



DIVISION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE
3300 FOREST HILL BLVD, SUITE B-244
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406-5813

PH: 561-434-8851 FAX: 561-357-1196
www.palmbeachschools.org

MEMORANDUM

June 7, 2013

TO: School Board Members

FROM: E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent 

SUBJECT: SPRING FY2013 END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENT RESULTS FOR ALGEBRA 1, GEOMETRY, BIOLOGY 1, AND U.S. HISTORY

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has released the FY2013 Spring End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment results for Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1, and U.S. History. In May of 2013, the following numbers of School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) students participated in EOC assessments; Algebra 1 EOC: 16,198, Geometry EOC: 10,950, Biology 1 EOC: 12,650, and U.S. History EOC: 9,150.

A preliminary analysis of this data revealed the following.¹

Overall, the SDPBC percentage of first-time test takers scoring Level 3 or above on End-of-Course assessments was higher or the same as that of Florida.

- From FY2012 to FY2013, the SDPBC increased
 - The number of students participating in algebra courses and significantly increased the performance of Algebra 1 EOC first-time test takers by ten percentage points (Table 1), and
 - The performance for Algebra 1 EOC students in grades 9-12 (Table 2).
- In FY2013, SDPBC outperformed Florida at most grades on the Algebra 1 EOC (Table 2).
- In FY2013, the performance of the SDPBC's Geometry and Biology 1 EOC first-time test takers was similar to that of Florida (Tables 4 and 7).
- In FY2013, the SDPBC had the same average T-score as Florida on the U.S. History EOC (Table 10).

Tables 1 through 10 provide the results of Spring EOC Assessments in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1, and U.S. History.

¹ A difference of two or more percentage points is considered significant.

Table 1. Spring Algebra 1 EOC Results – Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	First-Time Test Takers			Retakers			All Test Takers		
	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013
SDPBC	56%	58%	68%	NR	39%	22%	NR	56%	61%
Florida	55%	58%	64%	NR	44%	22%	NR	58%	58%

NR = Not Reported; in FY2011, the only results available were for first-time test takers

Table 2. Spring Algebra 1 EOC Results by Grade Level for First Time Test Takers – Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2011	93%	91%	88%	80%	38%	45%	20%	26%	27%	28%	28%	34%
FY2012	99%	94%	96%	86%	44%	48%	27%	25%	27%	28%	27%	33%
FY2013	98%	96%	95%	90%	57%	52%	35%	29%	38%	37%	39%	37%

PB=SDPBC; FL=Florida

Table 3. FY2013 Spring Algebra 1 EOC Results by Grade Level for First Time Test Takers in Five Largest Florida Districts: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	All Grades
Palm Beach	98%	95%	57%	35%	38%	39%	68%
Broward	99%	95%	61%	22%	33%	31%	66%
Hillsborough	97%	87%	32%	26%	17%	48%	61%
Miami-Dade	95%	89%	54%	30%	43%	25%	66%
Orange	96%	84%	51%	25%	33%	28%	66%

Florida school districts exceeding 150,000 students

Table 4. FY2013 Spring Geometry EOC Results – Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	First-Time Test Takers	Retakers	All Test Takers
SDPBC	64%	35%	63%
Florida	64%	31%	63%

Table 5. FY2013 Spring Geometry EOC Results by Grade Level for First Time Test Takers – Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2013	99%	97%	92%	88%	51%	53%	32%	31%	13%	30%

PB=SDPBC; FL=Florida

Table 6. FY2013 Spring Geometry EOC Results by Grade Level for First Time Test Takers in Five Largest Florida Districts: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	All Grades
Palm Beach	99%	92%	51%	32%	13%	64%
Broward	99%	94%	61%	33%	19%	65%
Hillsborough	99%	84%	55%	26%	29%	68%
Miami-Dade	97%	88%	50%	26%	19%	60%
Orange	96%	89%	47%	25%	29%	61%

Florida school districts exceeding 150,000 students

Table 7. FY2013 Spring Biology 1 EOC Results – Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	First-Time Test Takers	Retakers	All Test Takers
SDPBC	68%	36%	67%
Florida	67%	32%	66%

Table 8. Spring Biology 1 EOC Results by Grade Level for First Time Test Takers – Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2013	NR	93%	88%	80%	58%	55%	39%	44%	29%	38%

NR = Not Reported; PB=SDPBC; FL=Florida

Table 9. FY2013 Spring Biology 1 EOC Results by Grade Level for First Time Test Takers in Five Largest Florida Districts: Percentage of Students Scoring Level 3 or Above

	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	All Grades
Palm Beach	NR	88%	58%	39%	29%	68%
Broward	63%	90%	49%	38%	28%	66%
Hillsborough	27%	65%	49%	39%	31%	64%
Miami-Dade	94%	86%	51%	46%	32%	63%
Orange	97%	86%	58%	42%	40%	69%

NR = Not Reported

Florida school districts exceeding 150,000 students

Table 10. FY2013 Spring U.S. History EOC Results: Percentage of Students By Statewide Thirds

	SDPBC	Florida
Average T-score	49	49
Percent of Students in Bottom Third	36%	33%
Percent of Students in Middle Third	29%	32%
Percent of Students in Top Third	35%	35%

Results for individual schools are available on the Department of Research, Evaluation and Assessment website at: <http://www.palmbeachschools.org/dre/FCAT.asp>

Schools have received their results and will use this information to meet individual student needs and for school improvement. District and area staff will use the results to provide direction for improvement in curriculum and instruction.

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

EWG/CA/FR/MH:bs

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