

Legislative Regional Update Meetings

May 2007

Jay Pfeiffer, Deputy Commissioner



Florida Department of Education
Jeanine Blomberg, Commissioner



Overview

- **End-of-Course Exams Clearinghouse.**
- **FCAT Revisions.**
- **FCAT Meetings.**
- **NAEP.**
- **School Grades.**
- **Course Code Directory.**



End-of-Course Examinations (ECE) Clearinghouse

- Florida Department of Education Project with the School District of Hillsborough County.
- Easy access to exams that may be used as valid and reliable assessments under the Merit Award Program.

Contacts:

Ina Helmick, ECE Clearinghouse Supervisor
School District of Hillsborough County
Phone (813) 272-4006
Ina.Helmick@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Bobbie Dilocker, DOE ECE Clearinghouse Consultant
Phone (352) 560-7088, Cell (352) 212-2760
dilockerinc@tampabay.rr.com



ECE Clearinghouse Exams

Subject Area	Courses with Exams	Number of Exams
Art	28	37
English	8	16
Foreign Lang.	13	24
Math	14	27
Music	44	15
PE	35	66
Reading	1	3
Science	14	28
Social Studies	19	23
Career/Technical	253	317
Total	429	556

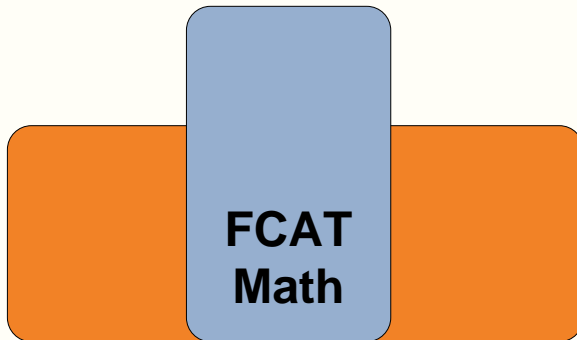
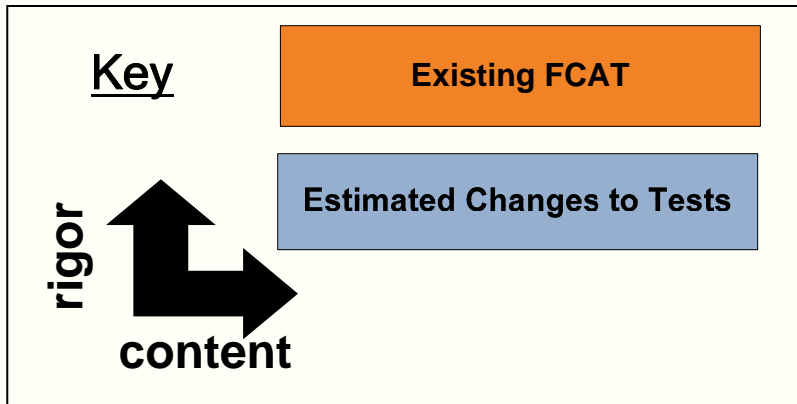


ECE Next Steps

- Continue to add exams from Hillsborough and other districts (consortia).
- Include course objective/benchmark alignment for each item.
- Include best practices for test security.
- Gather feedback from districts on exam processes and individual exam usage.
- Explore availability of online test development item bank.



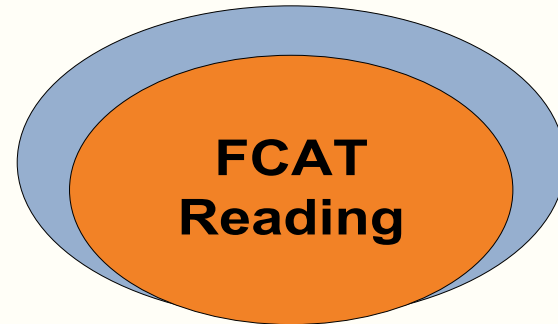
FCAT Revisions: New Standards



Increased Rigor -
Fewer SSS Benchmarks



Increased Rigor



Increased Rigor - More
SSS Benchmarks



FCAT Meetings

- FCAT Technical Advisory Committee Meeting: May and November 2007.
- FCAT Content Advisory Committees: August 2007.
- FCAT Item Review Committees: October 2007.
- FCAT Rangefinder Committees: September and December 2007.



2007 and 2008 NAEP

- **Schedule:**

		reading (4, 8) mathematics (4, 8) writing (8)	
2008	arts (8)		reading mathematics (ages 9, 13, 17)

- **Release of 2007 results in October.**
- **Release of U.S. DOE study of state proficiency thresholds (using NAEP) due to be released by summer.**



School Grades Components in 2006-07

- Eight components used for determining School Grades:
- Percent of eligible students meeting high standards
 - Reading.
 - Mathematics.
 - Writing.
 - **Science (NEW).**
- Percent of eligible students making learning gains
 - Reading.
 - Mathematics.
- Percent of lowest performing eligible students making learning gains
 - Reading.
 - **Math (NEW).**



School Improvement Ratings for Alternative Schools (s. 1008.341, F.S.)

- Part of the A++ Legislation passed during the 2006 Legislative Session.
- Provides Alternative Schools the option of receiving a traditional school grade or a school improvement rating.
- If an alternative school chooses to receive a school improvement rating, the performance of the alternative school's students will be included in the calculation of the rating and the school grade of the students' home school.



Definition of an Alternative School for Accountability Purposes

- **Proposed**
 - An alternative school is a school that provides dropout prevention and academic intervention services and has students referred to the school by another school in the district or another district.
 - Charter schools can be designated as alternative schools if the school's charter explicitly states that the mission of the charter school is to provide dropout prevention and academic intervention services through alternative education.

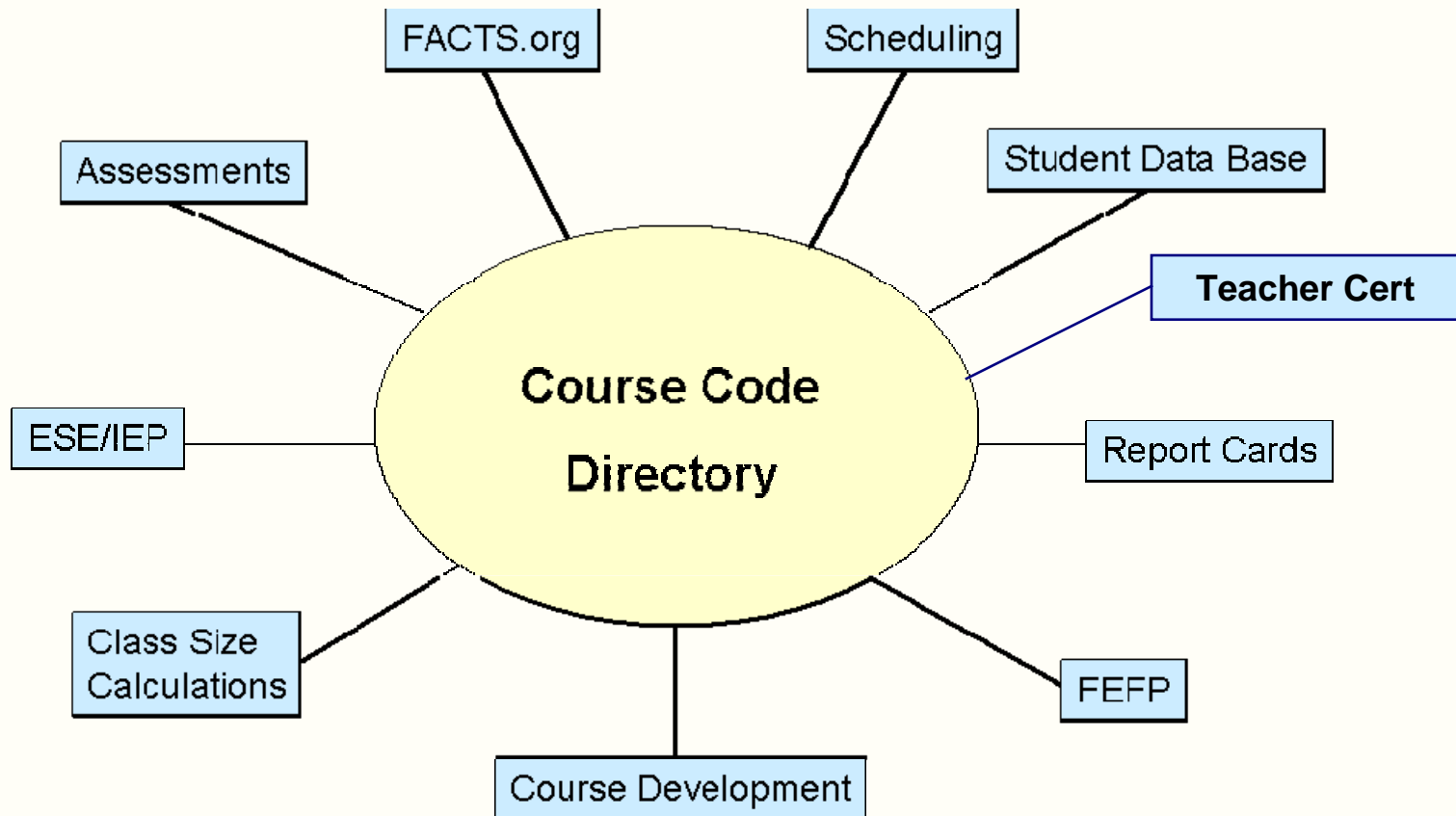


School Improvement Ratings for Alternative Schools - Timeline

- April 2007 - Provided districts the opportunity to verify the list of alternative schools in their district (as identified in 2005-06).
- May 2007 - Provide alternative schools the option of a “Points Only” designation or a school grade.
- July - September 2007 - Conduct rule development workshops on the calculation of school improvement ratings.
- October/November 2007 - Final passage of rule before State Board of Education.
- June 2008 - Release school grades, school improvement ratings for alternative schools, and AYP.

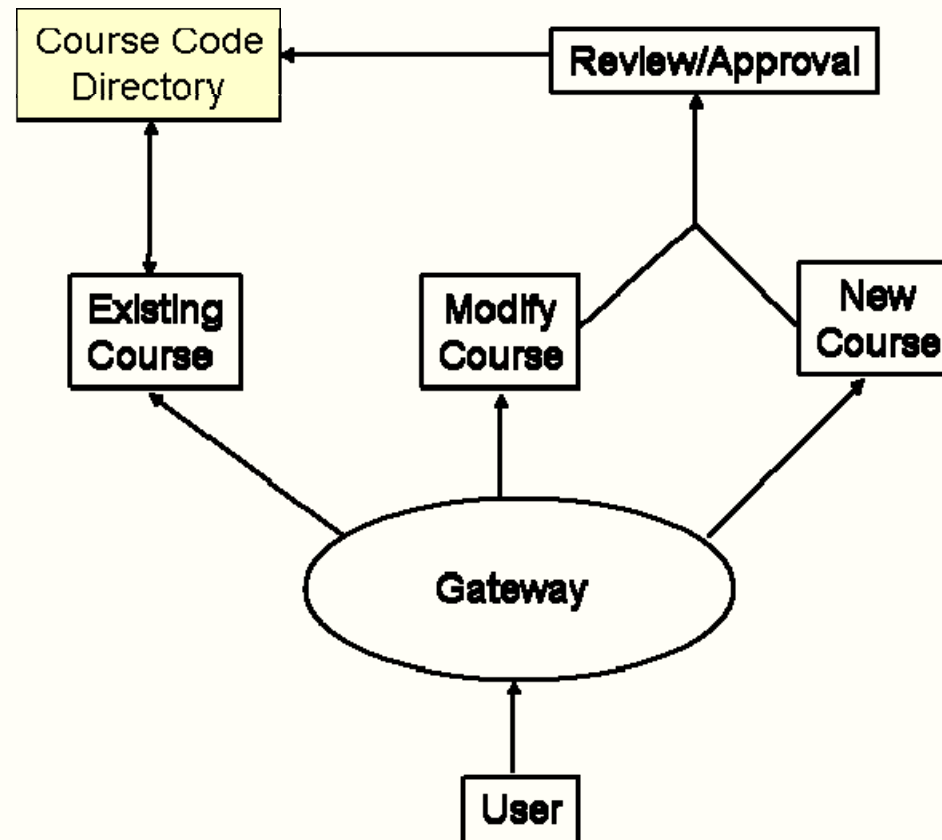


Course Code Directory Project





Course Code Directory Project





Key Dates

- **FCAT: Regular Cycle.**
- **Alternative Schools: July-September 2007.**
- **Department of Education Data Base Conference: June 19-21, 2007.**
- **Community College Annual Reports Workshop: July 8-11, 2007.**



Key Contacts

- Jay Pfeiffer, Deputy Commissioner ARM, jay.pfeiffer@fldoe.org
- Jeff Sellers, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Student and Staff data, Education Data Warehouse, FETPIP, jeff.sellers@fldoe.org
- Cornelia Orr, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Assessment cornelia.orr@fldoe.org
- Juan Copa, Director, AYP, School Grades, Research, and Reporting juan.copa@fldoe.org

• **Central Office: 850-245-0437**