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## MEMORANDUM

June 7, 2013

TO: School Board Members

FROM: E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent 

SUBJECT: **RESULTS OF FY2013 FCAT 2.0 READING, MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE:  
ALL STUDENTS TESTED**

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has released the FY2013 results for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT 2.0) for all students tested in Reading at grades 3-10, Mathematics at grades 3-8, and Science at grades 5 and 8.<sup>1</sup> In April of 2013, approximately 105,000 School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) students took the FCAT 2.0 test in Reading, approximately 78,000 in Mathematics, and approximately 26,000 students took the FCAT 2.0 test in Science.<sup>2</sup>

Overall, SDPBC had a higher percentage of proficient students than Florida and the five largest Florida school districts<sup>3</sup> at most grades in Reading, Mathematics and Science and more than a majority of SDPBC students scored proficient or above at all tested grades and subjects.

- In FY2013, the SDPBC had a higher proficiency rate than Florida and the five largest Florida districts in a majority of grades and subjects
  - At grades 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 in Reading,
  - At grades 4, 5, 7, and 8 in Mathematics, and
  - At grades 5 and 8 in Science.
- From FY2012 to FY2013, the SDPBC increased performance by at least two percentage points in grades 6, 9 and 10 reading, and in grades 3 and 4 Mathematics.
- In FY2013, the SDPBC had a majority of students scoring proficient or above at all tested grades in Reading and Mathematics.

The attached Tables 1 through 5 report the percent of students proficient in Reading, Mathematics, and Science for the SDPBC, Florida, and selected school districts. Results for individual SDPBC schools are available on the Department of Research, Evaluation and Assessment website at: <http://www.palmbeachschools.org/dre/FCAT.asp>

<sup>1</sup> This data is based on all students tested, and not on the group of students used in the calculation of school grades. The FDOE previously released the results for grade 3 reading and mathematics, and those results are included in this analysis.

<sup>2</sup> This analysis uses the FCAT 2.0 scale for reading, mathematics, and science. FY2012 results for FCAT 2.0 Science will be available at a later date.

<sup>3</sup> Florida school districts exceeding 150,000 students

These results will be shared with appropriate staff to provide direction for improvement in curriculum and instruction. In addition, schools have received reports regarding their FCAT 2.0 test takers and will use this information in the school improvement planning process.

Should you have questions about the FCAT 2.0 results, please contact Mark Howard, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, at 434-8781. If you have questions about instruction and the FCAT 2.0, please contact Keith Oswald, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum, at 357-1113. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the FCAT 2.0, please contact the appropriate area superintendent or school principal.

EWG/CA/MB/MH:bs

#### Attachments

c: Academic and Operating Chiefs  
Area/Assistant Superintendents  
Academic Directors  
Principals

**Table 1: FCAT 2.0 Reading: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above**

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10	
	PB <sup>4</sup>	FL <sup>5</sup>	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2011	55	57	57	59	58	58	60	58	59	58	56	53	53	51	55	52
FY2012	54	56	61	62	61	61	56	57	58	58	59	55	53	52	54	50
FY2013	54	57	61	60	61	60	59	59	59	57	59	56	55	53	58	54

**Table 2: FCAT 2.0 Mathematics: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above**

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2011	53	56	61	58	56	56	59	53	63	56	67	56
FY2012	56	58	62	60	57	57	56	53	61	56	67	57
FY2013	59	58	64	61	57	55	54	52	60	55	61	51

Note. The FDOE does not administer an FCAT Mathematics test at grades 9 and 10.

**Table 3: FCAT 2.0 Science: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above**

Year	Grade 5		Grade 8	
	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2013	60	53	49	47

**Table 4. FY2013 FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics Results by Grade Level for the Five Largest Florida Districts: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above**

	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9	Grade 10
	RD	MA	RD	MA	RD	MA	RD	MA	RD	MA	RD	MA	RD	RD
Palm Beach	54	59	61	64	61	57	59	54	59	60	59	61	55	58
Broward	54	58	59	63	60	57	60	55	58	53	59	48	53	52
Hillsborough	56	54	59	57	58	54	55	51	51	54	51	53	51	52
Miami-Dade	53	62	59	64	59	56	57	51	57	51	56	35	52	52
Orange	58	58	61	61	60	55	59	51	59	55	57	55	53	52

RD = Reading; MA = Mathematics  
 Florida school districts exceeding 150,000 students

**Table 5. FY2013 FCAT 2.0 Science Results for Grades 5 and 8 for the Five Largest Florida Districts: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above**

	Grade 5	Grade 8
Palm Beach	60	49
Broward	49	46
Hillsborough	52	45
Miami-Dade	51	42
Orange	55	47

Florida school districts exceeding 150,000 students

<sup>4</sup> PB = SDPBC  
<sup>5</sup> FL = State of Florida