


MEMORANDUM

December 18, 2013

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

FROM: Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools 

SUBJECT: 2012-2013 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.

On July 26, 2013, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released the total number of points earned by each school on the FCAT 2.0 components. These points only represented 50 percent of the final School Performance Grades for senior high schools. Today, the FLDOE has released the final High School Performance Grades which include both the FCAT 2.0 and the non-FCAT 2.0 components. Highlights for Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) include:

- M-DCPS surpassed the state in the percentage of senior high schools earning a school performance grade of "A."
 - M-DCPS outperformed the state in the percentage of "A" and "B" senior high schools.
 - 60 percent of M-DCPS' senior high schools (34 schools) received an "A."
 - 86 percent of M-DCPS' senior high schools (49 schools) received either an "A" or a "B."
 - 95 percent of M-DCPS' high schools received a school performance grade of "C" or better.
- For the third consecutive school year, M-DCPS has no "F" senior high schools.
- Highlights of the 10 Education Transformation Office senior high schools that received school performance grades include:
 - Miami Northwestern Senior High School improved from a "B" to an "A";
 - Miami Norland Senior High School maintained its "A"; and
 - Miami Carol City Senior High improved from a "C" to a "B".

- In addition to the 34 senior high schools that received a school performance grade of “A”, five senior high schools in the District earned enough points to have had received an “A”, but due to a technical penalty applied to at-risk students’ graduation rates, their letter grades were adjusted to a “B”. These schools were Westland Hialeah, John A. Ferguson, Miami Palmetto, Miami Springs, and Barbara Goleman Senior High Schools.
- Additionally, five schools earned sufficient points to qualify for a higher grade had they not been penalized in accordance with the newly enacted 25% reading proficiency trigger. These schools include Lawrence Academy Charter, Miami Central, Miami Edison, Miami Jackson, and Booker T. Washington Senior High Schools.
- Notwithstanding the adjustments, most of these schools with imposed penalties saw an overall increase in the number of points on which School Performance Grades are assigned.

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>. If 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 2012-2013
School Performance Grade Distributions for Senior High Schools
Receiving a High School Performance Grade (1600 points)

	A		B		C		D		F		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
2012-2013	34	60	15	26	5	9	3*	5	0	0	
2011-2012	35	63	14	25	7	13	0	0	0	0	
2010-2011	25	49	11	22	12	24	3	6	0	0	
2009-2010	17	35	11	23	10	21	9	19	1	2	
											Total Schools
											57
											56
											51
											48

* Two charter schools and one traditional school.

Note: Summary includes ONLY senior high schools with grades reported in December 2013 using the full 1600 point model which includes both FCAT 2.0 and alternate measures of high school achievement. Excludes the senior high schools that received School Performance Grades in July 2013 based on only the FCAT 2.0 components. The table excludes three schools which are incomplete, pending review.

Table 2
2012-2013 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	%	
Miami-Dade	34	60	15	26	5	9	3	5	0	0	86
Other Large Florida Districts*	82	50	47	29	26	16	5	3	4	2	79
Florida	240	48	152	30	87	17	16	3	10	2	78

* Aggregated results from "Other Large Florida Districts" include: Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Orange, Palm Beach, and Pinellas.
 Note: Summary includes ONLY senior high schools with grades reported in December 2013 using the full 1600 point model which includes both FCAT 2.0 and alternate measures of high school achievement. Excludes the senior high schools that received School Performance Grades in July 2013 based on only the FCAT 2.0 components.