




## MEMORANDUM

May 24, 2012

**TO:** School Board Members

**FROM:** Janis Andrews, Ed. D.  
Chief Academic Officer 

**THROUGH:** E. Wayne Gent  
Superintendent 

**SUBJECT: FY2012 GEOMETRY AND BIOLOGY 1 END-OF-COURSE ASSESSMENT RESULTS**

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has released the FY2012 Geometry and Biology 1 End-of-Course (EOC) assessment results. FY2012 was the first year that the Geometry and Biology 1 EOC tests were administered. In April and May of 2012, 13,631 students took the Geometry EOC test and 13,724 students took the Biology 1 EOC test in grades 7-12 in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC).

As FY2012 is the first year of statewide administration for both of these EOC tests, the FDOE only reports a T-score and a Third score for each student. The T-score is a commonly used scale on standardized tests that ranges from 20 to 80. Third scores are reported in one of three categories: bottom, middle and top. The FDOE will not establish proficiency levels for Geometry and Biology 1 EOC tests until the fall of 2012.

A preliminary analysis of Geometry and Biology 1 EOC assessment results reveal the following on both assessments:

- SDPBC had a higher percentage of students in the top third than Florida.
- SDPBC and Florida have similar overall performance.

Table 1 reports the average T-score and the percentage of students scoring in the bottom, middle, and top thirds for the SDPBC and Florida.

**Table 1: FY2012 Geometry and Biology 1 End-of-Course Assessment Results**

	Geometry		Biology 1	
	SDPBC	Florida	SDPBC	Florida
Average T-score	49	49	50	49
Percent of Students in Bottom Third	34%	35%	34%	34%
Percent of Students in Middle Third	30%	31%	29%	31%
Percent of Students in Top Third	36%	34%	37%	35%

The school reports provided by the FDOE are available on the Department of Research, Evaluation and Assessment website at: <http://www.palmbeachschools.org/dre/FCAT.asp>  
In these reports T-scores are referred to as scale scores, and Third scores are labeled as “1”, “2”, and “3” for bottom, middle, and top, respectively.

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

EWG/JA/MB/MH/bs

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