



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Jose L. Dotres

Miami-Dade County School Board
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Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall
Mary Blanco
Monica Colucci
Dr. Steve Gallon III
Luisa Santos

September 12, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the computer-based FAST ELA Reading Retake September 13, 2023, and/or FSA (Florida Standards Assessments) ELA Writing and FSA ELA Reading Retake September 18 – 20, 2023 *or* September 26 – 28, 2023. The B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 and or FSA Algebra 1 EOC Retake/Biology 1/Civics/B.E.S.T. Geometry/U.S. History End-of-Course (EOC) assessment(s) will be administered September 20 – 22, 2023. Please note, the FSA ELA Retake is administered over three days and consists of one 120-minute FSA ELA Writing session and two 90-minute FSA ELA Reading sessions. For the FSA ELA Writing Retake and FSA ELA Reading Retake sessions, any student who has not completed a session by the end of the allotted time may continue working up to half the length of a typical school day for that session. FSA Algebra 1 EOC Retake is administered in two 90-minute sessions over two days, and students may have up to half the length of a typical school day to complete each session. B.E.S.T. Algebra 1, Biology 1, Civics, B.E.S.T. Geometry, and U.S. History EOC assessments are each administered in one 160-minute session, but students may work up to the length of a typical school day. The FAST ELA Reading Retake is administered in one 120-minute session, and students may work up to the length of a typical school day.

If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available at <https://fsassessments.org/families.html>.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them**. If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculator Policy**—For B.E.S.T. Algebra 1 and Geometry EOC assessments and Session 2 of the FSA Algebra 1 EOC Retake, a handheld scientific calculator may be used. If students have handheld calculators during Session 1 of the FSA Algebra 1 EOC Retake, their tests will be invalidated. For Biology 1 EOC, a handheld four-function calculator may be used.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking a checkbox beside the statement in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.



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▪ **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items, passages, and prompts) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**

▪ **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.

▪ **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (e.g., for lunch, an appointment), he or she **will not** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.

▪ **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Mrs. Kecia Blissett, School Assessment Coordinator at 305.836.3300.

For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at FLFAST.org.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ebony N. Dunn, Principal