

# NEWS ALERT



**Miami-Dade County Public Schools**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Preliminary 2014-2015 School Performance Grades

Today, the Florida Department of Education released the Preliminary 2014-2015 School Performance Grades for all schools. These results are based on the school grading rule and scale that were adopted by the State Board of Education in Tallahassee on January 6, 2016. Since 2014-2015 was the first year of the administration of a new state assessment, these School Performance Grades are devoid of learning gains. Learning gains have historically represented an important component of the school grades calculation as it takes into account student growth, particularly for the large population of English language learners and special education students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS).

“Considering the transitional nature of this year’s accountability system and its reliance on performance data devoid of learning gains, today’s school grade release demonstrates the teaching and curriculum development ingenuity of our educators and administrators, ensuring that our students excel despite new and more rigorous grading system measurements,” said Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho. “With performance that outpaced similar districts and the state as a whole, students, parents, teachers, and employees should take great pride in this accomplishment.”

### Highlights:

- Despite more rigorous standards, a more complex assessment, and a less than ideal testing platform delivery, M-DCPS has a higher percentage of “A” rated schools than schools statewide.
- The percentage of “F” schools in M-DCPS remained constant from 2013-2014.
  - M-DCPS has a lower percentage of “F” rated schools than schools statewide.
- M-DCPS outperformed virtually every comparable district including Broward, Duval, and Hillsborough counties, on the percentage of “A” and “F” schools, and Palm Beach on the percentage of “F” schools.
- Even though the State adopted a new more challenging grading formula for schools and districts, M-DCPS maintained a School Performance Grade of “B” – one percentage point shy of an “A.”

Parents should also know that the Department of Education has released the newly redesigned score reports for the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA), statewide science assessments and statewide end-of-course assessments. These reports have been delivered to school sites and schools will be sending the reports to parents within the next few weeks.

Please contact Marie Izquierdo, Chief Academic Officer, Office of Academics and Transformation, at 305 995-1451, or Gisela Feild, Administrative Director, Assessment, Research, and Data Analysis, at 305 995-2943.

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