

# FCAT Update

Fall 2009

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Test Development Center



# FCAT Update

- **FCAT Test Development Center Staff Changes for 2010**
- **Reading, Mathematics, Science, and Writing Updates**
- **Interpretive Products Update**
- **Contacts**
- **Questions**



# Staff Changes at the Test Development Center

- **Stew Elizondo, FCAT High School Mathematics Specialist**
- **American History End of Course Examination Development Coordinator**
- **Trish Lyons, Interpretive Products Coordinator**



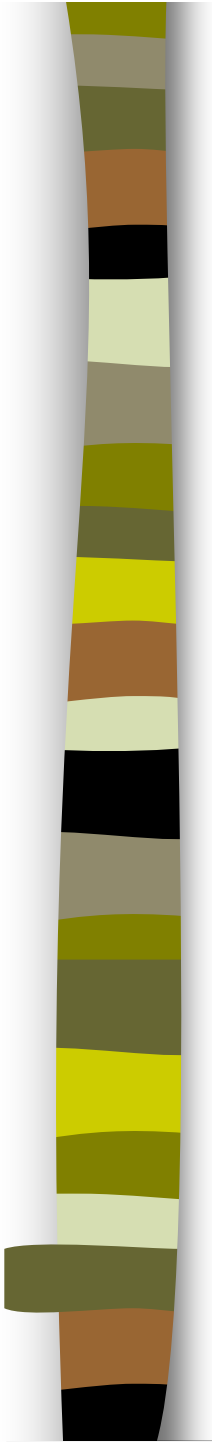
## Reading Update – 2010 Tests

- 2010 FCAT tests in Grades 3–10 and Retake are constructed to align with the 1996 SSS and, to the extent possible, the 2007 SSS.
- Performance tasks appear in Grades 4, 8, and 10 as in past years.
- Removal of “There is no number XX” placeholders



# Mathematics Update – 2010 Tests

- 2010 FCAT tests in Grades 3–10 and Retake are constructed to align with the 1996 SSS and, to the extent possible, the 2007 SSS.
- Rulers will be provided for use on portions of the Grades 3 and 4 tests (**Exception:** Calibration schools).
- Gridded-response items appear in Grade 4 for the first time (**Exception:** Calibration schools).
- Gridded-response items with the option for negative answers appear in Grades 7, 8, and 10 (**Exception:** Calibration schools).
- Four-function calculators only
- New reference sheets in Grades 5–8, 10
- Performance tasks appear in Grades 5, 8, and 10 as in past years.



# Algebra 1 End of Course Examination and Grade 9 FCAT Mathematics

- There will be a May 2010 computer-based field test of items planned for use on an Algebra 1 End of Course examination. Pending changes in legislation, this test would eventually replace the Grade 9 comprehensive test.



# 2008 Science Standards

- Adopted by State Board—February 2008
- K–8 grade-level standards grouped into four Bodies of Knowledge (BOK), which are subdivided into Big Ideas
- High school standards organized by Body of Knowledge

**BOK: The Nature of Science, Earth and Space Science, Physical Science, Life Science**



# 2008 Science Standards

- The Office of Mathematics and Science developed a crosswalk showing the transition between the old and new benchmarks. Available at <http://www.fldoestem.org/page362.aspx>
- The Office of Mathematics and Science in conjunction with Florida science educators revised the science course descriptions to match new standards (draft available at <http://www.floridastandards.org/index.aspx>)
- State Board of Education is expected to review the proposed descriptions at their September meeting.



# 2010 FCAT Science

- The tests were constructed to align to the 1996 Standards.
- Performance tasks are not included in 2010 FCAT Science tests at any grade.
- The number of raw points on the 2010 tests approximates those of prior years.
- Content representation and difficulty also approximate those of prior years.



## Writing Update— 2009 Field Test & 2010 Prompts

- There will be no December 2009 Writing field tests. The current prompt bank is robust enough to support the current model until the new Writing assessment begins.
- The 2010 FCAT Writing test will consist of prompts only.



# Interpretive Products Updates



# FCAT Reading and Mathematics Test Item Specifications

- *FCAT Reading* (Grades 3–10) and *Mathematics* (Grades 3–8) *Test Item Specifications* are posted here: <http://fcab.fldoe.org/fcatis01.asp>
- Produced for items aligned to the 2007 SSS
- *FCAT Mathematics Test Item Specifications* for high school assessments are scheduled to be released in draft form in early summer 2010. Appendix B of that document was distributed to district assessment coordinators and Mathematics leadership on June 1, 2009.
- Adjustments needed for removal of performance tasks in 2011 and beyond



# Science Test Item Specifications

- **Grades 5 and 8 *FCAT Science Test Item Specifications* aligned to the 2008 SSS will be posted to the FCAT website in early summer 2010.**
- ***Biology End of Course Test Item Specifications* will also be posted to the FCAT website in early summer 2010.**



## 2009 Released FCAT Writing Anchor Sets

- The released sets contain examples of responses used as training materials for scoring the 2009 writing assessment. Each anchor set (scoring guide) includes a student response and an annotation to explain why it was assigned a particular score.
- Available at:  
<http://fcab.fldoe.org/09writinganchorsets.asp>



## 2010 Sample Test Materials

- **Reading and Mathematics:** New versions of STMs to reflect transition from 1996 SSS, but at reduced page counts from previous years
- **Sample Test Books** to be delivered in print, one per student. **Sample Answer Keys** to be available online only.
- **Science:** Reprints of '09 materials, but with reduced page counts
- **No Writing STMs**
- **Sample Test Books** due in districts in Dec. '09
- **PDFs** to be posted to DOE website in Dec. '09



## *FCAT Writing Lessons Learned*

- Analyses and instructional implications for writing based on FCAT Writing and FCAT Writing+ results from 2001–2008
- Includes comparisons to NAEP and other research on writing instruction and assessment
- Printed copies due in districts April 2010



# 2009 FCAT Content Focus Report

- Now available on the DOE website:  
<http://fcap.fldoe.org/fccontentfocus.asp>
- Has benchmarks and content focus for each item that counted for student scores on the 2009 FCAT
- Has total points for each reporting cluster/category
- Identifies performance task benchmarks
- Reading, Mathematics, and Science have benchmark crosswalks from 1996 SSS to 2007 SSS (Reading & Mathematics) and 2008 SSS (Science). Please note disclaimer.



# Eliminated Interpretive Products

- Due to budget constraints, several FCAT interpretive products that have been produced in previous years will no longer be available beginning in 2010. These include the *Florida Reads! Writes! Solves! Inquires! CD*, *Keys to FCAT*, *Understanding FCAT Reports*, and the Parent Results Folder.



# FCAT Test Development Center Contact Information

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