	212	33%	29%	24%	40%	44%
Boynton Beach	62	58	84	73	112	17%	17%	21%	24%	36%
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	129	138	121	123	132	42%	45%	43%	40%	44%
Forest Hill	46	53	39	21	83	20%	22%	16%	9%	25%
Glades Central	126	119	164	127	155	58%	68%	78%	62%	82%
John I. Leonard	165	169	123	117	135	30%	33%	28%	29%	34%
Jupiter	155	128	144	194	269	40%	33%	33%	36%	42%
Lake Worth	152	211	187	223	241	30%	41%	38%	46%	48%
Olympic Heights	153	173	175	105	86	29%	33%	34%	33%	29%
Pahokee	54	62	47	68	54	41%	61%	50%	72%	61%
P.B. Central <sup>a</sup>	.	.	101	124	194	.	.	27%	28%	33%
P. B. Gardens	105	105	132	150	269	24%	22%	27%	30%	48%
P. B. Lakes	94	89	110	110	188	19%	20%	28%	28%	46%
Park Vista <sup>b</sup>	.	.	.	114	197	.	.	.	27%	37%
Royal Palm Beach	130	126	122	145	159	23%	22%	21%	24%	30%
Santaluces	128	132	164	134	225	25%	22%	29%	31%	53%
Seminole Ridge <sup>c</sup>	.	.	.	.	135	.	.	.	.	32%
Spanish River	190	173	181	175	230	27%	25%	31%	37%	44%
Suncoast	147	142	136	173	173	47%	45%	44%	52%	61%
Wellington	263	219	220	280	238	35%	30%	35%	40%	42%
West Boca <sup>b</sup>	.	.	.	117	184	.	.	.	34%	41%
William T. Dwyer	104	115	116	151	170	23%	28%	29%	34%	42%
SDPBC	2,541	2,591	2,694	3,105	4,334	28%	29%	29%	32%	40%
Florida	55,784	56,431	58,302	66,299	81,527	40%	40%	41%	45%	53%
Nation	1,175,059	1,171,460	1,186,251	1,206,455	1,300,599	40%	40%	40%	40%	42%

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 results reported by the Department of Education. <sup>a</sup> School opened in FY2004 without a senior class. <sup>b</sup> School opened in FY2005 without a senior class. <sup>c</sup> School opened in FY2006 without a senior class.

Table 2. FY2003-FY2007 ACT Average Composite Scores of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers by High School, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

	ACT Average Composite Scores				
High School	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007
Atlantic	21.4	21.2	21.9	21.0	19.5
Boca Raton	20.3	20.6	21.4	20.3	20.5
Boynton Beach	18.2	19.4	17.4	16.5	16.1
Dreyfoos School of the Arts	22.1	22.9	23.4	23.5	23.5
Forest Hill	17.7	17.7	19.5	19.2	20.0
Glades Central	15.8	15.6	15.7	15.9	15.3
John I. Leonard	20.1	19.0	20.0	20.3	19.3
Jupiter	21.8	22.1	21.9	22.5	22.1
Lake Worth	19.6	19.2	18.7	18.2	18.0
Olympic Heights	21.6	21.8	22.0	21.2	21.4
Pahokee	16.4	15.9	15.5	16.2	16.5
P. B. Central <sup>a</sup>	.	.	19.2	20.5	20.6
P. B. Gardens	20.8	20.8	19.8	18.5	18.7
P. B. Lakes	17.8	17.6	16.5	16.2	16.1
Park Vista <sup>b</sup>	.	.	.	20.4	21.0
Royal Palm Beach	19.9	19.4	19.7	19.2	18.8
Santaluces	20.4	19.7	19.4	18.6	17.6
Seminole Ridge <sup>c</sup>	.	.	.	.	20.3
Spanish River	22.7	22.9	23.3	23.9	22.9
Suncoast	22.5	23.2	23.3	23.9	24.3
Wellington	22.1	21.7	22.7	21.9	22.9
West Boca <sup>b</sup>	.	.	.	21.2	21.6
William T. Dwyer	21.0	21.4	21.6	20.3	19.8
SDPBC	20.5	20.4	20.3	20.2	19.8
Florida	20.5	20.5	20.4	20.3	19.9
Nation	20.8	20.9	20.9	21.1	21.2

<sup>a</sup> School opened in FY2004 without a senior class. <sup>b</sup> School opened in FY2005 without a senior class. <sup>c</sup> School opened in FY2006 without a senior class.

Table 3. FY2003-FY2007 SDPBC ACT Results for Black, Hispanic, and White Students

Fiscal Year	Black					Hispanic					White				
	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Number of Test Takers	612	673	772	814	1177	309	345	354	378	545	1270	1171	1186	1244	1546
Participation Rate	26%	29%	32%	33%	42%	22%	23%	22%	22%	27%	27%	25%	25%	26%	29%
Average Composite Score	16.9	16.6	16.5	16.6	16.1	19.6	19.4	19.5	19.6	18.8	22.4	22.7	22.8	22.6	22.5

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.