



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

Superintendent of Schools

Alberto M. Carvalho

Miami-Dade County School Board

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April 1, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the paper-based Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) Grade 3, 4, or 5 ELA Writing/ELA Reading/Mathematics assessments on April 3-4 and on May 6-7, 2019.

Your student has had an opportunity to participate in a practice session to become familiar with the item types and response formats he or she will see on the FSA assessments. If you or your student would like to review the materials, paper-based practice tests and answer keys are available at <http://www.FSAssessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/paper-based-practice-test-materials/>.

For information regarding test session lengths for all Spring 2019 FSA assessments, please visit the FSA Portal at www.FSAssessments.org, click on the **Students and Families** icon, select the **Frequently Asked Questions** card, then select the question: "How long are the tests?"

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, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculators**—Calculators are not permitted during Grades 3–6 Mathematics tests.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All FSA tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment printed in the student's test and answer book 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 signing below the statement in their test and answer book.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states: "Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you 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 online, for example, on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, or Instagram." Please make sure your student understands 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, illness), 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), 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 Ms. Hurtado at 305-661-8527. For more information about the FSA program, please visit the FSA Portal at www.FSAssessments.org.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Marlene Leyte-Vidal
Principal



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April 1, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On April 3-4, May 1-2 and on May 6--9, 2019, your child will be participating in the administration of the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) and Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS).

Because your child is receiving English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services, he/she is entitled to certain testing accommodations when taking the FSA and NGSSS. Your child will be provided with the testing accommodation(s) that are most appropriate for his/her needs.

The following English Language Learners (ELLs) accommodations apply to the FSA and NGSSS:

1. Students may be given additional time as necessary to complete the test. However, students must complete each session of the FSA and NGSSS in one school day. Students must not be permitted to continue testing within a session from one day to another.
2. Students may be given access to an English-to-heritage language/heritage language-to-English dictionary. Such a dictionary would be familiar to ELLs because of its regular availability in instructional settings. A dictionary written exclusively in the heritage language or English shall not be provided.
3. Students may be offered the opportunity to be tested in a separate room with the ESOL or heritage language teacher acting as a test administrator.
4. The ESOL or heritage language teacher may answer student questions about the general test directions in their heritage language.
5. For the mathematics and science tests, the ESOL or heritage language teacher may answer specific questions about a word or phrase that may be confusing to the student because of limited English proficiency but is prohibited from giving assistance that will help the student solve mathematics and science test questions.
6. For the reading and writing test, the ESOL or heritage language teacher may answer specific questions about a word or phrase in a prompt, item, or answer choice that is confusing the student because of limited English proficiency but is prohibited from giving assistance that will help the student produce, correct, or edit responses. This should not be interpreted as permission to provide oral presentation of prompts, items, and answer choices in English or the student's heritage language.
7. For the reading and writing test, the ESOL or heritage language teacher is prohibited from answering student questions about words or phrases in the reading and writing passages.

If you have any questions about the test or these accommodations, please contact Ms. Hurtado at 305-661-8527.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marlene Leyte-Vidal
Principal