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MEMORANDUM

May 24, 2013

TO: School Board Members
FROM: E. Wayne Gent, Superintendent 
SUBJECT: **FY2013 GRADE 3 FCAT 2.0 READING AND MATHEMATICS RESULTS: ALL STUDENTS TESTED**

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has released the results of the FY2013 Grade 3 FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics tests. In April of 2013, approximately 13,800 students took the Grade 3 FCAT 2.0 tests in the School District of Palm Beach County (SDPBC).¹ Because the FCAT 2.0 scale has only been available since FY2011, this summary analysis reports only three years.

A preliminary analysis of the results reveals the following findings:

- From FY2012 to FY2013, the percent of proficient students in Mathematics in the SDPBC increased from 56% to 59%.
- In FY2013, the SDPBC performed similar to Florida in Mathematics, and slightly lower than Florida in Reading.
- In FY2013, the SDPBC FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics scores were comparable to those of the five largest Florida districts.

Table 1. FCAT 2.0 Grade 3 Results

	Percent of Students in Level 3 or Higher				Percent of Students in Level 1			
	Grade 3 Reading		Grade 3 Mathematics		Grade 3 Reading		Grade 3 Mathematics	
	SDPBC	Florida	SDPBC	Florida	SDPBC	Florida	SDPBC	Florida
FY2011	55	57	53	56	20	18	21	19
FY2012	54	56	56	58	20	18	19	18
FY2013	54	57	59	58	20	18	18	18

¹ This summary is based on all students tested, not on the group of students used in the calculation of school grades. The FDOE has not released disaggregated data by race/ethnicity at this time.

Table 2. FY2013 FCAT 2.0 Grade 3 Results for the Five Largest Florida Districts: Percent of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher and Percent of Students Scoring in Level 1

	Percent of Students in Level 3 or Higher		Percent of Students in Level 1	
	Grade 3 Reading	Grade 3 Mathematics	Grade 3 Reading	Grade 3 Mathematics
Palm Beach	54	59	20	18
Broward	54	58	20	19
Hillsborough	56	54	19	21
Miami-Dade	53	62	22	17
Orange	58	58	17	18

According to Florida Statute 1008.25, third grade students scoring in Level 1 on Grade 3 FCAT 2.0 Reading must be retained unless exempted for good cause.²

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.

Should you have questions about the Grade 3 FCAT 2.0 Reading or Mathematics results, please contact Mark Howard, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, at 434-8781. If you have questions about instruction, please contact Keith Oswald, Assistant Superintendent, Division of Curriculum, at 357-1113. If you have questions about individual school efforts, please contact the appropriate area superintendent or school principal.

EWG/CA/FR/MH/bs

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

² Please refer to the District's Elementary School Student Progression Plan for information concerning student promotion.