

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

**DANIEL GOHL
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**

DATE: April 24, 2020

TO: All Principals

FROM: Daniel Gohl
Chief Academic Officer

VIA: Valerie S. Wanza, Ph.D.
Chief School Performance and Accountability Officer

SUBJECT: **COGNITIVE ABILITIES TEST (CogAT®) 2018**

The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT®) has been used as a universal screener to identify gifted students from under-represented populations since 2011. In Broward County Public Schools, this is defined as having limited English Proficiency or qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch. The 2017-18 administration of the CogAT® identified 756 students who met criteria for further screening to determine gifted eligibility. Of those, 691 were not previously identified as gifted. Almost one-third (29%) of the students who met CogAT criteria for gifted screening are English Language Learners, and over two-thirds (74%) qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

Information was provided to schools to help them use CogAT® scores to customize instruction to meet the needs of all students based on their level of cognitive development. All principals from traditional elementary schools attended training on using CogAT® scores to differentiate instruction during the 2015-16 school year. One anticipated outcome of the training was increased participation of students completing all three batteries of the CogAT®. In school year 2017-18, 74% of all second-grade students completed all three batteries of the CogAT® increasing participation by 3 percent point from the 2015-16 school year, (71%).

This report examines the results of the 2017-18 administration of the CogAT® as a gifted screener. It also shows deviations in predicted 3rd grade FSA scores based on 2nd grade CogAT scores.

Please direct any questions or comments concerning this report to Richard Baum, Director, Student Assessment & Research, at 754-321-2500. This report can also be found on the Student Assessment and Research website at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sar/Releases.htm>.

VSW/DG/RB/JC:rs

CC: School Board Members
Senior Leadership Team
Directors, School Performance and Accountability