

*Letter from Dr. Binggeli Regarding FCAT*

March 4, 2011

Dear Parents:

Brevard Public Schools is committed to student achievement, and to serving every student with excellence as the standard. Our teachers, administrators and school staff, with the continuing support of parents and the community, work together to provide our students with a quality education.

During March and April our students will be taking the FCAT (Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test). The FCAT is designed to measure your child's progress toward learning the benchmarks of the Sunshine State Standards (SSS), Florida's statewide curriculum. For the first time in Florida, students taking the Grade 10 Math FCAT and the FCAT Math Retake will be taking their tests on the computer.

Students in grades 4, 8, and 10 take the Writing portion of FCAT in March. Students in grades 3-10 will take the Reading and Mathematics portions of the FCAT beginning April 11. Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 will take the Science portion of FCAT on April 19. The FCAT Retake Math and Reading Tests for students who did not previously pass the Grade 10 FCAT begin April 6.

Please take the time to discuss the importance of the FCAT with your children. Doing so will be helpful in ensuring their success and in putting these tests in proper perspective. You can help by gently encouraging them to do their best, by making sure they get a good night's sleep before test days and eat a good breakfast on test days, and by supporting teaching and learning throughout the year.

I am confident that parents and teachers working together will help ensure a positive and successful testing experience for our students.

Sincerely,

Brian T. Binggeli, Ed.D.  
Superintendent