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MEMORANDUM

Contact Information
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DPS: 2014-81

TO: School District Superintendents

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: May 30, 2014

SUBJECT: **2014–2015 Statewide Assessment Schedule Released**

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the 2014–2015 Statewide Assessment Schedule. As you know, we have been working diligently to determine and plan for new English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics assessments that measure student mastery of the Florida Standards, and we are pleased to release the administration schedule. Thank you for your patience.

The following statewide assessments will be administered in the 2014–2015 school year:

- Florida Standards Assessments (FSA)
  - Grades 4–11 ELA Writing component field test (selected schools only)
  - Grades 3–11 ELA
    - Grades 4–11 ELA Writing component
  - Grades 3–8 Mathematics
  - Algebra 1 End-of-Course (EOC)
  - Algebra 2 EOC
  - Geometry EOC
- Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) Assessments
  - Grades 5 and 8 FCAT 2.0 Science
  - FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake
  - Algebra 1 EOC Retake
  - Biology 1 EOC
  - Civics EOC
  - Geometry EOC Retake
  - U.S. History EOC
- FCAT Mathematics Retake

Attached you will find the schedule for these assessments and other statewide assessments, as well as a new CBT Transition Chart that illustrates which tests will be computer based next year and beyond.

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The schedule lists administration windows for each assessment. Please note the following additional information for each window:

FSA Windows

- **December 1–19, 2014:** Grades 4–11 ELA Writing Component Field Test (selected schools only)
  - The ELA Writing Component Field Test is a stand-alone field test to collect data for future ELA assessments.
  - The field test is computer-based at all grade levels (4-11). Even though the Spring 2014 grade 4 ELA Writing component is paper-based, the data collected will be used for the future computer-based grade 4 ELA Writing component administrations.
  - A three-week window is provided to accommodate CBT capacity, as the window is concurrent with the Winter EOC administration.
  - You will be provided more information, such as when the sample will be selected, whether selected schools may expect to have more than one grade level in the sample, and test session length, by August 2014.
- **March 2–13, 2015:** Grades 4–11 ELA Writing Component
  - The ELA Writing Component is a computer-based test in grades 5–11 and a paper-based test in grade 4.
- **March 23–April 10, 2015:** Grades 3–4 ELA and Mathematics
  - Grades 3–4 FSA ELA and Mathematics are paper-based tests and are administered earlier than computer-based tests for scoring and reporting purposes.
  - School districts that have spring break scheduled during this window may establish an administration schedule to accommodate those days off.
  - A subject order and pickup date for each test will be established and distributed this summer.
  - FCAT/FCAT 2.0 Retakes and NGSSS Algebra 1 EOC will be administered during the same window.
  - Schools must take care to ensure that TO BE SCORED materials are returned to the correct contractor.
- **April 13–May 8, 2015:** Grades 5–11 ELA and Grades 5–8 Mathematics
  - FSA ELA and Mathematics are computer-based tests.
  - School districts that have spring break scheduled during this window may establish an administration schedule to accommodate those days off.
  - Grades 5 and 8 FCAT 2.0 Science will be administered during the same window.
  - A subject order and end date for each test will be established and distributed this summer.
- **April 20–May 15, 2015:** FSA Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2
  - The window for NGSSS Biology 1, Civics and U.S. History EOC assessments will begin on the same opening date and will close one week later (on May 22).
  - All EOC assessments are computer-based tests.

The following factors were taken into account when establishing the 2014–2015 schedule:

- Due to this schedule's late release, we realize that most of you have already scheduled your district's 2015 spring break. We collected this information from districts and established large enough windows for districts to accommodate testing even if spring break falls within a testing window.
- We realize that the March 23–April 10 window encompasses most of the Passover holiday, as well as Good Friday. Each district has the flexibility to establish a testing schedule that takes these holidays into consideration.

Again, thank you for your patience as we have worked on this important transition in assessments. We look forward to carrying out this integral part of our plan to continue to improve education in Florida. You will continue to receive information and resources about the new assessments, including test session lengths and number of sessions per test, as they are available. In the meantime, if you have questions about this schedule or information in this memorandum, please contact the Bureau of K-12 Student Assessment at 850-245-0513.

PS/vv

Attachments

cc: Assistant Superintendents for Instruction
School District Assessment Coordinators
School District Accountability Coordinators