

MEMORANDUM

December 21, 2012

TO: Dr. Kamela Patton, Superintendent
Collier County Public Schools

FROM: Beth Thompson, Chief Instructional Officer
Collier County Public Schools

SUBJECT: FY12 HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

The Florida Department of Education released the 2012 high school grades today. This was the third year high school grades were assigned based on 50% FCAT (student achievement and learning gains) and 50% non-FCAT components. The non-FCAT components include graduation rate of all students and those identified as academically at risk, participation and performance of students in accelerated coursework, and postsecondary readiness of students.

The table below shows the FCAT total points (800 maximum), non-FCAT total points (800 maximum), the overall total points, and the school grades from FY11 to FY12.

School Name	FCAT		NON-FCAT		Overall Total		Grade	
	FY11	FY12	FY11	FY12	FY11	FY12	FY11	FY12
Barron Collier High	593	565	727	659	1320	1224	A	A
**Everglades City	373	436	--	--	373	436	F	C
Golden Gate High	466	505	494	456	960	961	C	C
Gulf Coast High	554	588	711	664	1265	1252	B	A
Immokalee High	421	448	477	464	898	912	C	C
Lely High	460	511	633	569	1093	1080	B	A
Lorenzo Walker High	453	535	576	607	1029	1142	C	A
Naples High	517	553	716	646	1233	1199	B	B
Palmetto Ridge High	504	522	598	568	1102	1090	B	B

There were 4 schools that improved their school grades, 5 schools maintained their grades, and none of our schools declined. Lely High School, Gulf Coast High School and Lorenzo Walker Technical High School improved their school grades to A. Everglades City School improved to a C. This is the first time that Lely and Lorenzo Walker Technical High schools received an A grade.

Caution should be used when reviewing the data above. The criteria and formula used for the calculation of FY12 school grades have changed from FY11 and are more stringent; therefore, the two years are not comparable. Some of the major changes in the Non-FCAT components included the weight for acceleration performance (1.25 to 1.50), the readiness denominator (included students in Levels 1 and 2 who

graduated), and the graduation and at risk graduation rates (excluded GED and included 5th year graduates among others).

There were changes in the FCAT components, as well. The higher achievement levels were applied to students' scores in FY12. There were new assessments, including the end-of-course exams and FCAT 2.0 Reading. The FCAT Science was eliminated last year at the high school level and was replaced with the Biology end-of-course exam. Since that was the first year for this exam, the FCAT components reported for school grades did not include science scores. The FCAT Writing proficiency score was adjusted to a 3.0 level. These significant changes make it difficult to draw conclusions when comparing the school grade results from FY11 to FY12.

** Note that the grade for Everglades City School only included FCAT components as there were too few students to calculate non-FCAT components. Non-FCAT components required at least ten students to be included in the calculation.

cc: Superintendent's Cabinet