

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**ROBERT W. RUNCIE
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Signatures on File

May 24, 2019

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Daniel F. Gohl
Chief Academic Officer

VIA: Robert W. Runcie
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **2018-19 FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENT (FSA) ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)
THIRD GRADE RESULTS**

Today, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released the 2018-19 Florida Standards Assessment English Language Arts (FSA-ELA) results for third grade students. This memorandum summarizes third grade FSA-ELA District, state, and school level results. The results show that 60 percent of third grade students met or exceeded grade level satisfactory performance (Achievement Level 3 or Above) in ELA, up 1 point from 59 percent in 2017-18. This also represents an increase of 8 total points from 52 percent in 2014-15, which was the first year students participated in the FSA.

Table 1 provides 2014-15 through 2018-19 student performance (percent Achievement Level 3 or Above) results on the FSA-ELA for third grade students in Broward County Public Schools (BCPS). The table also shows student performance at the five largest school districts in the state (Broward, Hillsborough, Miami-Dade, Orange, and Palm Beach) and the corresponding statewide results. Among the five largest school districts in the state, Broward tied with Miami-Dade for the highest percent of third grade students scoring at an Achievement Level of 3 or higher (60 percent). Moreover, Broward continues to exceed the statewide performance by 2 percentage points.

Table 1.

Third Grade Student Performance (Percent Achievement Level 3 or Above) on FSA-ELA in Florida's Five Largest Districts and Statewide, 2014-15 through 2018-19.

	Percent Achievement Level 3 to 5					Difference 2018 to 2019	Difference 2015 to 2019
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19		
Broward	52	55	57	59	60	+1	+8
Hillsborough	50	52	56	53	52	-1	+2
Miami-Dade	53	54	58	61	60	-1	+7
Orange	55	54	57	55	55	0	0
Palm Beach	51	52	54	56	54	-2	+3
Florida	53	54	58	57	58	+1	+5

Beginning with the 2016-19 Strategic Plan, BCPS launched the early literacy initiative with the goal of reducing the percent of students who score at Achievement Level 1 on the grade 3 FSA-ELA. Table 2 shows 2014-15 through 2018-19 student performance (percent Achievement Level 1) results on the FSA-ELA for third grade students in BCPS. The table also shows student performance at the five largest school districts in the state (Broward, Hillsborough, Miami-Dade, Orange, and Palm Beach) and the corresponding statewide results. Among the five largest school districts in the state, Broward had the lowest percent of third grade students scoring at Achievement Level 1 (18 percent).

Table 2.

Third Grade Student Performance (Percent Achievement Level 1) on FSA-ELA in Florida's Five Largest Districts and Statewide, 2014-15 through 2018-19.

	Percent Achievement Level 1					Difference 2018 to 2019	Difference 2015 to 2019
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19		
Broward	24	23	20	19	18	-1	-6
Hillsborough	23	23	20	23	25	+2	+2
Miami-Dade	24	24	20	19	19	0	-5
Orange	20	23	21	24	23	-1	+3
Palm Beach	24	25	22	22	22	0	-2
Florida	22	22	19	20	20	0	-2

School Level Progress:

Fifty percent (70 out of 141) of Broward's traditional elementary schools showed increases in the percent of third grade students scoring at or above grade level satisfactory performance (Achievement Level 3 or Above) on the FSA-ELA. Twelve schools had an increase of 10 percentage points or greater. They are:

Pasadena Lakes (16 points), **Westwood Heights** (15 points), **Oakland Park** (14 points), **Croissant Park** (13 points), **North Andrews Gardens** (13 points), **Coral Park** (12 points), **Sawgrass** (12 points), **Griffin** (11 points), **Charles Drew** (10 points), **Atlantic West** (10 points), **Bennett** (10 points), and **Liberty** (10 points).

Three of these schools (underlined) were identified in 2017-18 as in the Lowest 300 group of elementary schools in the state, which is determined based on English Language Arts achievement and learning gains points in the school grade model. Oakland Park Elementary increased 10 or more percentage points for two consecutive years from 2017 to 2018 and from 2018 to 2019.

Promotion to Grade 4:

Student performance on the Grade 3 FSA-ELA test is used as a criterion for promotion to the fourth grade. According to Florida Statute 1008.25 (5) (b), third grade students are eligible for promotion by either scoring at Achievement Level 2 or above on the FSA-ELA subtest or by demonstrating an exemption from this criterion through Good Cause. Today's data indicate that 82 percent of Broward's students have met the ELA requirement on the FSA. Students who did not meet this criterion will have additional opportunities to demonstrate readiness for promotion via Good Cause Criteria. Alternate assessments used to demonstrate readiness for promotion include the Portfolio Reading Assessment conducted throughout the school year and performance on other state-approved alternate assessments. Typically, the percent of students retained in third grade is about 7 percent (6.7 percent in 2016-17 and 7.0 percent in 2017-18). Last year (2017-18), although 19 percent of students scored at Level 1 on the FSA-ELA, only 7 percent of students were retained after meeting Good Cause Criteria exemptions.

Parents will be able to access their child's scores on Broward Schools Virtual Counselor next week. This memorandum and a school-by-school report can be accessed on the Student Assessment and Research website at <http://www.browardschools.com/sar/>. **Questions regarding this release should be directed to Richard Baum, Director, Student Assessment and Research at (754) 321-2500.**

RWR/DG/RGB:rs

Attachment

cc: Senior Leadership Team
Veda Hudge, Director, Office of Service Quality
Directors, School Performance & Accountability
Elementary Principals and Charter School Principals