


MEMORANDUM

June 10, 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)

Today the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released results from the Spring 2016 administration of the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Specifically, District and School summary reports were provided for ELA, Mathematics, and Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry End-of-Course (EOC) assessments. Student-level ELA scores for Grade 3 students 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 include all students tested and do not represent the groupings that will be used by the State for accountability purposes.

The ELA assessments include reading and language components in Grades 3 through 10, and listening and writing components in Grades 4 through 10. The Mathematics assessments are comprehensive in Grades 3 through 8; and provided as End-of-Course (EOC) assessments for the following secondary courses: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry.

Last year, the state of Florida transitioned from standards-based assessments which addressed the Next Generation Sunshine Standards (NGSSS) in Reading and Mathematics to the new FSA assessments which target the Florida Standards in ELA and Mathematics.

The scores released during the baseline administration of the FSA in 2015 were reported using percentile ranks and T-Scores (which can range from 20 – 80). FSA Scale Scores and Achievement Levels were set in January 2016. The Scale Scores range from 240 to 412 on the ELA assessment across Grades 3 through 10, from 240 to 393 on the Mathematics assessment across Grades 3 through 8, and from 425 to 575 on the FSA EOC assessments. 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. The Achievement Levels are used to inform student progression decisions, meet graduation requirements, and contribute toward school accountability measures.

In Spring 2016, 209,265 Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) students in Grades 3 through 10 took FSA ELA; 144,620 students in Grades 3 through 8 took FSA Mathematics; while 25,390 students took the Algebra 1 EOC, 25,788 students took the Geometry EOC, and 21,256 took the Algebra 2 EOC assessments.

Highlights of the M-DCPS students' results follow, and summary tables providing comparisons of District and State results by grade level are provided as attachments to this memorandum.

English Language Arts

- The performance of all students in grades 3-10 in M-DCPS matched the State.
- M-DCPS aggregated results for elementary students in grades 3-5 outperformed the State and Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Orange and Palm Beach.
- The most improvement in ELA for M-DCPS students was seen in Grade 6, with a two percentage point increase, with increases shown in Grades 3 and 8 as well.

Mathematics

- Higher percentages of M-DCPS students scored in Levels 3 or above on FSA Mathematics than did their counterparts in the state, at grades 3, 4, and 5.
- In Grade 3, the percentage of M-DCPS students scoring in Levels 3 or above in mathematics increased significantly by five percentage points, outpacing the state, which exhibited a three point increase.
- A significant increase was also seen for Grade 5 in mathematics, with a four point increase in the percentage scoring in Levels 3 or above, while the state remained stable.
- M-DCPS aggregated results for elementary students in grades 3-5 outperformed the State by 4 percentage points and scored higher than Broward, Hillsborough, Orange and Palm Beach.
- Improvement in Grade 8 in M-DCPS paralleled that of the state, with 3 point increases in the percentage scoring in Levels 3 or above.

EOC

- On the FSA Algebra 1 assessment, M-DCPS students' overall performance remained stable, while the percent passing dropped statewide by one percentage point.
- Middle school students enrolled in Algebra increased by six percentage points, with 86 percent scoring Level 3 or higher.
- Following the introduction of the Algebra 2 test in 2015, M-DCPS students' performance in 2016 increased significantly by eight percentage points in 2016, compared to an increase of four points statewide.
- In Geometry, M-DCPS students' results paralleled those statewide, with a slight decline in the percentage of students scoring in Levels 3 or above.

Complete District, State, and school summary reports will be made available on the FLDOE website. School shipments of Individual Student Reports will be forwarded to schools in early August.

It should be noted that FCAT 2.0/NGSSS assessments will continue to be administered in Grade 5 and 8 Science, Biology, Civics, US History and as retake opportunities for eligible students who have not passed the NGSSS Algebra 1 and FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake graduation tests.

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 2016 Florida Standards Assessments Test (FSA)
English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and End-of-Course (EOC)

On June 10, 2016 the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released data from the Spring 2016 administration of the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). The FSA English Language Arts (ELA) assessments include reading and language components in Grades 3 through 10, and writing and listening components in Grades 4 through 10. The FSA Mathematics assessments are comprehensive in Grades 3 through 8; and provided as End-of-Course (EOC) assessments for secondary students enrolled in Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry courses. The tables that follow provide summaries of the data for all participating students.

Historical

The FSA in ELA and Mathematics is a criterion-referenced test that measures students' mastery of grade-level content. The statewide assessment program began in 1998 with administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT) in only selected grade levels, building to include all students in Grades 3 through 11 in reading, writing, mathematics and/or science. The FLDOE moved from FCAT to FCAT 2.0 beginning in the 2010-2011 school year in reading and mathematics to align with the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS), transitioning to EOC assessments in mathematics and science for secondary students. In the 2014-2015 school year, the FLDOE began transitioning again from the NGSSS to the Florida Standards in reading and mathematics. Florida's End-of-Course (EOC) assessments target specific course content and are administered to all students taking the applicable course, without regard to grade level. Thus, the number of students tested on EOCs can vary from grade to grade, year to year, and school to school.

Administration

Most FSA assessments are delivered via a computer-based testing (CBT) platform to students. In Spring 2016, the only assessments administered as paper-based assessments were Grade 3 ELA, Grades 3 and 4 Mathematics, and the ELA writing component in Grades 4 through 7. Paper-based accommodations were provided to eligible students for CBT administered components. The state's transitional plan calls for all FSA assessments (except accommodated forms) to be computer-based by 2017-18.

Results

FSA Scale Scores and Achievement Levels were approved by the State Department of Education in January 2016. The new FSA Scale Scores can range from 240 to 412 on the ELA assessment across Grades 3 through 10; from 240 to 393 on the Mathematics assessment across Grades 3 through 8; and from 425 to 575 on the FSA EOCs. 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.

In Spring 2016, 209,265 M-DCPS students in Grades 3 through 10 took the FSA ELA; 144,620 students in Grades 3 through 8 took FSA Mathematics, while 25,390 students took

Algebra 1, 25,788 students took the Geometry EOC, and 21,256 took the Algebra 2 EOC assessments.

The following tables provide a view of student performance across two years: 2015 and 2016. 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 the ELA, Mathematics, and the EOCs in Tables 1 through 5, respectively.

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 ELA and Mathematics presented in Tables 6 and 7, respectively.

Application of Scores

Section 1008.25 FS stipulates that students in Grade 3 must demonstrate reading mastery to be promoted to Grade 4. Scoring above Level 1 on the Grade 3 FSA ELA is the primary means of demonstrating mastery. However, students may also meet one of the other good cause criteria established in statute to be promoted to Grade 4.

Students who entered Grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year and beyond must score in Achievement Level 3 or above on the Grade 10 FSA ELA to meet graduation test requirements. Students have multiple opportunities to pass this assessment prior to graduation, with the first opportunity taking place in the spring of 10th Grade. Additionally, students may apply concordant scores earned on the College Board SAT or ACT exams to meet the high school graduation test requirement.

By Florida Statute (s. 1003.428, FS), students entering Grade 9 in the 2011-12 school year and moving forward, must achieve a passing score on the Algebra 1 EOC assessment to meet graduation requirements. Students have multiple opportunities to retake the Algebra 1 EOC in subsequent years to achieve a passing score, or may apply a comparative score on the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test to meet the graduation test requirement.

Beginning in the 2013-14 school year, EOC results for all EOC-eligible courses must be included as 30 percent of a student's final course grade. Summaries of the results of the FSA EOC assessments for first-time test takers in the District and State are found on Table 8.

Table 9 presents a summary of the Grade 10 FSA ELA Retake and Algebra 1 EOC Retake results for students participating in retake administrations in 2016. Caution must be taken in interpreting the results of retake administrations as the reasons for participation vary widely among schools and districts. Factors impacting participation rates include passing rates in previous administrations, credit accrual requirements for various cohorts, and trends/policies regarding enrollment into courses by grade level.

Table 1
FSA English Language Arts (ELA)
District and State: 2015 and 2016
Number Tested, Percentages of Students Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade

ELA	Number Tested		Level 1			Level 2			Levels 3-5		
	2015	2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016
GRADE 3											
District	27,962	27,786	24	24	0	23	22	-1	53	54	+1
State	215,264	220,663	22	22	0	25	24	-1	53	54	+1
GRADE 4											
District	24,966	26,781	22	25	+3	24	21	-3	54	53	-1
State	197,630	209,261	21	25	+4	25	23	-2	54	52	-2
GRADE 5											
District	25,292	25,276	20	21	+1	26	25	-1	54	54	0
State	196,752	200,629	20	22	+2	28	26	-2	52	52	0
GRADE 6											
District	25,564	25,111	26	23	+3	26	26	0	49	51	+2
State	192,427	197,152	23	22	-1	26	26	0	51	52	+1
GRADE 7											
District	25,613	25,721	27	28	+1	23	24	+1	50	48	-2
State	191,686	194,080	24	27	-3	24	24	0	51	49	-2
GRADE 8											
District	26,371	25,898	24	23	-1	21	21	0	55	56	+1
State	197,801	196,023	22	22	0	22	21	-1	55	57	+2
GRADE 9											
District	26,729	26,462	25	26	+1	23	21	-2	52	52	0
State	200,527	201,027	23	26	+3	24	23	-1	53	51	-2
GRADE 10											
District	25,815	26,230	25	26	+1	26	26	0	49	48	-1
State	190,437	195,518	23	24	+1	26	26	0	51	50	-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 rounding, and include all students tested, including students with disabilities and English language learners. Only Grade 10 students participating in the standard FSA ELA administration are included in this summary, not those participating in the FSA ELA Retake.

Table 2
FSA Mathematics
District and State: 2015 and 2016
Number Tested, Percentages of Students Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade

MATHEMATICS	Number Tested		Level 1			Level 2			Levels 3-5		
	2015	2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016
GRADE 3											
District	27,914	27,775	21	18	-3	19	17	-2	60	65	+5
State	215,419	220,771	22	21	-1	20	18	-2	58	61	+3
GRADE 4											
District	25,052	27,028	21	22	+1	17	17	0	62	61	-1
State	199,291	212,169	23	24	+1	18	17	-1	59	59	0
GRADE 5											
District	25,424	25,406	22	21	-1	24	21	-3	54	58	+4
State	198,938	202,701	22	23	+1	23	22	-1	55	55	0
GRADE 6											
District	25,313	24,782	28	28	0	23	23	0	49	49	0
State	190,866	194,185	26	26	0	24	24	0	50	50	0
GRADE 7											
District	22,750	23,073	31	31	0	24	22	-2	46	47	+1
State	178,730	175,899	25	27	+2	23	21	-2	52	52	0
GRADE 8											
District	15,697	16,556	36	34	-2	27	25	-2	38	41	+3
State	123,252	134,672	29	28	-1	26	24	-2	45	48	+3

* 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 rounding, and include all students tested, including students with disabilities and English language learners.

Table 3
FSA Algebra 1 End-of-Course (EOC)
District and State: 2015 and 2016
Number Tested, Percentages of First-Time Test Takers
Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade

ALGEBRA 1	Number Tested		Level 1			Level 2			Levels 3-5		
	2015	2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016
DISTRICT											
Grade 7	3,285	2,919	7	3	-4	8	5	-3	85	92	+7
Grade 8	7,660	6,494	12	8	-4	11	9	-2	77	83	+6
Grade 9	15,288	15,453	50	53	+3	16	16	0	33	32	-1
Grade 10	187	379	70	55	-15	14	11	-3	17	35	+18
Grade 11	73	95	74	48	-26	5	11	+6	21	41	+20
Grade 12	33	19	79	47	-32	18	16	-2	3	37	+34
Total	26,552	25,390	34	36	+2	14	13	-1	52	52	0
STATE											
Grade 7	18,254	17,112	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	93	n/a
Grade 8	61,953	54,325	n/a	6	n/a	n/a	7	n/a	n/a	86	n/a
Grade 9	109,554	108,531	n/a	46	n/a	n/a	17	n/a	n/a	37	n/a
Grade 10	9,734	10,721	n/a	64	n/a	n/a	15	n/a	n/a	21	n/a
Grade 11	1,468	1,344	n/a	57	n/a	n/a	12	n/a	n/a	31	n/a
Grade 12	586	286	n/a	58	n/a	n/a	12	n/a	n/a	30	n/a
Total	201,745	192,510	31	32	+1	14	13	-1	56	55	-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 FSA EOC results for all grade levels in 2015 are taken from *The New Florida Standards Assessments (FSA): Continuously Raising the Bar (2016)*; results for EOCs by grade are not available.

Note: The totals include a small number of grade 6 and adult students. 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
FSA Algebra 2 End-of-Course (EOC)
District and State: 2015 and 2016
Number Tested, Percentages of Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade

ALGEBRA 2	Number Tested		Level 1			Level 2			Levels 3-5		
	2015	2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016
DISTRICT											
Grade 8	141	62	17	11	-6	19	15	-4	64	74	+10
Grade 9	2,526	2,957	18	16	-2	17	17	0	65	67	+2
Grade 10	7,215	7,848	36	33	-3	22	21	-1	42	46	+4
Grade 11	14,003	9,933	70	64	-6	16	19	+3	13	18	+5
Grade 12	585	449	81	77	-4	12	16	+4	8	8	0
Total	24,494	21,256	55	46	-9	18	19	+1	27	35	+8
STATE											
Grade 8	2,947	381	n/a	6	n/a	n/a	9	n/a	n/a	85	n/a
Grade 9	19,779	16,731	n/a	10	n/a	n/a	13	n/a	n/a	77	n/a
Grade 10	55,473	50,371	n/a	25	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	n/a	53	n/a
Grade 11	70,382	59,320	n/a	56	n/a	n/a	23	n/a	n/a	21	n/a
Grade 12	9,333	7,397	n/a	69	n/a	n/a	19	n/a	n/a	12	n/a
Total	158,015	134,256	44	39	-5	20	21	+1	36	40	+4

* 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 FSA EOC results for all grade levels in 2015 are taken from *The New Florida Standards Assessments (FSA): Continuously Raising the Bar (2016)*; results for EOCs by grade are not available.
Note: The totals include a small number of grade 7 and adult students. 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 5
FSA Geometry End-of-Course (EOC)
District and State: 2015 and 2016
Number Tested, Percentages of Scoring in Achievement Levels 1, 2, and 3-5, by Grade

GEOMETRY	Number Tested		Level 1			Level 2			Levels 3-5		
	2015	2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Diff. 2015-2016
DISTRICT											
Grade 8	3,134	3,057	3	3	0	7	6	-1	90	91	+1
Grade 9	8,612	7,301	13	13	0	18	16	-2	69	70	+1
Grade 10	16,129	14,965	50	56	+6	20	19	-1	30	25	-5
Grade 11	333	363	61	65	+4	20	17	-3	20	18	-2
Grade 12	134	73	70	77	+7	13	12	-1	17	11	-6
Total	28,387	25,788	33	38	+5	18	16	-2	48	46	-2
STATE											
Grade 8	15,165	17,315	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	5	n/a	n/a	94	n/a
Grade 9	55,787	58,604	n/a	10	n/a	n/a	15	n/a	n/a	75	n/a
Grade 10	96,577	95,216	n/a	43	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	n/a	36	n/a
Grade 11	21,926	21,339	n/a	60	n/a	n/a	20	n/a	n/a	20	n/a
Grade 12	4,849	4,022	n/a	67	n/a	n/a	16	n/a	n/a	17	n/a
Total	194,590	196,772	29	32	+3	19	18	-1	53	51	-2

* 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 FSA EOC results for all grade levels in 2015 are taken from *The New Florida Standards Assessments (FSA): Continuously Raising the Bar (2016)*; results for EOCs by grade are not available.

Note: The totals include a small number of grade 7 and adult students. 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 6
FSA English Language Arts (ELA)
District and State: 2015 and 2016
Mean Scale Scores, by Grade

Grade	DISTRICT			STATE		
	2015*	2016	Difference 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Difference 2015-2016
3	299	300	+1	n/a	301	n/a
4	312	310	-2	n/a	310	n/a
5	321	321	0	n/a	320	n/a
6	322	325	+3	n/a	326	n/a
7	331	330	-1	n/a	331	n/a
8	337	338	+1	n/a	339	n/a
9	341	341	0	n/a	341	n/a
10	347	347	0	n/a	348	n/a

* Summaries of M-DCPS 2015 FSA Mean Scale Scores were calculated by Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis (ARDA) from baseline theta scores and conversion algorithms provided by the Florida Department of Education. Statewide Mean Scale Scores for FSA ELA by grade are not available for 2015.

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 7
FSA Mathematics
District and State: 2015 and 2016
Mean Scale Scores, by Grade

Grade	DISTRICT			STATE		
	2015*	2016	Difference 2015-2016	2015*	2016	Difference 2015-2016
3	301	303	+2	n/a	301	n/a
4	315	315	0	n/a	314	n/a
5	322	324	+2	n/a	322	n/a
6	323	323	0	n/a	324	n/a
7	326	326	0	n/a	329	n/a
8	329	330	+1	n/a	334	n/a

* Summaries of M-DCPS 2015 FSA Mean Scale Scores were calculated by Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis (ARDA) from baseline theta scores and conversion algorithms provided by the Florida Department of Education. Statewide Mean Scale Scores for FSA Mathematics by grade are not available for 2015.

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 8
FSA Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) and Algebra 1 End-of-Course (EOC)
First-Time Test Takers
District and State: 2016
Number Tested and Percent Passing

	2016	
	Number Tested	Percent Passing
Grade 10 ELA		
District	26,230	48
State	195,518	50
Algebra 1 EOC		
District	25,390	52
State	192,510	55

Table 9
FSA Grade 10 English Language Arts (ELA) and Algebra 1 End-of-Course
Retake Administration
District and State: 2016
Number Tested and Percent Passing

	DISTRICT		STATE	
	Number Tested	Percent Passing	Number Tested	Percent Passing
Grade 10 ELA Retake				
Grade 10	166	12	2,359	11
Grade 11	8,747	14	56,295	15
Grade 12	41	12	1,639	9
Algebra 1 EOC				
District	3,717	18	25,423	25