

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**ROBERT W. RUNCIE  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

*Signatures on File*

July 8, 2016    **Revised March 28, 2017**

TO:                School Board Members

FROM:            Daniel F. Gohl  
                      Chief Academic Officer

VIA:               Robert W. Runcie  
                      Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT:        **FLORIDA SCHOOL GRADES, BASED ON 2015-16 ASSESSMENT DATA - UPDATED**

This memorandum summarizes the school grade results released today by the Florida Department of Education at the school, district, and state levels. **The Department has released additional school grades following the annual investigation and appeal period. This memorandum has been updated to reflect data which have changed resulting from the additional release.**

Review of the 2016 school grades revealed the following:

- Similar to the trends seen among the five largest Florida school districts, **Broward decreased the proportion of “A” grades and increased the proportions of “B,” “C,” and “D” grades.**
- ~~36~~ **40** (~~17%~~**18%**) of Broward’s traditional schools maintained an “A” grade from 2014-15 to 2015-16 and one school, Discovery Elementary, increased from a “B” to an “A.”
- Seven schools increased by two letter grades. Sanders Park Elementary increased to a “B” while Endeavour Primary Learning Center, Larkdale Elementary, Morrow Elementary, North Fork Elementary, Plantation Elementary, and Sunland Park Academy all improved to a “C”.
- Among the **traditional schools**, the number and percent of **“F” grades decreased** from 22 (10%) to ~~8~~ **9** (4%).
- Also, the number and percent of **“A” grades decreased** from 70 (33%) to 37 ~~41~~ (~~18%~~ **19%**) among the traditional schools.
- Overall, **Broward earned a District grade of “B”** for the third year in a row, and an improvement from the “C” earned in 2013.

The 2015-16 school grades were computed following the rules adopted by the Florida Board of Education at its January 6, 2016 meeting. The 2015-16 school grades mark the first time that the calculations were conducted using the full set of criteria based on the Florida Standards

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Assessment (FSA) and other criteria as adopted at that meeting. Specifically, learning gains were added to performance levels in the 2015-16 school grades. Learning gains were not included in the 2014-15 school grades computation as that was the baseline year for the new Florida Standards Assessment. Detailed information on the computation of the school grades is available on the Florida Department of Education website at: <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org>.

The school grade formula continues to rely on student performance on statewide assessments in English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, and science in addition to End-of-Course Examinations in Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Biology, Civics, and US History. Because of the transition from the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test 2.0 (FCAT 2.0) to the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) in 2015, **learning gains components**, including learning gains for the lowest quartile for ELA and mathematics were **not** included as part of the 2015 school grades computation, but **are included in the 2016** school grades computation. Learning gains are achieved if the following criteria are met:

- Students at level 5 remain at level 5
- Students at any level 1 to 4 increase by one or more levels
- Students at level 3 or level 4 and who remain in the same level and have a higher scale score than in the prior year in the same subject
- Students at level 1 and level 2 who remain at the same level but move into the next higher section. Level 1 is split into 3 sections (low, mid, high) and level 2 into 2 sections (low, high). For example, a student in low level 1 must move to mid-level 1 to register as a learning gain.

An acceleration component is included at the middle school level while graduation rates and college and career acceleration are included at the high school level.

In addition, the current grade model requires the following for all school levels:

- School must test a minimum of 95 percent of students
- Schools grades are computed using available components, there is no substitution of district averages for missing components
- All school grade components are reported as percentages with a maximum of 100%, and the percentages are averaged across components to compute the total grade (see Table 1).

Table 1. *School Grade Scale, 2015-16*

	A	B	C	D	F
Percentage	≥ 62%	54% to 61%	41% to 53%	32% to 40%	≤ 31%

Additional details on computation of school grades are available at: <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org>.

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School grade distributions for the five largest Florida school districts and the state overall, are displayed in Table 2.

Table 2. *School Grade Distributions for the Five Largest School Districts in Florida, 2015-16\**

	A (%)		B (%)		C (%)		D (%)		F (%)	
	2016	Chg**	2016	Chg**	2016	Chg**	2016	Chg**	2016	Chg**
Broward	<del>22</del> <b>23</b>	-12	<del>22</del> <b>21</b>	+5	39	+13	<del>14</del> <b>13</b>	+3	4	-7
Hillsborough	20	-13	17	-2	41	+15	17	+5	4	-6
Miami-Dade	30	-9	23	+8	<del>35</del> <b>36</b>	+8	10	-4	2	-4
Orange	22	-16	22	+1	40	+13	12	+1	<del>5</del> <b>4</b>	+1
Palm Beach	31	-11	24	+13	<del>35</del> <b>34</b>	+8	<del>7</del> <b>6</b>	-4	<del>3</del> <b>5</b>	-6
State	23	-13	23	+3	39	+12	12	+1	3	-3

\* Elementary, middle, high, combination, and charter schools are included.

\*\* Change in percentage points from 2015 to 2016.

Table 3 provides a more detailed examination of the change in grades for Broward’s traditional, non-charter schools.

Table 3. *Changes in School Grades for Traditional, Non-Charter Schools, 2015-16 (percents will not add to 100 percent, see \* & \*\*)*

	2016		Change % Points***
	Count	Percent	
Schools Receiving an “A” *	<del>37</del> <b>41</b>	<del>18%</del> <b>19%</b>	-15
Schools Maintaining the Same Grade From Prior Year **	<del>105</del> <b>110</b>	<del>50%</del> <b>51%</b>	<del>-12</del> <b>-11</b>
Schools Improving Grade From Prior Year **	39	19%	0
Schools Decreasing in Grade From Prior Year **	64	30%	+10
Schools Receiving an “F” *	<del>8</del> <b>9</b>	4%	-6
Schools that Did Not Receive a Grade	<del>4</del> <b>0</b>	<del>2%</del> <b>0%</b>	<del>+2</del> <b>0</b>

\* Out of all schools that received a grade in the indicated year.

\*\* Out of schools that received grades in both ~~2014 and 2015~~ **and 2016**.

\*\*\* Change in percentage points from 2015 to 2016.

Table 4 (next page) provides a breakdown of school grades for all of Broward’s schools receiving a grade.

RWR/DG/RGB/RWC/SLS:rs

cc: Senior Leadership Team  
Directors, School Performance & Accountability  
All Traditional and Charter School Principals

Table 4. School Grade Distributions for BCPS, 2015-16

Grade	Elementary			Middle			High			Combination			Total			
	2016			2016			2016			2016			2016			
	<i>n</i>	%	Change % Points*	<i>n</i>	%	Change % Points*	<i>n</i>	%	Change % Points*	<i>n</i>	%	Change % Points*	<i>n</i>	%	Change % Points*	
Traditional and Charter Schools																
A	<del>33</del> <b>34</b>	20	-11	<del>15</del> <b>16</b>	28	-7	<del>8</del> <b>10</b>	<del>22</del> <b>26</b>	-27	<del>6</del> <b>8</b>	<del>24</del> <b>26</b>	-15	<del>62</del> <b>68</b>	<del>22</del> <b>23</b>	-12	
B	35	<del>24</del> <b>20</b>	6	<del>15</del> <b>16</b>	28	7	<del>8</del> <b>7</b>	<del>22</del> <b>18</b>	-5	5	<del>18</del> <b>16</b>	10	63	<del>22</del> <b>21</b>	5	
C	<del>63</del> <b>64</b>	<del>38</del> <b>37</b>	14	<del>20</del> <b>21</b>	37	5	<del>18</del> <b>20</b>	<del>49</del> <b>51</b>	27	10	<del>36</del> <b>32</b>	0	<del>111</del> <b>115</b>	39	13	
D	<del>28</del> <b>30</b>	17	2	4	7	0	<del>2</del> <b>1</b>	<del>5</del> <b>3</b>	2	5	<del>18</del> <b>16</b>	10	<del>39</del> <b>40</b>	<del>14</del> <b>13</b>	3	
F	9	5	-10	0	0	-5	1	3	3	<del>2</del> <b>3</b>	<del>7</del> <b>10</b>	-5	<del>12</del> <b>13</b>	4	-7	
Total	<del>168</del> <b>172</b>			<del>54</del> <b>57</b>			<del>37</del> <b>39</b>			<del>28</del> <b>31</b>			<del>287</del> <b>299</b>			
Traditional Schools																
A	22	16	-13	<del>7</del> <b>8</b>	<del>19</del> <b>21</b>	-10	<del>7</del> <b>9</b>	<del>23</del> <b>27</b>	-27	<del>4</del> <b>2</b>	<del>14</del> <b>18</b>	-29	<del>37</del> <b>41</b>	<del>18</del> <b>19</b>	-15	
B	29	21	7	13	<del>36</del> <b>34</b>	7	<del>7</del> <b>6</b>	<del>23</del> <b>18</b>	-8	0	0	0	<del>49</del> <b>48</b>	<del>23</del> <b>22</b>	4	
C	54	40	14	<del>15</del> <b>16</b>	42	5	<del>15</del> <b>16</b>	<del>48</del> <b>49</b>	32	4	<del>44</del> <b>36</b>	4	<del>88</del> <b>90</b>	42	15	
D	25	19	5	1	3	-2	1	3	0	2	<del>22</del> <b>18</b>	2	29	<del>14</del> <b>13</b>	3	
F	5	4	-12	0	0	0	1	3	3	<del>2</del> <b>3</b>	<del>22</del> <b>27</b>	22	<del>8</del> <b>9</b>	4	-6	
Total	135	135		<del>36</del> <b>38</b>			<del>34</del> <b>33</b>			9	<b>11</b>		<del>211</del> <b>217</b>			
Charter Schools																
A	<del>11</del> <b>12</b>	<del>33</del> <b>32</b>	-4	8	<del>44</del> <b>42</b>	-3	1	17	-23	5	<del>6</del> <b>6</b>	<del>26</del> <b>30</b>	-9	25	<del>27</del> <b>27</b>	-6
B	6	<del>18</del> <b>16</b>	1	<del>2</del> <b>3</b>	<del>14</del> <b>16</b>	6	1	17	17	5	<del>26</del> <b>25</b>	16	14	<del>15</del> <b>15</b>	7	
C	9	<b>10</b>	27	5	<del>28</del> <b>26</b>	7	<del>3</del> <b>4</b>	<del>50</del> <b>67</b>	-10	6	<del>32</del> <b>30</b>	-3	<del>23</del> <b>25</b>	<del>30</del> <b>31</b>	6	
D	<del>3</del> <b>5</b>	<del>9</del> <b>14</b>	-11	3	<del>17</del> <b>16</b>	6	<del>4</del> <b>0</b>	<del>17</del> <b>0</b>	17	3	<del>16</del> <b>15</b>	11	<del>10</del> <b>11</b>	13	1	
F	4	<del>12</del> <b>11</b>	-1	0	0	-16	0	0	0	0	0	-15	4	5	-9	
Total	<del>33</del> <b>37</b>			<del>18</del> <b>19</b>			6			<del>19</del> <b>20</b>			<del>76</del> <b>82</b>			

\* Change in percentage points from 2015 to 2016.