


## MEMORANDUM

May 19, 2016

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

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

**SUBJECT: STATE RELEASE OF RESULTS FOR THE SPRING 2016 FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENTS (FSA) ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) - GRADE 3**

Today the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released results for Grade 3 students from the Spring 2016 administration of the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) in English Language Arts (ELA) only. The State has released these results in advance of the remaining statewide assessment results to facilitate promotion decisions of students in Grade 3.

Last year, the state of Florida transitioned from standards-based assessments which addressed the Next Generation Sunshine Standards (NGSSS) in Reading to the new FSA ELA assessment for alignment with new academic content standards. As such, this criterion-referenced test measures students' mastery of grade-level content, as specified by the Florida Standards. The ELA assessments include reading and language components in Grades 3 through 10, a writing component in Grades 4 through 10, and a listening component in Grades 4 through 10.

The reported scores include scale scores which can range from 240 to 360, and achievement levels which can range from 1 to 5. Current Grade 3 students who score in Level 1 on the FSA ELA will have additional opportunities to demonstrate reading mastery, as required by the State for promotion to Grade 4, including the Grade 3 Reading Student Portfolio, and alternative standardized reading assessments administered in the last two weeks of the school year and at the end of the summer reading camp.

In Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), 27,786 Grade 3 students participated in the Spring 2016 FSA administration. Following is a table summarizing District and State results for Grade 3 ELA.

- The percentage of M-DCPS Grade 3 students scoring in Levels 3 or above on the FSA ELA increased from 53 percent in 2015 to 54 percent in 2016.
- Overall, 54 percent of the students in the District and the State, scored in Level 3 or above on the FSA ELA, which measures students' achievement of the new Florida Standards in English Language Arts.
- In M-DCPS, higher percentages of the Grade 3 students scored at or above Level 3 on the FSA ELA than in other large districts, including Duval, Hillsborough, and Palm Beach.

Results for statewide standardized assessments in the remaining grade levels and content areas are scheduled to be released in early June. Complete District, State, and school summary reports will be provided as they become available and will also be posted on the FLDOE website. School shipments of individual student reports will be forwarded to schools as they are received.

If you have any questions about the 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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cc: School Board Attorney  
Superintendent's Cabinet  
Superintendent's Senior Staff  
Ms. Gisela Feild

**Table 1**

**Grade 3 FSA English Language Arts (ELA)  
Percent of Students Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5  
District and State, 2015 and 2016**

	DISTRICT			STATE		
	Percent ALL Students		Difference 2015-2016	Percent ALL Students		Difference 2015-2016
	2015 FSA*	2016 FSA		2015 FSA*	2016 FSA	
<b>READING</b>						
<i>Number tested:</i>	27,962	27,786	-176	215,264	220,663	5,399
Level 1	24	24	0	22	22	0
Level 2	23	22	-1	25	24	-1
Levels 3-5	53	54	1	53	54	1

\* Summaries of M-DCPS 2015 FSA Achievement Levels were calculated by Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis (ARDA) from baseline theta scores and conversion algorithms provided by the Florida Department of Education. State results for 2015 are taken from *The New Florida Standards Assessments (FSA): Continuously Raising the Bar* (2016).

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