

## MEMORANDUM

June 6, 2014

**TO:** The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida

**FROM:** Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools *AMC*

**SUBJECT: STATE RELEASE OF RESULTS FOR THE SPRING 2014 FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TEST (FCAT) 2.0 READING, MATHEMATICS, AND SCIENCE**

Today the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released results from the Spring 2014 administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) 2.0 Reading, Mathematics, and Science. Specifically, District and School summary reports were provided for students in reading and mathematics, Grades 4 through 10; and in science, Grades 5 and 8. Reading and mathematics scores for students in Grade 3 were released previously to facilitate promotion decisions, a summary of those results are also included in this memorandum to provide a comprehensive summary of District results. It should be noted that the results released include all students tested and do not represent the groupings that will be used by the State for accountability purposes.

Results for FCAT 2.0 are reported using scale scores, which can range from 140 to 302 on the Reading assessment across Grades 3 through 10, and from 140 to 298 on the Mathematics assessment across Grades 3 through 8. FCAT 2.0 Science results are also reported using scale scores which can range from 140 to 260 in both Grade 5 and Grade 8. In addition to the scale scores, results are also reported in terms of Achievement Levels, which can range from Level 1 (low) to Level 5 (high); Level 3 indicates satisfactory performance.

It should be noted that Spring 2014 is scheduled to be the last full administration of the FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics assessments; however, retake administrations will be made available for students who must meet an FCAT graduation test requirement. In Spring 2015, new assessments based on the Florida Standards will replace the FCAT 2.0, with assessments for English/Language Arts in Grades 3 through 11, and for Mathematics in Grades 3 through 8.

In Spring 2014, 210,064 Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) students in Grades 3 through 10 took FCAT 2.0 Reading; 142,875 students in Grades 3 through 8 took FCAT 2.0 Mathematics; and 50,648 students in Grades 5 and 8 took FCAT 2.0 Science. Highlights of the M-DCPS students' results and summary tables providing comparisons of District and State results by grade level are provided as attachments to this memorandum.

### **Overall**

- Growth shown by M-DCPS elementary and middle school students on the Spring 2014 FCAT Reading and Mathematics assessments surpassed that of their counterparts statewide and in other large districts.

### **Reading**

- Not only did the growth of M-DCPS students in Reading outpace that of their counterparts statewide in elementary and middle school; the percent scoring high (Levels 3 or above) also met or exceeded that of students statewide in all grades 4 through 8.
- The mean Reading scale scores of M-DCPS students improved in Grades 3 through 6 from 2013 to 2014, and the percent scoring at Level 3 or above increased at Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8.

### **Mathematics**

- The percentages of M-DCPS students scoring high (Levels 3 or above) in Mathematics surpassed that of students statewide in grades 3 through 5.
- The percentages of M-DCPS students scoring high in Mathematics increased or held steady in all Grades 3 through 7.
- The mean scale score in Mathematics for students in Grade 8 held steady, although the percentage scoring in Levels 3 or above declined slightly, due to a statewide initiative calling for high performing students to enroll in Algebra 1 rather than the traditional eighth grade mathematics course.

### **Science**

- In Science, the performance of M-DCPS students in Grade 5 remained stable, while the percentage scoring at Level 3 or above in Grade 8 increased.

Complete District, State, and school summary reports are available on the FLDOE website at <http://fcats.fldoe.org/mediapacket/2014/default.asp>. The FLDOE has provided information on the scoring process in *Understanding FCAT 2.0 Reports* at <http://fcats.fldoe.org/mediapacket/2014/pdf/2014UFR.pdf>. School shipments of Individual Student Reports will be forwarded to schools as soon as they are received.

Please note that individual student results for the Florida End-of-Course (EOC) assessments in Algebra 1, US History and Civics have been released to schools, however district and state summary reports have not yet been released. A full report of the EOC results will be provided as this information becomes available.

If you have any questions about the attached results, please contact Ms. Marie Izquierdo, Chief Academic Officer, Office of Academics and Transformation, at 305 995-1451, or Ms. Gisela Feild, Administrative Director, Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis, at 305 995-2943.

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### **Attachments**

cc: School Board Attorney  
Superintendent's Cabinet  
Superintendent's Senior Staff  
Ms. Gisela Feild

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Summary of District and State Results for the**  
**Spring 2014 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) 2.0**  
**Reading, Mathematics, and Science**  
**Grades 3 through 10**

On June 6, 2014, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released data from the Spring 2014 administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) 2.0 Reading, Mathematics, and Science. The tables that follow provide summaries of the data for students in Grades 3 through 10 in reading; Grades 3 through 8 in mathematics; and Grades 5 and 8 in science.

The FCAT 2.0 is a criterion-referenced test that measures students' mastery of grade-level content. The FLDOE began transitioning from FCAT to FCAT 2.0 in the 2010-2011 school year in reading and mathematics to align with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS). Specifically, the FCAT 2.0 Reading was administered for the first time in Spring 2011 to students in Grades 3 through 10, and FCAT 2.0 Mathematics was administered to students in Grades 3 through 8. In 2012, the FLDOE transitioned from FCAT to FCAT 2.0 Science in Grades 5 and 8. Note that senior high students no longer participate in comprehensive mathematics or science assessments. Instead, students take Florida's End-of-Course (EOC) assessments, which target specific course content and are administered to all students taking the applicable course, without regard to grade level. Algebra 1 was the first EOC, first administered in 2010-2011; followed by Biology 1 and Geometry in 2011-2012, US History in 2012-2013, and Civics in 2013-2014.

Results for FCAT 2.0 are reported using scale scores, which can range from 140 to 302 on the Reading assessment across Grades 3 through 10, and from 140 to 298 on the Mathematics assessment across Grades 3 through 8. FCAT 2.0 Science results are also reported using scale scores which can range from 140 to 260 in both Grade 5 and Grade 8. In addition to the scale scores, results are also reported in terms of Achievement Levels, which can range from Level 1 (low) to Level 5 (high). Level 3 is an indicator of satisfactory performance, and also serves as the passing score for Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading, used as a graduation test requirement for a standard diploma.

In Spring 2014, 210,064 M-DCPS students in Grades 3 through 10 took FCAT 2.0 Reading; 142,875 students in Grades 3 through 8 took FCAT 2.0 Mathematics, and 50,648 students in Grades 5 and 8 took FCAT 2.0 Science. The following tables provide a view of student performance across two years: 2013 and 2014. Detailed results showing the percentage of students scoring in Levels 1, 2, and 3 through 5 for the District and State by grade level are provided for Reading, Mathematics, and Science in Tables 1, 2, and 3 respectively.

Students who entered Grade 9 in the 2010-2011 school year and beyond must score in Achievement Level 3 or above (scale score of 245 or above) on the Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading for graduation purposes. The percentage of students who met this requirement is included on Table 1. Students have multiple opportunities to meet the FCAT 2.0 Reading graduation test requirement prior to graduation, with the first opportunity taking place in the spring of 10<sup>th</sup> Grade. It may be noted that the FCAT Mathematics graduation test

requirement was discontinued with this cohort of students, transitioning to high school End-of-Course assessments in mathematics and science.

Also presented is a summary of student performance in terms of the scale score units, used to track growth in achievement as students' progress from grade to grade, with reading and mathematics presented in Tables 4 and 5, respectively. Table 6 presents changes in the percentages scoring in Levels 3 or above from 2013 to 2014 in the M-DCPS, the state, and other large districts.

**Table 1**  
**FCAT 2.0 Reading**  
**District and State: 2013 and 2014**  
**Percentages of Students Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade**

READING	Number Tested		Level 1			Level 2			Levels 3-5		
	2013	2014	2013	2014	Diff. 2013-2014	2013	2014	Diff. 2013-2014	2013	2014	Diff. 2013-2014
<b>GRADE 3</b>											
District	26,711	27,111	22	22	0	25	23	-2	53	56	+3
State	205,984	209,852	18	19	+1	25	24	-1	57	57	0
<b>GRADE 4</b>											
District	25,582	25,237	17	14	-3	24	23	-1	59	63	+4
State	193,751	196,786	15	14	-1	25	25	0	60	61	+1
<b>GRADE 5</b>											
District	25,570	25,650	16	16	0	25	23	-2	59	61	+2
State	195,188	195,750	15	15	0	25	24	-1	60	61	+1
<b>GRADE 6</b>											
District	26,230	25,665	21	18	-3	22	22	0	57	61	+4
State	199,458	195,645	19	16	-3	23	23	0	59	60	+1
<b>GRADE 7</b>											
District	26,864	26,331	22	22	0	22	22	0	57	57	0
State	199,316	200,981	20	21	+1	23	23	0	57	57	0
<b>GRADE 8</b>											
District	27,066	27,040	19	19	0	26	24	-2	56	57	+1
State	198,201	199,937	17	18	+1	27	25	-2	56	57	+1
<b>GRADE 9</b>											
District	26,975	27,088	21	21	0	27	29	+2	52	50	-2
State	197,121	200,714	19	18	-1	28	29	+1	53	53	0
<b>GRADE 10</b>											
District	25,865	25,942	20	20	0	28	28	0	52	52	0
State	189,047	189,031	18	17	-1	28	28	0	54	55	+1

Note: Achievement Levels range from Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest). Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding, and include all students tested, including students with disabilities and English language learners. Only Grade 10 students participating in the standard FCAT 2.0 Reading administration are included in this summary, not those participating in the FCAT Retake.

**Table 2**  
**FCAT 2.0 Mathematics**  
**District and State: 2013 and 2014**  
**Percentages of Students Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade**

MATHEMATICS	Number Tested		Level 1			Level 2			Levels 3-5		
	2013	2014	2013	2014	Diff. 2013-2014	2013	2014	Diff. 2012-2013	2013	2014	Diff. 2013-2014
<b>GRADE 3</b>											
District	26,711	27,105	17	17	0	21	21	0	62	62	0
State	205,717	209,724	18	18	0	24	24	0	58	58	0
<b>GRADE 4</b>											
District	25,592	25,237	17	15	-2	19	19	0	64	66	+2
State	193,956	196,845	17	16	-1	21	20	-1	61	63	+2
<b>GRADE 5</b>											
District	25,541	25,594	20	18	-2	24	23	-1	56	58	+2
State	195,012	195,622	20	20	0	25	23	-2	55	56	+1
<b>GRADE 6</b>											
District	26,204	25,561	26	25	-1	23	22	-1	51	53	+2
State	199,520	194,759	23	23	0	24	23	-1	52	53	+1
<b>GRADE 7</b>											
District	24,562	23,207	24	23	-1	25	25	0	51	52	+1
State	194,065	193,140	21	21	0	24	23	-1	55	56	+1
<b>GRADE 8</b>											
District	18,108	16,171	37	37	0	29	30	+1	35	33	-2
State	174,349	167,173	25	28	+3	24	25	+1	51	47	-4

Note: Achievement Levels range from Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest). Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding, and include all students tested, including students with disabilities and English language learners.

**Table 3**  
**FCAT 2.0 Science**  
**District and State: 2013 and 2014**  
**Percentages of Students Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade**

SCIENCE	Number Tested		Level 1		Level 2		Levels 3-5		Diff. 13-14
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	
<b>GRADE 5</b>									
District	25,560	25,638	24	24	24	26	51	51	0
State	195,131	195,645	21	21	26	25	53	54	+1
<b>GRADE 8</b>									
District	25,605	25,010	27	26	31	30	42	44	+2
State	195,685	197,210	22	21	31	30	47	49	+2

*Note.* Achievement Levels range from Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest). Percentages may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding, and include all students tested, including students with disabilities and English language learners.

**Table 4**  
**FCAT 2.0 Reading**  
**District and State: 2013 and 2014**  
**Mean Scale Scores, by Grade**

Grade	District			State		
	2013	2014	Difference 2013-2014	2013	2014	Difference 2013-2014
	3	198	199	+1	201	200
4	211	214	+3	212	213	+1
5	219	220	+1	220	221	+1
6	224	226	+2	225	227	+2
7	230	230	0	231	231	0
8	237	237	0	237	238	+1
9	239	238	-1	240	240	0
10	244	244	0	246	246	0

**Table 5**  
**FCAT 2.0 Mathematics**  
**District and State: 2013 and 2014**  
**Mean Scale Scores, by Grade**

Grade	District			State		
	2013	2014	Difference 2013-2014	2013	2014	Difference 2013-2014
	3	203	203	0	201	201
4	217	218	+1	215	216	+1
5	221	223	+2	221	221	0
6	225	226	+1	226	226	0
7	233	233	0	235	235	0
8	232	232	0	240	239	-1



**Table 6**  
**FCAT 2.0 Reading and Mathematics**  
**Percentages of Students Scoring in Achievement Levels 3 through 5**  
**Florida, Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach, 2013 and 2014**

	Florida				Miami-Dade				Broward				Palm Beach			
	Percent ALL Students		Difference 2013-2014		Percent ALL Students		Difference 2013-2014		Percent ALL Students		Difference 2013-2014		Percent ALL Students		Difference 2013-2014	
	2013	2014			2013	2014			2013	2014			2013	2014		
<b>READING</b>																
Grade 3	57	57	0	+3	53	56	+3	+3	54	57	+3	+3	54	55	+1	+1
Grade 4	60	61	+1	+4	59	63	+4	+2	59	61	+2	+2	61	61	0	0
Grade 5	60	61	+1	+2	59	61	+2	0	60	60	0	0	61	62	+1	+1
Grade 6	59	60	+1	+4	57	61	+4	+1	60	61	+1	+1	59	61	+2	+2
Grade 7	57	57	0	0	57	57	0	0	58	58	0	0	59	56	-3	-3
Grade 8	56	57	+1	+1	56	57	+1	+1	59	59	0	0	59	58	-1	-1
Grade 9	53	53	0	-2	52	50	-2	-1	53	52	-1	-1	55	55	0	0
Grade 10	54	55	+1	0	52	52	0	+1	52	53	+1	+1	58	56	-2	-2
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>																
Grade 3	58	58	0	0	62	62	0	-2	58	56	-2	-2	59	57	-2	-2
Grade 4	61	63	+2	+2	64	66	+2	+1	63	64	+1	+1	64	66	+2	+2
Grade 5	55	56	+1	+2	56	58	+2	-1	57	56	-1	-1	57	59	+2	+2
Grade 6	52	53	+1	+2	51	53	+2	+1	55	56	+1	+1	54	57	+3	+3
Grade 7	55	56	+1	+1	51	52	+1	+2	53	55	+2	+2	60	58	-2	-2
Grade 8	51	47	-4	-2	35	33	-2	-5	48	43	-5	-5	61	50	-11	-11

Note. Achievement Levels range from Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest).