


## MEMORANDUM

December 21, 2012

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

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

**SUBJECT:** 2011-2012 FINAL HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE GRADES

During the 2008 legislative session, Senate Bill 1908 was passed significantly changing the way senior high schools were to be graded beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. The bill required high school grades to include alternate measures of student achievement in addition to the vital foundation of Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) results in Grades 9, 10, and 11. The additional measures provide an equal focus on college readiness, access to and performance on accelerated coursework, and graduation rates for all students and for those who are academically at-risk.

Additionally this year, in order for the FLDOE to comply with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act waiver, Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Centers were required to be included in school grading. M-DCPS has opposed the grading of these centers who in all instances serve students with significant disabilities in grades K – 12, whose needs can only be met in a separate school setting. ESE Centers are not traditional schools, but are specifically designed, staffed, and resourced to provide the appropriate education for students who require intensive educational services including nursing services, psychiatric support, assistive technology and other intensive therapeutic services.

On July 23, 2012, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released the total number of points earned by each school on the FCAT components. Although these points only represented 50 percent of the final School Performance Grades for senior high schools, they were used to determine the FLDOE's Differentiated Accountability School Status in the interim.

Today, the FLDOE has released the final High School Performance Grades which include both the FCAT and the non-FCAT components. The results for Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) are unprecedented and historic.

- For the first time, 100 percent of our high schools received a school performance grade of "C" or better.
  - 88 percent of M-DCPS' senior high schools (49 schools) received either an "A" or "B"; and
  - M-DCPS outperformed the state and neighboring districts in the percent of "A" and "B" schools.

- Of the 9 Education Transformation Office (ETO) senior high schools, all improved or maintained the improvement achieved in the previous year, including:
  - Miami Norland Senior High School improved from a “C” to an “A”;
  - Miami Southridge and Miami Jackson Senior High Schools maintained their “A”;
  - Miami Edison Senior High School improved from grade of “C” to “B”;
  - Booker T. Washington Senior High School and Miami Central Senior High School improved from “D” to “C”; and
  - FLDOE has not released the school performance grade for North Miami Senior High School.
  
- In addition to the 35 senior high schools that received a school performance grade of “A”, six senior high schools in the District earned enough points to receive an “A”, but due to provisions in the law that penalize schools that do not meet the at-risk graduation rate, these schools dropped to a “B”. These schools include: Miami Edison Senior; Westland Hialeah Senior; G. Holmes Braddock Senior; Mater Academy Lakes Senior; Hialeah Gardens Senior; and Miami Coral Park Senior High Schools.
  
- Four ESE centers received high school performance grades in 2011-2012. Three ESE centers received an “F”: Neva King Cooper Education Center, Robert Renick Educational Center and Merrick Educational Center. One ESE center received a “D”: Ruth Owens Kruse Educational Center.

The attachments provide a summary of the High School Performance Grades. Individual school performance grade results are available on the FLDOE website at: <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/default.asp>. Should you have any questions regarding the results, please contact 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

**Table 1\***  
**2009-2010 through 2011-2012**  
**School Performance Grade Distributions for Traditional Senior High Schools**  
**Receiving a High School Performance Grade (1600 points)**

	A		B		C		D		F		Total Schools
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
2011-2012	35	63	14	25	7	13	0	0	0	0	56**
2010-2011	25	49	11	22	12	24	3	6	0	0	51
2009-2010	17	35	11	23	10	21	9	19	1	2	48

\* This table does not include any senior high school that received a school grade based only on the FCAT components.

\*\* There were 4 ESE centers who received a high school performance grade in 2011-2012. Three ESE schools received an "F": Neva King Cooper Education Center, Robert Renick Educational Center and Merrick Educational Center. One ESE school received a "D": Ruth Owens Kruse Educational Center.



**Table 2**  
**2011-2012 School Performance Grades**  
**Miami-Dade, Florida, and Selected Districts**

DISTRICT	A		B		C		D		F		Percent A and B Schools
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
<b>Miami-Dade</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>88</b>
Broward	27	69	5	13	7	18	0	0	0	0	82
Hillsborough	14	48	10	34	5	17	0	0	0	0	82
Palm Beach	15	50	7	23	7	23	0	0	1	3	73
<b>Florida</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>78</b>

Note: Includes ONLY senior high schools with grades reported in December 2012 using the full 1600 point model which includes both FCAT and alternate measures of high school achievement. Excludes the senior high schools that received School Performance Grades in July 2012 based on only the FCAT components.