

### STUDENT ASSESSMENT

The Board shall assess student achievement and needs in all program areas in compliance with the law and rules of the State Board of Education. The purpose will be to determine the progress of students and to assist them in attaining student performance objectives and the educational achievement goals of this District.

Student performance data shall be used in developing objectives for the school improvement plan, evaluating instructional personnel and administrative personnel, assigning staff, allocating resources, acquiring instructional materials and technology, implementing performance-based budgeting, and promoting and assigning students to educational programs. The analysis of student performance data will identify strengths and needs in the educational program and trends over time, and be used in conjunction with budgetary planning and development of remediation programs.

The Board shall administer the State-mandated tests (e.g., diagnostic assessments and achievement tests) to students at the times designated by the Florida Board of Education. The Board will establish and approve schedules for the administration of any District-mandated assessment and approve the schedules as an agenda item at a Board meeting. Testing schedules will be published on the Board's website and reported to the Florida department of Education by no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The Board shall take appropriate and necessary actions against any employee who knowingly and willfully violates test security rules adopted by the Department of Education for any State-mandated assessment.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures for test security that will maintain and ensure the integrity of District and State assessments.

No school in this District may suspend the regular program of curricula to administer practice tests or engage in other assessment-preparation activities for a Statewide standardized assessment. However, the Board may authorize a school to:

- A. distribute to students sample test books and answer keys that are published by the Florida Department of Education;
- B. provide individual instruction in test taking strategies without suspending the school's regular program of curriculum for a student who scores at Level 1 or Level 2 on a prior administration of the Statewide assessment;

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- C. provide individualized instruction in the content knowledge and skills assessed, without suspending the school's regular program of curriculum for a student who scores Level 1 or Level 2 on a prior administration of the Statewide assessment or a student who is identified as having a deficiency in the content knowledge and skills assessed; and
- D. incorporate test-taking exercises and strategies into curriculum for intensive reading and mathematics and intervention courses; and
- E. administer a practice test or engage in other test preparation activities for the statewide assessment which are determined necessary to familiarize students with the organization of the assessment, the format of the test terms, and the test directions, or which are otherwise necessary for the valid and reliable administration of the assessment, as set forth in rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

At least annually, the staff members will assess the academic achievement and learning needs of each student. Procedures for such assessments may include, but need not be limited to, teacher observation techniques, cumulative student records, student performance data collected through standardized testing programs, and ~~examinations~~ performance-based assessments.

The Superintendent shall develop a program of testing that may include, but not be limited to:

- A. State-mandated achievement tests;
- B. end-of-course tests at appropriate grade levels to measure achievement of performance objectives in designated courses;
- C. diagnostic testing and alternative assessments.

The Board shall also require:

- A. mandatory participation by all eligible students as defined by State Board of Education rules;
- B. Statewide assessments be taken at the student's regularly assigned school, unless an alternative site is mutually agreed to by the District and the Florida Virtual School or authorized contractor.
- C. parents be informed of the testing program of the schools and of the special tests that are to be administered to their children;

- D. data regarding individual test scores be entered on the student's cumulative record, where it will be subject to the policy of this Board regarding student records;
- E. school and District achievement test results will be reported to the public annually;
- F. remediation services be provided to any student who scores Level 1 or 2 on the State-mandated achievement test;

Remediation services shall be provided to any student who does not meet the testing requirement for graduation prior to retesting.

- G. the Superintendent shall develop procedures for the annual assessment of first, second, third, and fourth grade students on their reading proficiency and identify those students who are reading below grade level. S/He shall ensure that each student's teacher is involved in the assessment and in the identification of those students who are reading below grade level.

The District shall notify the parent or guardian of each student whose reading skills are below grade level and provide intervention services to each student reading below grade level.

For each student required to be offered remediation services, the District shall involve the student's parent or guardian and classroom teacher in developing the intervention strategy, and shall offer to the parent or guardian the opportunity to be involved in the intervention services.

~~All identified disabled students in the School District shall be considered for participation in the State mandated testing program for competency and proficiency testing. The consideration for participation shall be made by the IEP Team. The extent of participation in and/or exemptions from the testing shall be delineated on the student's I.E.P. To the extent possible, and in accordance with the law, a student with disabilities shall not be excused from taking a required assessment unless no reasonable accommodation can be made to enable the student to take the assessment.~~

### **Students with Disabilities**

All identified students with disabilities in the School District shall be considered by their IEP Teams for participation in the State-mandated testing program for competency and proficiency testing.

The extent of participation in and/or exemptions from the testing shall be delineated on the student's IEP after consideration by the IEP Team. A student with a disability, as defined in F.S. 1007.02(2), for whom the IEP Team determines that the Statewide standardized assessments cannot accurately measure the student's

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abilities, taking into consideration all allowable accommodations, shall have assessment results waived for the purpose of receiving a course grade and a standard high school diploma if the student completes the minimum number of credits and other requirements for graduation, but does not earn a passing score on the FCAT after one (1) opportunity in the 10th grade and one (1) opportunity in the 11th grade. Such waiver shall be designated on the student's transcript.

Further, pursuant to State law, the IEP Team may determine that end-of-course assessments cannot accurately measure the abilities of the student with disabilities and may, therefore, waive the use of the results of the end-of-course assessments for purposes of determining the student's course grade and credit.

If the IEP Team determines that a student with a disability is prevented by a "circumstance" or "condition" as defined in F.S. 1008.212 from physically demonstrating the mastery of skills that have been acquired and are measured by the Statewide standardized assessment, a Statewide standardized end-of-course assessment, or an alternate assessment under F.S. 1008.22(3)(c), the IEP Team may submit to the superintendent a written request for an extraordinary exemption from the administration of the assessment pursuant to F.S. 1008.212. The request may be made at any time during the school year, but not later than sixty (60) days before the assessment for which the request is made. The superintendent will recommend to the Commissioner of Education whether the request should be granted or denied, and the Commissioner will grant or deny the requested exemption within thirty (30) days. A copy of the District's procedural safeguards as required in F.A.C. 6A-6.03311 shall be provided to the parent. If the parent disagrees with the IEP Team's recommendation, the dispute resolution methods described in the procedural safeguards shall be made available to the parent.

A parent who disagrees with the Commissioner's denial of a requested extraordinary exemption may request an expedited hearing before DOAH pursuant to F.S. 1008.212.

Assessment accommodations for students with disabilities will be provided in accordance with rules of the State Board. If a student is provided with instructional accommodations in the classroom that are not allowed as accommodations for Statewide standardized assessments, the District will inform the parent in writing and provide the parent with information regarding the impact on the student's ability to meet expected performance levels. A parent must provide signed consent for a student to receive classroom instructional accommodations that would not be available or permitted on a Statewide standardized assessment and acknowledge in writing that s/he understand the implications of such instructional accommodations.

Students with significant cognitive disabilities may be assessed using the Florida Alternate Assessment.

**Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program**

If a student who resides in the District and qualifies for a Florida Tax Credit Scholarship attends an eligible private school, pursuant to State law, that has

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chosen not to administer the Statewide assessments, the District shall designate, upon the request of the parent, an assessment site where the student can participate in the Statewide assessment. The parent is responsible for providing transportation to the assessment site.

F.S. 1002.37, 1002.395, 1003.428, 1008.212, 1008.22, 1008.24, 1008.25

Statewide Assessment for Students with Disabilities, F.A.C. 6A-1.0943

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test and End-of-Course Assessment

Requirements, F.A.C. 6A-1.09422

Florida Alternate Assessment Requirements, F.A.C. 6A-1.09430

Procedures for Special Exemption from Graduation Test Requirement for Students with Disabilities Seeking a Standard High School Diploma, F.A.C. 6A-1.09431

Assessment of English Language Learners, F.A.C. 6A-1.09432

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