

Bay District Schools – Talking Points

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Bay District Schools – Demographics

Budgets

Testing/Assessments

Evaluations, VAM, and Pay-for-Performance

Concerns about equity

Initiatives

- **Technology (infrastructure, digital media, 1:1, funding)**
- **Career Technical Education (partnerships, strategies, successes)**

Bay District Schools – Demographics

Bay District Schools has been an “A” District three out of the past five years.

An academically high performing school district

Student SAT scores at 129 points above the state average and 76 points above the national average (source ~ College Board)

Highest number of college dual enrollment courses taken by students compared to other school districts across the state, earning a five-year total of 53,000 college credit hours before high school graduation, a \$4.3 million savings in tuition for students and parents (source ~ FLDOE, Florida College System)

Budgets

High student achievement despite being 48th lowest out of 67 counties in total education funding as set by the state (source ~ FLDOE funding report)

Total of \$25M Reduction (13.1%) since 2007-08.

Change the high schedule from 4 period block schedule to 7 period day-\$1.7 million

Among the highest ranked Florida school districts for Return on Educational Investment, which measures academic achievement relative to educational spending (source ~ Center for American Progress/Education ROI national report)

93% of the Bay District Schools budget is spent at the school level (source ~ FLDOE program cost report)

Health Clinic

Students have been affected greatly by the economy with free and reduced lunch percentages rising from 49% in 2011 to nearly 60% this school year.

Financial Issues

Funding has been challenging as budgets were cut over the past five years. Tough decisions were made to balance the budget each year.

A total of \$25 million or 13.1%, \$803 in per pupil funding

2008-2009 cut \$13 million

2009-2010 cut \$3.7 million

2010-2011 increase \$ 2.5 million

2011-2012 cut \$15.1 million

2012-2013 increase \$5.1 million

Financial rating Aa3 awarded by Moody's Investor Services and A+ by Fitch Ratings, both praising our strong financial management and stable economic position, placing Bay in the top tier of Florida school districts

Testing and Assessments

As the standards continue to rise and more testing is implemented, Bay District students continue to achieve and challenge themselves with greater rigor in advanced programs.

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT)

11,556 test takers

All will take 1 test, Most will take 2 tests, some will take 3 tests

End of Course Exams (EOC)

7,096 test takers (winter & spring)

All will take at least 1 test, some could take up to 4 tests

EOC Civics Field Test

1,500 test takers (all 7th grade students in selected schools)

Post-secondary Education Readiness Test (PERT)

2,000+ test takers

3 tests

PSAT

1,800 test takers (10th grade students)

Discovery Education Assessments (for state required baseline & mid-year assessments)

About 22,000 test takers

Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS)

2,313 kindergarten test takers

Advanced Educational Programs

Test stats for these programs are incomplete at this time. Stats for 2012 are provided. Numbers are expected to be about the same or greater for 2013.

Dual Enrollment

9,834 credit hours earned (2012)

Five year average of 10,600 credit hours earned

Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE)

600+ tests passed (2012)

International Baccalaureate (IB)

300+ tests passed (2012)

Advanced Placement

800+ tests passed (2012)

Graduation Rate

For many years, Bay District students have consistently maintained a graduation rate at 10 to 20 points above the state rate until 2012 when the method of calculating graduation rates was changed to the Federal Graduation Rate calculation.

The new calculation penalizes Bay District for high school students who move to the technical center to complete a GED and also high functioning mentally disabled students who receive special diplomas.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Bay</i>	<i>Florida</i>
2008	78.5	62.7
2009	79.4	65.5
2010	81.9	69.0
2011	81.6	70.6
2012	73.7	74.5

(New Federal calculations applied last year)

Scholarships Earned

Graduating high school seniors earn between \$15,000 and \$20,000 in college scholarships each year.

Teacher Evaluation and Pay for Performance:

Teachers, as a whole, would not object to Pay for Performance, if they see it as fair. VAM is defensible, but for the roughly 60% of teachers who are not covered by VAM or direct measurement, it is hard to defend that as a fair system. The task that has been given to each individual district to come up with a way to measure the 60% is one the Department of Education has increasingly pushed to districts. The support pledged by DOE has increasingly placed more responsibility on districts and we are now left figuring it out on our own.

Concerns

Charter growth has gone beyond the bounds of statutory accountability. We are abdicating authority and public funds to businesses who are virtually unaccountable.

This process leaves the most struggling students and those with disabilities (who most charters don't serve) in the traditional public schools.

We are very proud of and support our "mom and pop" charters who serve a target population or provide niche program...as statute intended. Large re-segregate charter systems and for-profit schools are not providing the innovation and positive competition that was the original promise of charter schools.

Initiatives

Formed a Career Technical Education (CTE) partnership with Bay County Chamber of Commerce, Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce, Gulf Coast State College and Florida State University-Panama City resulting in the formation of an independent board of community leaders who hired a CTE director to oversee specific initiatives