

March 28, 2001

Dr. Marta Pérez, Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 01-25 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, STATING ITS OBJECTION TO THE USE OF PARTIALLY CORRECTED FLORIDA COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TESTS (FCAT) FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE GRADES TO MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Using partially corrected Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT) for the assignment of academic performance grades to Miami-Dade County Public Schools would present an inaccurate picture of our students' performance. Due to time limitations set by the state, the firm contracted to grade the FCAT can only complete the grading of the multiple-choice section of the test prior to schools being assigned their overall performance grades. The essay portion of the test will be graded at a much later date. This undermines the hard work students and staff did to prepare for the FCAT to bolster their school's standing.

The Florida Education Association and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents have gone on record criticizing the plan to grade schools based solely on the multiple choice section of the FCAT. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida also should go on record as opposing this plan.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 01-25 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, stating its objection to the use of partially corrected Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT) for the assignment of academic performance grades to Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-25 OF THE
SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
STATING ITS OBJECTION TO THE USE OF PARTIALLY CORRECTED FLORIDA
COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT TESTS (FCAT) FOR THE
ASSIGNMENT OF ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE GRADES TO
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, using partially graded FCATs for the assignment of academic performance grades to Miami-Dade County Public Schools would present an inaccurate picture of our students' performance; and

WHEREAS, students and staff's hard work to prepare for the FCAT would be undermined if partially graded FCATs were used for the assignment of academic performance grades for schools; and

WHEREAS, other educational institutions and associations, including the Florida Education Association and the Florida Association of District School Superintendents have criticized the plan to grade schools based on the grading of only part of the test; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools works long and hard to improve academic standards and performance and advocates that consistent standards be maintained in standardized testing; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Public Schools supports the full grading of the FCAT to assign academic performance grades to schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 01-25 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, stating its objection to the use of partially corrected Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT) for the assignment of academic performance grades to Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this eighteenth day of April, A.D. 2001

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary