

School Grades: Future Options



Why Discuss Options Now?

- The Department has made a commitment to giving schools and districts at least one year advance notice on changes to the school grading system.



Future Options

- ❑ Include Writing Multiple Choice Items in Writing Component
- ❑ Change A-F grade point distribution
- ❑ Increase participation rate to 95%
- ❑ Include all retakes of grade 10 FCAT
- ❑ Rescale Developmental Scale Score expected learning gains
- ❑ Include Alternate Assessment in school grades



Scheduled School Grade Changes

- Currently, no changes are scheduled for the 2005-06.
- In 2006-07 there are two scheduled changes:
 1. Writing standard changes to 4.0 from 3.5.
 2. Science is added to school grading.



Writing

- **State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.09981(8)(a)** The points earned for writing defined in paragraph (6)(c) of this rule will be based on the percent of students who score “3.5” or higher on the FCAT writing assessment for the school performance grade determined in 2004-05 and 2005-06. For the school performance grades determined in 2006-07 and beyond, the points earned for writing defined in paragraph (6)(c) of this rule will be based on the percent of students who score “4” or higher on the FCAT writing Assessment (November 18, 2003).



Writing: Future Option

Include multiple choice writing component:

- ❑ Currently, only the essay portion of writing is included in the school grade calculation.
- ❑ In 2007-08, we can include the essay plus multiple choice items, as the writing component.
- ❑ The inclusion of multiple choice items (the 100-500 point scale rather than the 1-6 rubric) will change the distribution of proficiency and, as a result, points earned toward the school grade.
- ❑ Writing content and standards have not been set, so we do not know the impact at this time.



Science

- **State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.09981(8)(c)** Science will be added as an additional category of performance beginning in 2006-07. For this category of achievement, schools will earn one (1) point for each percent of students who score at or above Achievement Level 3, proficient, as will be recommended by committees of educators and approved by the State Board of Education during 2005-06 (November 18, 2003).



Science: Future Options

- ❑ Currently, Science is not included in the school grade calculation.
- ❑ Include science as a seventh component as current rule expresses.
- ❑ Include science as an additional measure, set a proficiency bar that must be met for a school to receive an “A,” if the bar is not met then the school’s grade is lowered by one letter grade.



Science as a Seventh Component

Changing the A-F Grade Distribution:

- If science is included as a seventh component, the school grading scale will have to change.
- There are two fundamental options when changing the grading scale:
 1. Replicate the current grade distribution.
 2. Raise the points required for an A-F over the next few years at the same time we include science to change the grade distribution.



A-F Grade Point Distribution

Grade	Points Required (total possible points=600)
A	410+
B	380-409
C	320-379
D	280-319
F	<280



Participation

Require 95% tested for all grades, not just “A”:

- Currently, 95% participation is required to earn an “A.”
- If not testing 95%, then current provision for 90% tested holds, the school drops a letter grade.
- This is consistent with AYP required by NCLB and most schools already test 95% of the students.

Participation

Require 95% tested for all grades, not just “A”:

	2005	95% tested with 2005 data	Difference
A	1255	1255	0
B	588	584	4 schools drop to C
C	619	616	4 schools are added because they dropped from B to C 7 schools drop to D
D	230	235	7 schools are added because they dropped from C to D 2 schools drop to F
F	78	80	2 dropped to F



Participation– Elementary Schools

Require 95% tested for all grades, not just “A”:

	2005	95% tested with 2005 data	Difference
A	946	946	0
B	323	323	0
C	283	283	0
D	79	79	0
F	18	18	0



Participation– Middle Schools

Require 95% tested for all grades, not just “A”:

	2005	95% tested with 2005 data	Difference
A	192	192	0
B	144	144	0
C	153	153	0
D	32	32	0
F	8	8	0

Participation– High Schools

Require 95% tested for all grades, not just “A”:

	2005	95% tested with 2005 data	Difference
A	59	59	0
B	82	81	1 school drops to C
C	133	128	1 school is added because they dropped from B to C 6 schools drop to D
D	95	99	6 schools are added because they dropped from C to D 2 schools drop to F
F	21	23	dropped to F

Participation- Combination Schools

Require 95% tested for all grades, not just “A”:

	2005	95% tested with 2005 data	Difference
A	58	58	0
B	39	36	3 schools drop to C
C	50	52	3 schools are added because they dropped from B to C 1 schools drop to D
D	24	25	1 schools are added because they dropped from C to D 0 schools drop to F
F	31	31	0 dropped to F



Include All 10th Grade Retakes

Include grade 11 and 12 students in school grades if taking a grade 10 FCAT retake:

- ❑ Currently only students in 10th grade retaking the FCAT are included in the school grades.
- ❑ Schools would be held accountable for the students' education through grade 12.
- ❑ Retakes by students could be included in the entire school grade calculation or for learning gains only.



Include All 10th Grade Retakes

Include grade 11 and 12 students in school grades if taking a grade 10 FCAT retake:

	2005	Proficiency and Gains	Gains Only
A	1255	1235	1244
B	588	561	564
C	619	589	587
D	230	291	287
F	78	94	88



Include All 10th Grade Retakes

Include grade 11 and 12 students in school grades if taking a grade 10 FCAT retake:

High Schools Only

	2005	Proficiency and Gains	Gains Only
A	59	42	50
B	82	54	58
C	133	105	102
D	95	154	151
F	21	35	29

95% Participation and Include All 10th Grade Retakes

Require participation rate of 95% and include grade 11 and 12 students in school grades when retaking a grade 10 FCAT:

	2005	Proficiency and Gains	Gains Only
A	1255	1235	1244
B	588	557	560
C	619	590	588
D	230	289	286
F	78	99	92

95% Participation and Include All 10th Grade Retakes– High Schools Only

Require participation rate of 95% and include grade 11 and 12 students in school grades when retaking a grade 10 FCAT:

	2005	Proficiency and Gains	Gains Only
A	59	42	50
B	82	53	57
C	133	103	100
D	95	153	151
F	21	39	32



Learning Gains

Rescale Expected Developmental Scale Score gains:

- ❑ Currently expected DSS learning gains are based on all students' performance, but the DSS learning gains option is used only for achievement level 1 and 2 students for purposes of school grades.
- ❑ As a result, the learning gains points expected for all students is lower than what should be expected for low performing students.
- ❑ Rescale the points required to achieve a learning gain utilizing the DSS by recalculating the expected DSS learning gains points required based on only level 1 and 2 students.



Learning Gains

Developmental Scale Score points currently required to demonstrate learning gains for school grading components. These learning gains are based on all students.

Grade	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10
Read	230	166	133	110	92	77	77
Math	162	119	95	78	64	54	48



Alternate Assessments

Alternate Assessments for Students With Disabilities (SWD) and Limited English Proficient (LEP) students included:

- ❑ Currently, Florida is developing statewide assessments for SWD and LEP students.
- ❑ Include statewide alternate assessments for SWD and LEP students in the school grading meeting high standards components.
- ❑ Ensures every student is included in (at least part of) the school grading calculation.
- ❑ This will also draw in ESE centers that currently are not graded because they do not have 30 standard curriculum students.
- ❑ Note: We have to ensure that these assessments are valid and reliable before we decide to include them.