

MEMO

To: High School Principals, APCs, and Guidance Directors
From: Kathleen R Bohlander, Director of Secondary Learning
Date: October 12, 2009
RE: **Changes to FCAT for High School Graduation Requirements**

Though somewhat confusing, this information must be shared with current freshman, their parents, and your teaching staff. I have included a chart to illustrate what is explained below.

The 2009-10 school year marks the beginning of the transition to the FCAT-2 statewide assessment program. **As we begin this transition, there are important pieces of information that must be communicated to your current 9th grade students. Students entering grade 9 in 2009-10 will have different state assessment requirements than those students starting high school in previous years.**

- Students entering 9th grade this year will **not** be taking the existing Spring Grade 10 Reading FCAT assessment, now referred to as Reading FCAT 1 as sophomores.
- Current 9th graders will be taking the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards Reading (FCAT 2) in the 10th grade to satisfy graduation requirements.
- Students taking the Grade 10 FCAT 2 Reading for the first time in the spring of 2011 will not be held to new passing standards. An initial passing score will be set on the Grade 10 FCAT 2 Reading to allow 10th grade students participating in the baseline administration in the 2010-11 school year to meet their assessment requirement with a score equivalent to the current Grade FCAT 1 Reading graduation standard (scale score of 300).
- Students will continue to have several options for meeting the high school graduation requirement, including regular FCAT 2 administration, retake opportunities and the use of concordant scores.
- The passing score for all of these options will be equivalent to the currently required scale scores (Grade 10 FCAT 1 reading Scale score:300)
- Grade 10 students in 2010-11 (current freshman) will take the retake version of **FCAT-1 Mathematics**. This version of the test does not include short-response or extended-response items, only multiple-choice and gridded-response items. Information on the test design is available at:
<http://fcats.fldoe.org/pdf/fc05designsummary.pdf>
- Students will continue to have several options for meeting the math high school graduation requirement, including, retake opportunities and the use of concordant scores.

Please call me with any questions you may have. ☺

*** For School Use

Revised FCAT Testing Requirements
CLASS of 2013

Subject Area		Test	Score Requirement	Availability
Reading		Grade 10 FCAT-2 Reading	FCAT-2 Linked Score: TBD (300)*	Spring 2011 and each spring thereafter
	or	Grade 10 FCAT-2 Reading Retake	FCAT-2 Linked Score: TBD (300)*	Fall 2011 and each fall thereafter
	or	Reading Concordant Score (eligible students)	SAT Reading: 420; ACT Reading: 18	Consult SAT and ACT testing centers
Mathematics		Grade 10 FCAT-1 Mathematics Retake	FCAT-1 Scale Score: 300	Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013
	or	Grade 10 FCAT-1 Mathematics Concordant Score (eligible students)	SAT Mathematics: 340; ACT Mathematics: 15	Consult SAT and ACT testing centers

*** **Chart that will be posted on district/school web site**

Current/Revised FCAT Testing Requirements
CLASS of 2013

Subject Area		Test 2009-10	Test 2010-11	Score Requirement
Reading		Grade 9 FCAT-1 Reading (same as previous years)	Grade 10 FCAT-2 Reading	FCAT-2 Score needed to pass: 300
	or		Grade 10 FCAT-2 Reading Retake	FCAT-2 Score needed to pass: 300
	or		Reading Concordant Score (eligible students)	SAT Reading: 420; ACT Reading: 18
Mathematics		Grade 9 FCAT-1 Math (same as previous years)	Grade 10 FCAT-1 Mathematics Retake	FCAT-1 Scale Score: 300
	or		Grade 10 FCAT-1 Mathematics Concordant Score (eligible students)	SAT Mathematics: 340; ACT Mathematics: 15

* No changes in passing score requirements

* Passing score on FCAT Reading & Math in a graduation requirement

