



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

JEFFREY HERNANDEZ
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER


ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

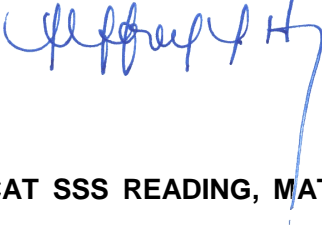
Dean C. Stecker
Director of Research & Evaluation
3370 Forest Hill Boulevard, Suite B-246
West Palm Beach, FL 33406-5871

Phone (561) 432-6376 Fax (561) 963-3842
www.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/9045

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board Members

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

THROUGH: Jeffrey Hernandez
Chief Academic Officer 

DATE: May 28, 2009

**SUBJECT: RELEASE OF FY2009 FCAT SSS READING, MATHEMATICS, AND SCIENCE:
ALL STUDENTS TESTED**

The Florida Department of Education has released the FY2009 results for FCAT SSS Reading, Mathematics, and Science for all students tested.¹ In March of 2009, approximately 101,000 School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC) students took the FCAT SSS Reading and Mathematics Tests in grades 3 through 10, and approximately 36,600 students took the FCAT SSS Science Test in grades 5, 8, and 11.

The SDPBC has shown substantial improvements in Reading and Mathematics since FY2005, and in Science since the first year of implementation in FY2006. The District improved from FY2008 to FY2009 in Reading, Mathematics, and Science at most grade levels, and consistently performed higher than or similar to the State.

A statistical analysis of the changes from FY2008 to FY2009 shows that the SDPBC

- Improved in Reading at most grade levels in the percent of students at both Level 1 (low performing) and Level 3 and higher (proficient);
- Improved in Mathematics at most grade levels in the percent of students at Level 3 and higher, while the percent of students in Level 1 has stayed the same or improved at all grade levels;
- Improved in Science at grades 5 and 8 in the percent of students at Level 3 and higher, and stayed about the same at grades 5 and 8 in the percent of students in Level 1.

The attached tables report the percent of proficient students (Level 3 and higher) and the percent of low performing students (Level 1) for the SDPBC and the State. Results for individual SDPBC schools are available on the Department of Research and Evaluation website or at <http://www.palmbeach.k12.fl.us/9045/fy09fcats.html>.

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

¹ This data is based on all students tested, and not on the group of students used in the calculation of school grades and AYP. The State has not provided disaggregated data at this time.

Should you have questions about the FCAT SSS results, please contact Dean Stecker, Director of Research and Evaluation, at 432-6376. If you have questions about instruction and the FCAT SSS, please contact Constance Tuman-Rugg, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum, at 357-1113. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the FCAT SSS, please contact the appropriate area superintendent or school principal.

ACJ/JH/MB/DS

Attachments

- c: Chief of Staff
- Academic and Operating Chiefs
- Area/Assistant Superintendents
- Academic Executive Directors/Directors
- Principals

Table 1: FCAT SSS Reading: Percent of Students at Level 3 or Higher

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10	
	PB ²	FL ³	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2005	67	67	71	71	65	66	55	56	53	53	44	44	36	36	36	32
FY2006	74	75	65	66	66	67	63	64	59	61	46	46	42	40	34	32
FY2007	69	69	68	68	72	72	62	62	64	63	48	49	44	41	35	34
FY2008	71	72	69	70	67	67	64	63	64	65	55	53	48	46	39	38
FY2009	69	71	74	74	72	71	69	66	67	67	55	54	48	47	40	37

Table 2: FCAT SSS Reading: Percent of Students at Level 1

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2005	20	20	16	15	19	18	25	25	27	27	27	27	36	35	34	39
FY2006	15	14	20	19	18	17	19	18	20	19	25	24	29	30	38	38
FY2007	19	19	17	18	13	14	19	19	17	17	23	22	27	28	38	39
FY2008	17	16	18	17	16	17	18	18	18	17	18	18	24	25	34	35
FY2009	18	17	13	13	13	14	15	16	15	15	17	18	22	22	32	34

Table 3: FCAT SSS Mathematics: Percent of Students at Level 3 or Higher

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2005	69	68	66	64	59	57	49	47	55	53	62	59	60	59	71	63
FY2006	72	72	67	67	57	57	55	53	55	55	61	60	64	59	68	65
FY2007	76	74	72	69	61	59	52	50	63	59	66	63	64	60	68	65
FY2008	76	76	74	71	65	61	56	53	63	61	71	67	69	65	70	69
FY2009	79	78	77	75	65	62	61	55	65	60	70	66	72	68	72	69

Table 4: FCAT SSS Mathematics: Percent of Students at Level 1

Year	Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Grade 7		Grade 8		Grade 9		Grade 10	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2005	15	15	15	15	16	16	28	31	24	26	19	21	20	20	11	15
FY2006	12	12	13	14	17	17	24	26	23	23	19	20	15	18	14	15
FY2007	11	12	11	13	13	15	26	28	18	20	16	18	15	17	12	14
FY2008	10	10	11	12	13	15	24	26	17	18	13	14	13	15	12	12
FY2009	9	10	9	10	13	14	20	24	17	20	12	14	10	12	11	12

² PB = SDPBC

³ FL = State of Florida

Table 5: FCAT SSS Science: Percent of Students at Level 3 or Higher

Year	Grade 5		Grade 8		Grade 11	
	PB ⁴	FL ⁵	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2006	40	35	35	32	36	35
FY2007	49	42	41	38	42	37
FY2008	50	43	43	40	42	38
FY2009	53	46	46	41	41	37

Table 6: FCAT SSS Science: Percent of Students at Level 1

Year	Grade 5		Grade 8		Grade 11	
	PB	FL	PB	FL	PB	FL
FY2006	27	29	33	35	33	32
FY2007	21	25	30	31	27	30
FY2008	19	23	25	27	26	29
FY2009	18	21	26	27	30	31

⁴ PB = SDBPC

⁵ FL = State of Florida