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PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

June 26, 2026

TO: School Board Members

THROUGH: Michael J. Burke, Superintendent MJB

FROM: Jamie Wyatt, Deputy Superintendent/Chief of Schools
Adam Miller, Ph.D., Chief of Performance Accountability

SUBJECT: FY26 STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT RESULTS RELEASE

On June 26, 2026, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released the FY26 results of the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) for grades 3 to 10 English Language Arts (ELA) and grades 3 to 8 Mathematics; BEST Algebra 1 and Geometry End-of-Course (EOC) Exams; Biology, Civics, and U.S. History End-of-Course Exams; and State Science Assessments.

The FAST assessments for ELA (VPK through grade 10 Reading) and Mathematics (VPK through grade 8 Mathematics) are progress monitoring (PM) assessments and are administered three times per year. The administration of PM1 occurs at the very beginning of the school year and is designed to provide a baseline score so that teachers can begin to track student achievement progress. PM2 is administered mid-year, and PM3 is the summative assessment of standards-based learning for the school year. Per the FLDOE, FAST data from FY23 to FY26 should not be compared with prior years' performance due to the change in standards from the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) to the new FAST progress monitoring system.

In light of the new progress monitoring system, the FLDOE instructs parents that results from PM1 and PM2 are for informational purposes only, are used to identify areas that may need additional instruction or support and should not be considered student achievement designations. The present report provides a high-level summary of the Palm Beach (District-operated and Charter) performance data at the end of year (PM3) for FY24 to FY26 scores for similar school districts, and the state of Florida overall.

Palm Beach County students achieved strong results on their FY26 statewide assessments, with 62% of students in ELA and 63% of students in math scoring a level 3 or higher. This exceeded the statewide performance in both subject areas. This also represents a 12-percentage point increase in performance for both subject areas since the FAST assessment began in FY23.

FAST ELA

- Palm Beach performed higher than the State in grades 4 through 8 and 10 and similar to the State in students scoring level 3 or higher in ELA overall.
- Grades 4, 5, 8, and 10 showed the largest increases from FY25 in students scoring level 3 or higher among the Large Urban Districts; the highest increase occurring in grade 8 (56 to 64%).

- Palm Beach increased the percentage of students scoring level 3 or higher in grades 3-10 (combined) at a similar rate to the State and other Large Urban Districts from FY25 to FY26.
- Palm Beach decreased the number of grade 3 students scoring at Level 1 (at risk for retention) by 2 percentage points from 23 to 21%.

FAST Math

- The percent of Palm Beach students scoring level 3 or higher in Math overall exceeded the State by 2 percentage points and exceeded the state average in grades 3, 5, 6, and 8.
- Compared to the other Large Urban Districts, Palm Beach showed the largest increase in performance in grade 4 (+5 percentage points) and 5 (+7 percentage points) as well as showing the highest performance among the Large Urban Districts in grade 8 (68%).
- Grades 4 and 7 Math proficiency is not directly comparable between districts due to differences in acceleration practices.

BEST Algebra 1 and Geometry EOCs

- Palm Beach exceeded the State by 3 percentage points in Algebra 1 and Geometry.
- Performance in Algebra 1 increased by 4 percentage points from 62 to 66% at Level 3 or higher in FY26 compared to FY25, tied for highest among the Large Urban Districts.
- Performance in Geometry increased by 3 percentage points from 56 to 59% at Level 3 or higher in FY26 compared to FY25, exceeding both Miami-Dade and Broward in growth.

Statewide Science Assessment

- Palm Beach matched the State performance in Grade 5 and exceeded the State in Grade 8.
- Palm Beach increased performance in grade 5 (+6 percentage points) compared to FY25, tied for first in growth with Broward.
- Palm Beach increased performance in grade 8 (+4 percentage points) compared to FY25.

End-of-Course Exams

- Performance on the Biology EOC increased by 3 percentage points (72 to 75%) compared to FY25.
- Performance on the Civics EOC increased by 5 percentage points (72 to 77%) compared to FY25.
- Performance on the U.S. History EOC increased by 7 percentage points (66 to 73%) compared to FY25.
- Palm Beach exceeded the statewide performance in Biology and Civics and matched the state on the U.S. History EOC. Growth on the US History EOC exceeded that of the other Large Urban Districts.

Table 1: FY26 Number of Students Tested in Different Assessments

Assessment	Grade Levels	Students Tested
FAST ELA	3–10	108,262
FAST Mathematics	3–8	71,168
BEST Algebra 1 EOC	7–12	14,502
BEST Geometry EOC	8–12	14,514
Statewide Science	5 & 8	26,206
Biology EOC	8–12	13,493
Civics EOC	6–8	13,073
U.S. History EOC	9–12	12,525

Table 2: Overall FAST ELA & Math Performance for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State

District Name	Grades 3-10 ELA Combined					Grades 3-8 & EOC Math Combined				
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff
State	**53**	**57**	**61**	**4**	**8**	**55**	**58**	**61**	**3**	**6**
Broward	56	61	65	4	9	57	62	65	3	8
Miami-Dade	56	60	65	5	9	58	62	66	4	8
Duval	46	50	54	4	8	49	54	56	2	7
Hillsborough	50	54	58	4	8	53	55	58	3	5
Orange	52	57	61	4	9	55	59	62	3	7
Palm Beach	**54**	**58**	**62**	**4**	**8**	**55**	**59**	**63**	**4**	**8**
Pinellas	56	61	64	3	8	58	61	64	3	6

Diff = Difference

Table 3: FAST ELA – Grades 3, 4, and 5: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 3					Grade 4					Grade 5				
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff
State	**55**	**57**	**60**	**3**	**5**	**53**	**56**	**60**	**4**	**7**	**55**	**56**	**61**	**5**	**6**
Broward	57	61	64	3	7	57	62	65	3	8	60	62	67	5	7
Miami-Dade	56	60	64	4	8	55	59	64	5	9	56	60	65	5	9
Duval	49	51	51	0	2	47	49	54	5	7	46	49	55	6	9
Hillsborough	51	53	55	2	4	49	53	57	4	8	51	52	58	6	7
Orange	57	59	63	4	6	54	58	62	4	8	58	57	63	6	5
Palm Beach	**54**	**57**	**59**	**2**	**5**	**52**	**56**	**62**	**6**	**10**	**57**	**56**	**63**	**7**	**6**
Pinellas	62	65	68	3	6	57	62	66	4	9	59	61	66	5	7

Diff = Difference

Table 4: FAST ELA – Grades 6, 7, and 8: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 6					Grade 7					Grade 8				
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff
State	**54**	**60**	**62**	**2**	**8**	**50**	**57**	**62**	**5**	**12**	**51**	**55**	**60**	**5**	**9**
Broward	57	65	68	3	11	54	60	67	7	13	52	59	63	4	11
Miami-Dade	57	62	67	5	10	55	62	67	5	12	54	60	65	5	11
Duval	45	48	55	7	10	42	48	54	6	12	45	47	54	7	9
Hillsborough	54	55	59	4	5	49	55	59	4	10	47	52	57	5	10
Orange	52	59	62	3	10	47	55	62	7	15	49	53	59	6	10
Palm Beach	**56**	**62**	**63**	**1**	**7**	**50**	**60**	**65**	**5**	**15**	**53**	**56**	**64**	**8**	**11**
Pinellas	57	61	64	3	7	54	59	63	4	9	52	59	62	3	10

Diff = Difference

Table 5: FAST ELA – Grades 9 and 10: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 9					Grade 10				
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff
State	**53**	**56**	**60**	**4**	**7**	**53**	**58**	**61**	**3**	**8**
Broward	55	58	63	5	8	54	61	64	3	10
Miami-Dade	54	56	63	7	9	56	60	63	3	7
Duval	46	50	55	5	9	46	53	58	5	12
Hillsborough	51	53	58	5	7	52	57	60	3	8
Orange	51	54	57	3	6	51	57	60	3	9
Palm Beach	**53**	**57**	**60**	**3**	**7**	**54**	**59**	**65**	**6**	**11**
Pinellas	55	59	63	4	8	51	59	62	3	11

Diff = Difference

Table 6: FAST Mathematics – Grades 3, 4, and 5: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 3					Grade 4*					Grade 5				
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff
State	**60**	**63**	**66**	**3**	**6**	**58**	**62**	**65**	**3**	**7**	**56**	**57**	**62**	**5**	**6**
Broward	65	68	73	5	8	63	69	72	3	9	61	63	69	6	8
Miami-Dade	65	69	72	3	7	62	68	71	3	9	59	62	67	5	8
Duval	56	59	61	2	5	53	60	61	1	8	49	54	57	3	8
Hillsborough	56	58	60	2	4	55	59	61	2	6	53	54	58	4	5
Orange	62	63	67	4	5	58	64	67	3	9	58	58	64	6	6
Palm Beach	**59**	**64**	**67**	**3**	**8**	**50**	**55**	**60**	**5**	**10**	**58**	**59**	**66**	**7**	**8**
Pinellas	63	68	71	3	8	65	68	72	4	7	63	65	69	4	6

Diff = Difference

*Grade 4 Math is not directly comparable between districts due to differences in acceleration practices.

Table 7: FAST Mathematics – Grades 6, 7, and 8: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State: PM3

District Name	Grade 6					Grade 7*					Grade 8				
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff
State	**56**	**60**	**60**	**0**	**4**	**47**	**50**	**53**	**3**	**6**	**54**	**57**	**61**	**4**	**7**
Broward	55	63	63	0	8	55	59	66	7	11	43	47	47	0	4
Miami-Dade	60	64	67	3	7	49	54	58	4	9	58	60	65	5	7
Duval	44	47	49	2	5	36	43	44	1	8	46	47	53	6	7
Hillsborough	52	54	56	2	4	34	36	39	3	5	55	58	62	4	7
Orange	55	60	60	0	5	36	39	44	5	8	61	63	67	4	6
Palm Beach	**60**	**65**	**65**	**0**	**5**	**36**	**42**	**45**	**3**	**9**	**63**	**65**	**68**	**3**	**5**
Pinellas	59	63	63	0	4	27	33	24	-9	-3	60	64	62	-2	2

Diff = Difference

*Grade 7 Math is not directly comparable between districts due to differences in acceleration practices.

Table 8: BEST Algebra I EOC and BEST Geometry EOC: Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State.

	BEST Algebra I EOC					BEST Geometry EOC				
District Name	**FY24**	**FY25**	**FY26**	**FY25-FY26 Diff**	**FY24-FY26 Diff**	**FY24**	**FY25**	**FY26**	**FY25-FY26 Diff**	**FY24-FY26 Diff**
State	**55**	**60**	**63**	**3**	**8**	**53**	**55**	**56**	**1**	**3**
Broward	58	65	68	3	10	53	62	60	-2	7
Miami-Dade	61	66	69	3	8	56	58	60	2	4
Duval	56	57	61	4	5	55	57	57	0	2
Hillsborough	56	59	63	4	7	54	53	54	1	0
Orange	53	63	63	0	10	54	56	59	3	5
Palm Beach	**58**	**62**	**66**	**4**	**8**	**51**	**56**	**59**	**3**	**8**
Pinellas	54	61	64	3	10	55	54	59	5	4

Diff = Difference

Table 9: Statewide Science Assessment Results – Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for Grades 5 and 8 for Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State

	Grade 5					Grade 8				
District Name	**FY24**	**FY25**	**FY26**	**FY25-FY26 Diff**	**FY24-FY26 Diff**	**FY24**	**FY25**	**FY26**	**FY25-FY26 Diff**	**FY24-FY26 Diff**
State	**53**	**55**	**60**	**5**	**7**	**45**	**49**	**52**	**3**	**7**
Broward	52	57	63	6	11	41	45	49	4	8
Miami-Dade	53	56	59	3	6	42	46	49	3	7
Duval	49	52	56	4	7	37	37	43	6	6
Hillsborough	47	50	55	5	8	43	48	50	2	7
Orange	61	62	67	5	6	48	52	57	5	9
Palm Beach	**53**	**54**	**60**	**6**	**7**	**48**	**51**	**55**	**4**	**7**
Pinellas	64	67	70	3	6	50	58	59	1	9

Diff = Difference

Table 10: EOC Subjects – Percentages of Students Scoring Level 3 or Higher for the Large Urban 7 Florida Districts and State

District Name	Biology					Civics					U.S. History				
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY25-FY26 Diff	FY24-FY26 Diff
State	**67**	**71**	**74**	**3**	**7**	**67**	**70**	**76**	**6**	**9**	**68**	**70**	**73**	**3**	**5**
Broward	70	77	77	0	7	68	72	77	5	9	69	75	77	2	8
Miami-Dade	70	74	75	1	5	70	74	79	5	9	70	73	74	1	4
Duval	69	73	73	0	4	63	67	68	1	5	69	71	74	3	5
Hillsborough	64	68	72	4	8	65	62	70	8	5	68	73	73	0	5
Orange	69	73	77	4	8	62	69	75	6	13	69	70	73	3	4
Palm Beach	**67**	**72**	**75**	**3**	**8**	**66**	**72**	**77**	**5**	**11**	**65**	**66**	**73**	**7**	**8**
Pinellas	62	70	75	5	13	73	78	79	1	6	67	71	75	4	8

Diff = Difference

School level results are available at http://l.sdpbc.net/gt1vg. For questions about the School District of Palm Beach County's FAST results, please contact Dr. Adam Miller, Chief of Performance Accountability, at 561-434-8851. If you have questions about instructional programs, please contact Maria Bishop, Chief Academic Officer, at 561-434-8618. If you have questions about individual school efforts and the FAST tests, please contact the appropriate Regional or Instructional Superintendent.

MJB/JW/AM/PH/RC:wl

c: Academic and Operating Chiefs
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