


## MEMORANDUM

June 11, 2019

**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 2019 FLORIDA STANDARDS ALTERNATE ASSESSMENTS (FSAA) PERFORMANCE TASK

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) has released results from the Spring 2019 administration of the Florida Standards Alternate Assessments (FSAA) Performance Task (PT) in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, and the Access End-of-Course (EOC) assessments in Algebra I, Civics, Biology, Geometry, and United States (U.S.) History. All Florida students are required to participate in the state's assessment and accountability system, and the FSAA-PT is designed for students whose participation in the standard statewide assessment program is not appropriate, even with accommodations. The FSAA-PT measures student academic performance on the Florida Standards-Access Points (FS-AP), which are academic expectations written specifically for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The FS-AP reflect the essence or core intent of Florida's standards that apply to all students in the same grade, but at reduced levels of complexity. It may be noted that the FSAA-Datafolio is an additional assessment component designed to address the needs of a very small population of disabled students who typically do not have a formal mode of communication and may be working at pre-academic levels; results for the 82 M-DCPS students who were eligible for the FSAA-Datafolio are not included here. The Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA) places a 1% cap on the percentage of students that may participate in an alternative assessment.

Like the standard Florida Standards Assessment (FSA), results on the FSAA-PT are reported in terms of Scale Scores and Achievement Levels. However, only four FSAA-PT Achievement Levels (Levels 1 – 4) are reported, rather than five as it is the case on the FSA. FSAA-PT Achievement Levels 3 and 4 represent satisfactory and above satisfactory understanding of the Access Points, respectively, and contribute to proficiency calculations for Florida School Grades.

In Spring 2019, 3,771 M-DCPS students who were instructed on the Florida Standards-Access Points took the FSAA-PT assessments. Attached are tables delineating the students' performance, and following are highlights of the results:

- On the FSAA-PT ELA assessment, higher percentages of M-DCPS students in grades 3-8 demonstrated satisfactory performance in 2019 than in 2018, ranging from a 2 percentage point gain in grade 3 to 7 points in grade 8.

- The percentage of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students demonstrating satisfactory understanding of the Access Points increased by 3 points on the FSAA-PT ELA assessment.
  - As such, 58 percent of the FSAA-PT-eligible 10<sup>th</sup> grade students met the ELA high school graduation test requirement in 2019.
- On the FSAA-PT Mathematics assessment, higher percentages of M-DCPS students in grades 4-8 demonstrated satisfactory performance in 2019 than 2018, with gains as high as 10 percentage points in grade 8.
  - On the FSAA-PT Science assessments, the percentage of students demonstrating satisfactory performance on the Access Points in 2019 increased in grades 5 and 8, by 5 and 8 percentage points, respectively.
  - On the FSAA-PT Algebra 1 EOC, 60% of students demonstrated satisfactory understanding of the Access Points and met the Algebra 1 high school graduation test requirement.

Additional information about the FSAA-PT program may be found at <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/fl-alternate-assessment.shtml>. Individual Student Reports will be provided to schools for distribution in Fall 2019.

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.

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#### Attachments

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

**FSAA-PT English Language Arts**  
**Percent Scoring in Levels 3 and 4, 2018 and 2019**  
**Grades 3-10**

<b>FSAA-PT ELA</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>		<b>% Levels 3 and 4</b>		
<b>Grade</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Difference</b>
3	403	475	69	71	+2
4	415	421	69	73	+4
5	385	433	65	70	+5
6	356	396	64	70	+6
7	333	371	65	68	+3
8	315	369	63	70	+7
9	348	358	59	53	-6
10	431	416	55	58	+3

**FSAA-PT Mathematics**  
**Percent Scoring in Levels 3 and 4, 2018 and 2019**  
**Grades 3-8**

<b>FSAA-PT Mathematics</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>		<b>% Levels 3 and 4</b>		
<b>Grade</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Difference</b>
3	398	477	71	70	-1
4	428	420	73	76	+3
5	385	434	65	71	+6
6	361	394	65	72	+7
7	338	369	65	71	+6
8	329	368	62	72	+10

**FSAA-PT Science**  
**Percent Scoring in Levels 3 and 4, 2018 and 2019**  
**Grades 5 and 8**

<b>FSAA-PT Science</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>		<b>% Levels 3 and 4</b>		
<b>Grade</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Difference</b>
5	385	432	64	69	+5
8	330	365	61	69	+8

**FSAA-PT End of Course Assessments**  
**Percent Scoring in Levels 3 and 4, 2018 and 2019**

<b>FSAA-PT EOC</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>		<b>% Levels 3 and 4</b>		
	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Algebra 1	499	684	63	60	-3
Biology	333	375	60	66	+6
Civics	329	364	71	73	+2
Geometry	397	179	51	56	+5
US History	343	349	62	64	+2