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TO: School Board Members

FROM: Dr. Nicole M. Mancini
Chief Academic Officer

VIA: Vickie L. Cartwright, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES, 2021-22

On January 13, 2023, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) released Federal graduation rates for Florida and the 67 Florida school districts. State and district data are located online at the FDOE Education Information & Accountability Services Website:

<https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/students.stml>

According to the 2021-22 High School Graduation Rate FDOE press release “Comparing 2018-19 to 2021-22 represents a true “apples to apples” comparison, as the 2018-19 school year was the last year prior to 2021-22 that Florida’s statewide, standardized assessment requirements for graduation were in place without exemption waivers.”

The 2021-22 graduating class was not exempt from statewide standardized assessment requirements for graduation. When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1 and Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-2, students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating class were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s.1003.4282, F.S.

Graduation rates in this memorandum will compare 2021-22 to 2018-19, highlights from this data include:

- Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) Federal Graduation Rate is 87.2%, which represents a one percentage point increase from the 2018-19 (86.2%).
- The 2021-22 graduation rate for Black students, Hispanic students, White students, Free and Reduced-Price Lunch (FRL) students and Students with Disabilities (SWD) in Broward exceeds the state’s rate.
- Students with Disabilities showed an increase in the graduation rate by 2.7 percentages points from 2018-19. Students who receive FRL showed a one percentage point increase in the graduation rate compared to 2018-19.
- 30 of 36 traditional District high schools achieved a graduation rate of 90% or higher and 17 of these schools reached a graduation rate at or above 95%.

- Six District high schools earned 100% graduation rates: Broward Virtual Franchise, College Academy at Broward College, Lauderhill 6-12, Millennium 6-12 Collegiate Academy, Sheridan Technical High School and William T. McFatter Technical High School. College Academy at Broward College achieved a graduation rate of 100% for the eleventh consecutive year.
- Three District high schools significantly increased graduation rates in 2021-22 compared to 2018-19: Northeast High School (6.3 percentage points), Stranahan High School (3 percentage points) and Lauderhill 6-12 (2 percentage points).
- Florida’s Federal graduation rate is 87.3% in 2021-22, which is an increase of 0.4 percentage points from 86.9% in 2018-19.

Subsequent pages provide further detail and analysis including comparison of graduation rates for Florida’s five largest districts and graduation rates by school.

Table 1 displays the historical graduation rates for Florida’s five largest districts and the State overall. In 2021-22, Broward had a graduation rate of 87.2.

Table 1. Comparison of BCPS Federal Graduation Rates with Other Large Florida School Districts and the State Overall, 2018-19 through 2021-22

	2018-19	2019-20*	2020-21*	2021-22	Change 2018-19 to 2021-22
Broward	86.2	89.4	89.1	87.2	1.0
Hillsborough	86.2	88.8	89.2	87.9	1.7
Miami-Dade	85.6	89.6	90.1	88.2	2.6
Orange	88.4	90.4	90.4	87.0	-1.4
Palm Beach	87.1	90.2	91.0	89.0	1.9
Florida	86.9	90.0	90.1	87.3	0.4

* When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1 and Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-2, students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating class were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S.

Table 1A shows the 2021-22 graduation rates for Florida’s five largest districts and the State by subgroup. The 2021-22 graduation rate for Black students, Hispanic students, White students, Free and Reduced-Price Lunch (FRL) students and Students with Disabilities (SWD) in Broward exceeds the state. The graduation rate of English Language Learners (ELL) in Broward is slightly lower than the state.

Table 1A. Comparison of BCPS Federal Graduation Rates with Other Large Florida School Districts and the State by Subgroup, 2021-22

	Overall	Black	Hispanic	White	FRL	ELL	SWD
Broward	87.2	83.2	86.7	93.5	83.4	72.3	85.1
Hillsborough	87.9	81.0	85.8	93.0	82.3	77.7	81.1
Miami-Dade	88.2	82.4	88.9	94.5	86.6	75.1	86.0
Orange	87.0	80.4	85.3	93.7	84.1	77.0	80.8
Palm Beach	89.0	83.8	86.5	95.1	84.9	69.3	86.3
Florida	87.3	82.0	85.9	90.6	83.1	73.0	83.5

Figure 1 illustrates the ten-year historical graduation rates for BCPS traditional District high schools, BCPS overall (including high schools, centers and charter schools) and Florida. BCPS traditional District high schools achieved graduation rates that were consistently higher than the state, reaching 93.9% in 2021-22.

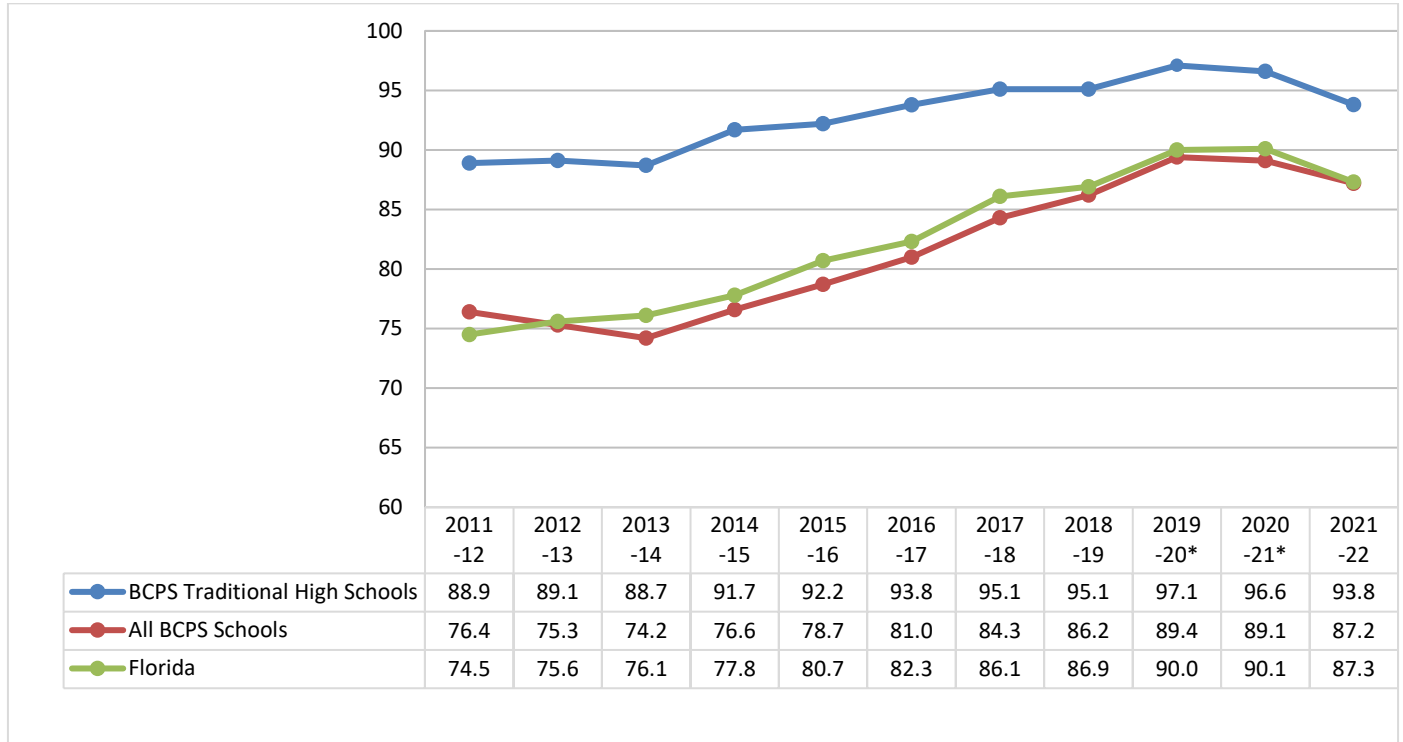


Figure 1. Historical Graduation Rates

* When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1 and Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-2, students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating class were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S.

Table 2 shows the graduation rates for the major race/ethnicity groups served in BCPS. The graduation rate increased for White students. In 2021-22, the gap between Black and White students remained stable and the gap between Hispanic and White students increased by 2.1 percentage points compared to 2018-19.

Table 2. Graduation Rates and Gaps by Major Race/Ethnicity Groups, 2018-19 and 2021-22

	2018-19		2019-20*		2020-21*		2021-22	
	Rate	Gap	Rate	Gap	Rate	Gap	Rate	Gap
White	91.6	--	92.4	--	92.7	--	93.5	--
Black	81.6	10.0	86.5	5.9	86.6	6.1	83.2	10.3
Hispanic	86.9	4.7	90.0	2.4	89.1	3.6	86.7	6.8

* When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1 and Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-2, students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating class were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S.

Table 3 shows the graduation rates by subgroups served in BCPS. Students with Disabilities showed the largest increase in graduation rate with an increase by 2.7 percentage points from 2018-19. FRL students showed a one percentage point increase in graduation rate compared to 2018-19. The graduation rate gap between FRL and Non-FRL students remained stable at 9.0 percentage points from 2018-19. The gap for SWD and Non-SWD students decreased to 1.8 percentage points. The graduation rate gap between ELL and Non-ELL students increased by 3.1 percentage points to 16.7.

Table 3. Graduation Rates and Gaps by Subgroups, 2018-19 and 2021-22

	2018-19		2019-20*		2020-21*		2021-22	
	Rate	Gap	Rate	Gap	Rate	Gap	Rate	Gap
Non-FRL	91.2	--	93.1	--	94.1	--	92.4	
FRL	82.5	8.7	86.8	6.3	86.5	7.6	83.4	9.0
Non-SWD	86.6	--	90.0	--	90.1	--	87.5	
SWD	82.4	4.2	83.8	6.2	81.6	8.5	85.1	2.4
Non-ELL	87.6	--	89.7	--	88.0	--	89.0	
ELL	74.0	13.6	86.9	2.8	85.5	2.5	72.3	16.7

* When comparing to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduation rates, it is important to note that pursuant to Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2020-EO-1 and Florida Department of Education Emergency Order No. 2021-EO-2, students in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 graduating class were exempt from statewide, standardized assessment requirements stipulated in s. 1003.4282, F.S.

Appendixes are attached to the email. Appendix A illustrates the graduation rates for BCPS schools from 2017-18 through 2021-22. Review of the appendix shows that **30 of 36 traditional District high schools achieved a graduation rate of 90% or higher**. Three District high schools increased graduation rates in 2021-22 compared to 2018-19: Northeast High School (6.3 percentage points), Stranahan High School (3 percentage points) and Lauderhill 6-12 (2 percentage points).

Appendix B illustrates the cohort size and graduation rates for the major race/ethnicity groups served in BCPS by school for the 2021-22 graduation cohort.

Appendix C illustrates the historical graduation rates for 2012-13 through 2021-22 for BCPS by schools.

The Florida Department of Education issued data for each district and school through the PK-12 Education Information Portal at <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/interactive-reporting/>.

BCPS District staff can view and interact with graduation data for the past six years through the Student Assessment and Research department’s graduation dashboard available on the SharePoint link below. <https://browardcountyschools.sharepoint.com/sites/Intranet/Academics/TSD/SAR/Pages/dash-gradrate.aspx>

If you have any questions regarding this release, please contact Director Richard Baum, Student Assessment & Research at (754) 321-2500. This memorandum and a school-by-school report can be accessed on the Student Assessment & Research Website at <https://www.browardschools.com/sar>.

VLC/MD/NMM/RGB:rs

cc: Senior Leadership Team
Regional Superintendents
High School Principals

References

Florida Department of Education. (2023). *Florida’s High School Cohort 2021-22 Graduation Rate*. Retrieved January 13, 2023, from <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/students.stml>