



SCHOOL DISTRICT
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHIEF


ANN KILLETS
CHIEF LEARNING OFFICER

October 7, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: School Board Members
School District of Palm Beach County

FROM: Ann Killets 
Chief Learning Officer

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

SUBJECT: **FY2010 ACT RESULTS**

The Department of Research and Evaluation has completed an analysis of the FY2010 ACT High School Profile Report produced by the ACT Corporation. The ACT measures college readiness of students and consists of four subtests, English, mathematics, reading, and science. Together, the results of the subtests are used to calculate single composite scores. Data pertaining to the participation rates and the average subtest and composite scores for seniors in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC), participating high schools, Florida, and the Nation are included with this analysis (see Tables 1-7 attached).

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."

Results

For the second year in a row, more than half of our seniors took the ACT, including a large majority of Black seniors. The participation rate in FY2010 was higher than that of FY2009¹ and has nearly doubled since FY2006. Conversely, the SDPBC average composite score has decreased since FY2006. A more detailed analysis follows.

Participation Rate

- The FY2010 SDPBC participation rate has increased 28 percentage points since FY2006 (32% to 60%) and by three points from FY2009 alone (57% to 60%).
 - Since FY2009, participation rates have increased by five percentage points for White students (43% to 48%) and four points for Black students (66% to 70%), but have decreased by three points for Hispanic students (51% to 48%).
- The FY2010 SDPBC participation rate (60%) was lower than that of Florida (65%), but both rates were higher than that of the Nation (47%).

¹ The participation rate in FY2010 likely increased in part because that year seniors who had yet to pass the Grade 10 FCAT Reading and/or Mathematics or a comparable score on the ACT or SAT were encouraged to take the ACT at the expense of the SDPBC.

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Average Composite Scores

- In FY2010, while there has been a large decrease in average composite scores from FY2006 (20.2 to 18.9), there has only been a small decrease from FY2009 (19.1 to 18.9).
 - The SDPBC average composite scores have remained the same or similar to those in FY2009 for Hispanic (18.1 vs. 18.2), White (22.3 vs. 22.4), and Black students (15.8 vs. 15.8).
- In FY2010, the SDPBC average composite score (18.9) was lower than that of Florida (19.5).

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 regarding the ACT, please contact Dean Stecker, Director of the Department of Research and Evaluation, at 432-6376. For information regarding SDPBC initiatives that are being implemented to increase student performance, please contact Constance Tuman-Rugg, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum, at 357-1113. For questions concerning specific schools, contact the area superintendents or school principals.

ACJ/AK/MB/DS/bs

c/attachments

- Chief Operating Officer
- Division Chiefs
- Area/Assistant Superintendents
- Academic Directors
- Principals

Table 1. FY2006 - FY2010 Number of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers and Participation Rate by Comprehensive High Schools, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

High School	Number of Test Takers					Participation Rate				
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010
A. W. Dreyfoos SOA	123	132	166	160	179	40%	44%	51%	48%	54%
Atlantic	113	225	336	453	545	29%	46%	63%	78%	85%
Boca Raton	152	212	230	285	413	40%	44%	46%	54%	65%
Boynton Beach	73	112	150	186	266	24%	36%	49%	71%	85%
Forest Hill	21	83	155	240	291	9%	25%	43%	61%	68%
Glades Central	127	155	200	204	245	62%	82%	99%	93%	96%
John I. Leonard	117	135	169	268	300	29%	34%	41%	66%	68%
Jupiter	194	269	305	337	355	36%	42%	44%	50%	51%
Lake Worth	223	241	260	333	352	46%	48%	54%	70%	82%
Olympic Heights	105	86	131	152	222	33%	29%	38%	43%	59%
Pahokee Middle/Senior	68	54	99	98	113	72%	61%	93%	88%	81%
Palm Beach Central	124	194	210	267	336	28%	33%	38%	47%	49%
Palm Beach Gardens	150	269	281	334	409	30%	48%	55%	70%	73%
Palm Beach Lakes	110	188	257	298	338	28%	46%	62%	77%	73%
Park Vista	114	197	303	361	342	27%	37%	39%	46%	49%
Royal Palm Beach	145	159	192	244	273	24%	30%	41%	48%	52%
Santaluces	134	225	295	284	353	31%	53%	62%	65%	65%
Seminole Ridge	a	135	152	261	300	a	32%	33%	48%	51%
Spanish River	175	230	246	267	293	37%	44%	51%	59%	58%
Suncoast	173	173	218	205	216	52%	61%	70%	72%	68%
W. T. Dwyer	151	170	144	177	205	34%	42%	38%	45%	47%
Wellington	280	238	248	280	272	40%	42%	46%	55%	51%
West Boca Raton	117	184	293	310	313	34%	41%	57%	60%	57%
SDPBC	3,105	4,334	5,331	6,438	7,496	32%	40%	47%	57%	60%
Florida	66,299	81,527	93,884	105,297	113,480	43%	51%	55%	61%	65%
Nation	1,206,455	1,300,599	1,421,941	1,480,469	1,568,835	38%	40%	43%	45%	47%

Participation rates for the SDPBC are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the ACT at any time during high school by the total number of seniors in the second nine weeks. Participation rates for Florida and the Nation are reported by the Florida Department of Education, and are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the ACT by the total number of high school graduates. ^a School opened in FY2006 without a senior class.

Table 2. FY2006 - FY2010 Number of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers and Participation Rate by SDPBC Alternative High Schools

High School	Number of ACT Test Takers					Participation Rate				
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010
Crossroads Academy	NA	NA	5	13	17	NA	NA	56%	37%	71%
Roosevelt Full Service Center	1	45	15	42	34	NA	NA	NA	100%^	94%

Participation rates for the SDPBC are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the ACT at any time during high school by the total number of seniors in the second nine weeks. NA indicates no data available. ^ Calculation actually exceeds 100% as the total number of students taking the test at any time during high school exceeded the total number of seniors during the second nine weeks.

Table 3. FY2006 - FY2010 Number of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers and Participation Rate by SDPBC Charter High Schools

High School	Number of ACT Test Takers					Participation Rate				
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010
Everglades	4	13	12	17	13	11%	41%	50%	65%	46%
G-Star	NA	NA	26	41	65	NA	NA	25%	35%	40%
Inlet Grove	62	55	64	98	111	50%	42%	43%	71%	87%
Leadership Academy West	NA	NA	NA	5	9	NA	NA	NA	17%	20%
Life Skills Center of PBC	NA	NA	NA	49	70	NA	NA	NA	NA	72%
Riviera Beach Maritime Acad.	NA	NA	1	5	6	NA	NA	14%	56%	33%
South Tech. Charter	40	85	88	118	163	11%	25%	24%	30%	38%
Toussaint L'Overture High	3	8	24	46	71	9%	35%	100%	100%^	100%^

Participation rates for the SDPBC are determined by dividing the number of seniors who took the ACT at any time during high school by the total number of seniors in the second nine weeks. NA indicates no data available. ^ Calculation actually exceeds 100% as the total number of students taking the test at any time during high school exceeded the total number of seniors during the second nine weeks.

Table 4. FY2006-FY2010 ACT Average English, Mathematics, Reading, Science and Composite Scores of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers by Comprehensive High Schools, the SDPBC, Florida, and the Nation

High School	English					Mathematics					Reading					Science					Composite				
	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
A. W. Dreyfoos SOA	23.7	24.0	24.9	25.3	25.1	22.6	22.6	23.7	23.4	23.2	25.3	24.7	25.0	25.3	25.3	22.1	22.1	22.4	22.6	22.5	23.5	23.5	24.2	24.3	24.2
Atlantic	19.8	18.1	18.0	17.2	16.6	21.1	19.8	19.7	18.7	18.7	22.0	20.2	19.7	19.2	19.0	20.4	19.2	19.0	18.0	17.8	21.0	19.5	19.2	18.4	18.2
Boca Raton	19.2	19.1	20.2	19.7	20.6	20.4	20.9	21.3	21.3	21.8	21.0	21.1	21.3	20.7	21.8	20.1	20.3	20.1	20.2	21.0	20.3	20.5	20.8	20.6	21.4
Boynton Beach	14.8	14.6	13.2	12.8	13.0	17.2	17.1	16.1	15.7	16.1	17.1	16.7	15.5	15.2	15.8	16.3	15.8	15.7	15.4	15.3	16.5	16.1	15.3	14.9	15.2
Forest Hill	18.0	18.7	16.5	15.1	14.6	19.3	20.1	18.6	17.4	17.5	19.8	20.9	18.4	17.4	16.9	18.9	19.5	18.1	16.9	16.5	19.2	20.0	18.1	16.8	16.5
Glades Central	14.3	13.2	13.6	14.1	13.5	16.5	16.2	16.6	16.5	16.7	16.7	16.1	16.3	16.4	16.0	15.5	15.3	15.8	15.4	15.5	15.9	15.3	15.7	15.7	15.5
John I. Leonard	19.3	18.3	15.8	14.3	14.0	20.3	20.1	17.9	17.3	17.2	20.9	19.8	17.6	17.2	16.8	20.0	18.9	17.4	16.8	16.1	20.3	19.3	17.3	16.5	16.2
Jupiter	21.4	21.2	21.9	21.9	21.4	22.4	22.4	23.2	22.9	22.5	23.4	22.4	23.2	23.4	22.6	22.2	21.8	21.8	21.6	21.6	22.5	22.1	22.7	22.6	22.1
Lake Worth	16.8	16.2	16.7	15.4	14.5	18.8	18.9	19.4	18.1	17.5	18.7	18.5	18.9	17.7	17.1	18.1	18.0	18.5	17.2	16.4	18.2	18.0	18.5	17.2	16.5
Olympic Heights	21.0	20.3	19.4	19.1	18.3	21.2	21.5	21.3	20.5	19.6	21.9	22.2	20.4	20.7	19.9	20.3	20.9	19.6	19.9	19.1	21.2	21.4	20.3	20.2	19.4
Pahokee Mid/Sr	14.3	14.6	13.4	13.0	14.0	16.5	17.6	16.5	16.1	17.4	16.7	16.9	15.6	15.6	16.8	16.6	16.6	15.8	14.7	15.7	16.2	16.5	15.4	14.9	16.1
Palm Beach Central	19.5	19.2	18.9	18.7	18.6	20.9	21.0	20.2	20.5	20.2	21.1	21.4	20.3	20.4	20.4	20.2	20.5	19.8	19.2	19.7	20.5	20.6	19.9	19.8	19.9
Palm Beach Gardens	17.0	17.0	17.1	16.2	15.9	19.3	19.4	19.3	18.8	18.4	18.9	19.6	19.2	18.4	18.2	18.4	18.5	18.4	17.6	17.5	18.5	18.7	18.6	17.9	17.6
Palm Beach Lakes	14.4	14.1	14.5	13.5	14.1	17.1	16.9	16.9	16.2	16.7	16.4	16.8	16.3	15.7	16.4	16.3	16.1	16.7	15.0	16.1	16.2	16.1	16.2	15.2	15.9
Park Vista	19.3	20.1	20.0	20.1	20.5	20.1	21.0	21.1	21.5	21.6	21.4	21.8	20.7	21.4	21.8	20.3	20.6	20.0	20.5	20.6	20.4	21.0	20.6	21.0	21.2
Royal Palm Beach	18.0	17.8	17.0	15.9	15.9	19.5	19.1	18.9	18.2	17.6	20.1	19.7	18.9	18.2	18.0	18.9	18.1	18.8	17.3	17.3	19.2	18.8	18.5	17.5	17.3
Santaluces	17.4	15.6	14.4	15.1	14.9	19.0	18.4	17.3	17.6	17.4	19.4	18.3	16.6	17.2	17.2	18.4	17.4	16.1	16.5	16.4	18.6	17.6	16.2	16.7	16.6
Seminole Ridge	a	19.0	18.5	18.9	19.5	a	20.3	20.2	20.2	20.6	a	21.3	20.3	20.6	21.0	a	20.2	19.5	20.0	20.5	a	20.3	19.8	20.0	20.5
Spanish River	23.5	22.1	23.4	23.4	23.7	24.2	23.4	24.7	23.2	24.0	24.5	23.3	23.7	24.2	23.6	22.8	22.3	22.7	22.5	23.1	23.9	22.9	23.7	23.5	23.7
Suncoast	23.0	23.7	24.7	23.9	24.5	24.7	24.9	26.5	25.1	25.3	23.9	25.0	25.4	24.6	24.6	23.4	23.1	25.0	23.5	24.0	23.9	24.3	25.5	24.4	24.7
W. T. Dwyer	19.0	18.6	19.1	18.3	17.5	20.5	20.3	20.5	19.8	19.6	20.9	20.2	20.6	19.7	19.2	20.3	19.6	20.1	19.0	18.8	20.3	19.8	20.2	19.3	18.9
Wellington	21.3	22.3	21.2	21.7	21.3	22.2	23.1	22.5	22.4	22.3	22.2	23.4	22.4	22.5	22.5	21.5	22.4	21.3	21.3	21.4	21.9	22.9	22.0	22.1	22.0
West Boca Raton	20.3	20.6	21.2	21.9	22.0	21.5	22.2	22.9	23.3	23.1	21.5	21.8	22.5	22.6	22.7	21.0	21.3	21.6	21.9	22.1	21.2	21.6	22.2	22.5	22.6
SDPBC	19.1	18.5	18.4	17.8	17.6	20.5	20.3	20.2	19.6	19.5	20.8	20.5	20.0	19.6	19.4	19.8	19.5	19.3	18.7	18.6	20.2	19.8	19.6	19.1	18.9
Florida	19.6	19.1	19.0	18.7	18.6	20.3	20.0	20.0	19.7	19.7	20.9	20.5	20.3	20.2	20.1	19.9	19.5	19.3	19.0	19.1	20.3	19.9	19.8	19.5	19.5
Nation	20.6	20.7	20.6	20.6	20.5	20.8	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.4	21.5	21.4	21.4	21.3	20.9	21.0	20.8	20.9	20.9	21.1	21.2	21.1	21.1	21.0

^a School opened in FY2006 without a senior class.

Table 5. FY2006-FY2010 ACT Average English, Mathematics, Reading, Science and Composite Scores of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers by Alternative High Schools

High School	English					Mathematics					Reading					Science					Composite				
	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Crossroads Academy	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*
Roosevelt Full Service Center	*	11.5	*	12.0	10.0	*	15.2	*	15.0	14.7	*	13.9	*	14.4	14.2	*	13.8	*	14.1	13.0	*	13.7	*	14.1	13.2

NA indicates no data available. * Fewer than 30 students tested.

Table 6. FY2006-FY2010 ACT Average English, Mathematics, Reading, Science and Composite Scores of College-Bound Senior ACT Test-Takers by Charter High Schools

High School	English					Mathematics					Reading					Science					Composite				
	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Everglades	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
G-Star	NA	NA	*	19.0	20.7	NA	NA	*	19.1	19.0	NA	NA	*	20.3	20.4	NA	NA	*	19.0	19.6	NA	NA	*	19.5	20.1
Inlet Grove	15.8	16.0	17.2	15.5	15.2	17.6	18.1	19.3	17.9	16.9	18.3	18.5	20.1	18.2	17.4	17.0	18.2	19.2	17.0	16.8	17.3	17.8	19.0	17.3	16.7
Leadership Academy West	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*	NA	NA	NA	*	*
Life Skills Center of PBC	NA	NA	NA	11.4	11.3	NA	NA	NA	15.0	14.9	NA	NA	NA	14.4	13.8	NA	NA	NA	14.6	13.5	NA	NA	NA	14.0	13.5
Riviera Beach Maritime Acad.	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*	NA	NA	*	*	*
South Tech. Charter	13.8	13.3	14.6	14.1	14.1	16.5	16.0	16.6	16.7	16.2	16.1	16.1	17.4	17.0	16.5	15.6	15.9	16.2	16.0	16.1	15.6	15.4	16.3	16.1	15.9
Toussaint L'Overture High	*	*	*	9.6	9.4	*	*	*	14.6	14.9	*	*	*	12.8	12.5	*	*	*	13.3	13.7	*	*	*	12.7	12.8

NA indicates no data available. * Fewer than 30 students tested.

Table 7. FY2006-FY2010 SDPBC ACT Results for Black, Hispanic, and White Seniors

Fiscal Year	Black					Hispanic					White				
	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Number of Test Takers	814	1177	1585	2116	2514	378	545	909	1174	1408	1244	1546	1941	2265	2520
Participation Rate	33%	42%	53%	66%	70%	22%	27%	41%	51%	48%	26%	29%	36%	43%	48%
English	15.0	14.3	14.4	14.0	13.8	18.5	17.3	17.1	16.7	16.5	22.0	21.7	21.9	21.9	21.8
Mathematics	17.2	16.9	16.9	16.7	16.7	19.9	19.6	19.4	18.9	18.8	22.6	22.6	22.8	22.5	22.4
Reading	17.2	16.9	16.4	16.4	16.4	19.9	19.2	18.8	18.6	18.6	23.4	23.2	23.0	23.0	22.7
Science	16.5	16.0	16.2	15.7	15.8	19.4	18.5	18.6	18.0	17.9	22.0	22.0	21.8	21.7	21.8
Average Composite Score	16.6	16.1	16.1	15.8	15.8	19.6	18.8	18.6	18.2	18.1	22.6	22.5	22.5	22.4	22.3

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. This includes seniors enrolled in comprehensive high schools and charter schools.