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HIGHLIGHTS OF 2005 FCAT WRITING RESULTS, GRADES 4, 8, & 10

April 27, 2005

Combined Average Writing Scores

- ▶ District combined average writing scores remained stable at 3.8 for grades 4 and 10, and 3.7 at grade 8. State scores also remained constant compared to 2004.
- ▶ The District's grade 4 students received a higher average score than students statewide. At grade 10, the average score is comparable to those of students statewide, and the District average is slightly below the state's (.1) at grade 8.

Percent of Students Scoring 3 and Above

The performance expectation for *students* to demonstrate proficiency in writing is that they attain a score of 3 or higher.

- ▶ At grade 4, 92% of the students are scoring 3 or higher; 90% and 89% are scoring 3 or higher in grades 8 and 10, respectively.
- ▶ At grade 4, the district percentage (92%) is higher than that of the state level (90%).
- ▶ Compared to last year, the percent of students scoring 3 or higher increased at grades 8, remained stable at grade 10, and decreased slightly at grade 4.

Percent of Students Scoring 3.5 and Above and 4.0 and Above

Effective with the 2004-05 school year, the state increased the school performance grade requirement on the FCAT Writing from 3.0 to 3.5. *Schools* are now evaluated on the percent of students scoring 3.5 and above.

- ▶ Compared to 2004, the percent of District students scoring 3.5 or higher increased as follows
 - 77% to 80% at grade 4 — An increase of 3%
 - 71% to 73% at grade 8 — An increase of 2%
 - 79% to 79% at grade 10 — Remained stable

- ▶ In 2005, an increase of 7,000 students are earning FCAT writing scores of 3.5 or higher as compared to their cohorts last year. It appears that this increase is attributable to more students earning scores of 4.0 or higher.

Grade 4 Students Scoring 4.0 or higher: 63%

Grade 8 Students Scoring 4.0 or higher: 53%

Grade 10 Students Scoring 4.0 or higher: 64%

Across all Grade Levels Percent Scoring 4.0 or higher: 60 %

The percent of students scoring 4.0 or higher exceeds the state at grades 4 and 10 and overall.

In summary, although the average scores held steady, a larger number of students are performing at higher levels than in past years, as evidenced by the increase in the percentage of students scoring at 3.5 and above and 4.0 and above.