





## MEMORANDUM

May 12, 2011

**TO:** School Board Members

**FROM:** Judith Klinek   
Chief Academic Officer

**THROUGH:** William F. Malone   
Acting Superintendent

**SUBJECT: FY2011 SPRING FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST (FCAT)  
RETAKE RESULTS FOR GRADES 10, 11, AND 12**

High school students who fail the Grade 10 FCAT in Reading and/or Mathematics may take the FCAT Retake during the Fall and/or the Spring administrations. During the FY2011 Spring administration, 4,632 students in the School District of Palm Beach County in grades 10, 11, and 12<sup>1</sup> took the FCAT Reading Retake, and 1,581 students took the FCAT Mathematics Retake.

Overall, the percentage of students passing both FCAT Retakes remains low for the District and the State, and Reading continues to be more difficult to pass than Mathematics. From FY2010 to FY2011, the percentage of students passing Reading remained stable, while Mathematics declined.

A statistical analysis of the FCAT Retake results shows that:

- From FY2010 to FY2011, the number of students in the District and the State who took an FCAT Retake declined, with the exception of the FCAT Reading Retake at grade 12, which had an increase.
- In FY2011, for the District and the State, the percent of students passing the
  - FCAT Reading Retake did not exceed 22%, and the State significantly outperformed the District at grades 11 and 12,
  - FCAT Mathematics Retake did not exceed 29%, and the State and District results were not statistically different.
- From FY2010 to FY2011, for the District and the State, there was no significant change in the percentage of students passing the
  - FCAT Reading Retake,
  - FCAT Mathematics Retake at grade 10; while there was a significant decline at grades 11 and 12.

<sup>1</sup>Includes retained students in grades 10, 11, and 12 who have not yet met the FCAT graduation requirement with FCAT or through ACT/SAT concordant scores.

Interpretations of FCAT Retake results must be made cautiously because students taking the test will vary depending on their previous success on the Grade 10 FCAT and/or on the ACT/SAT. For example, prior to FY2011, students were required to take the FCAT Grade 10 at least three times without passing in order to use the ACT/SAT concordant scores. However, starting in FY2011, students who have not passed the Grade 10 FCAT may substitute the concordant passing score at any time.

The attached Tables 1 and 2 report the number tested and percent of students passing on the FCAT Retakes for the District and the State in the past five years. Results for individual District schools are available on the Research and Evaluation website at:

<http://www.palmbeachschools.org/dre/FCAT.asp>

Schools have received their results and will use this information to meet the needs of individual students and for school improvement planning. If you have questions about these results, please contact Mark Howard, Director of Research and Evaluation, at 561-432-6376. If you have questions about instruction, please contact Constance Tuman-Rugg, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum, at 561-357-1113. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the FCAT Retakes, please contact the appropriate area superintendent or school principal.

WFM/JK/MB/MH

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

**Table 1: FCAT Reading Retake Results – Number Tested and Percent of Students Passing**

Year	Grade 10				Grade 11				Grade 12			
	SDPBC		State		SDPBC		State		SDPBC		State	
	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct
FY2007	358	9	4,912	12	3,816	19	56,099	20	1,780	13	25,815	15
FY2008	508	13	5,737	16	3,864	21	55,593	22	1,564	13	24,069	16
FY2009	420	13	4,837	18	3,747	27	53,718	27	1,469	18	22,925	20
FY2010	350	11	3,905	13	3,523	20	52,875	23	1,308	13	22,071	16
FY2011	216	13	2,909	14	2,758	20	42,294	22	1,658	12	22,336	15

**Table 2: FCAT Mathematics Retake Results – Number Tested and Percent of Students Passing**

Year	Grade 10				Grade 11				Grade 12			
	SDPBC		State		SDPBC		State		SDPBC		State	
	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct	Number Tested	Pct
FY2007	238	28	3,263	24	1,684	33	27,120	33	708	28	10,633	26
FY2008	341	28	3,333	30	1,589	38	25,257	39	579	29	9,971	32
FY2009	267	21	2,918	25	1,496	31	21,907	33	494	30	8,540	26
FY2010	230	22	2,303	25	1,436	35	22,617	37	480	31	8,565	28
FY2011	146	24	2,215	27	1,056	28	17,695	29	379	20	7,084	21