

## **COMPREHENSIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING ASSESSMENT (CELLA) DISTRICT SUMMARY REPORT, SPRING 2013**

The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) has released statewide results from the Spring 2013 administration of the Comprehensive English Language Learning Assessment (CELLA). Specifically, state, district, and individual school summary results were released for English Language Learners (ELLs) in Grades K-12.

Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, Florida has used CELLA to measure growth in English language proficiency for students classified as ELLs, as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). CELLA is a four-skill assessment that is administered in Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing to all ELLs in grades K-12. It is important to note that yearly outcomes represent a cross-sectional view of English language acquisition, and any year-to-year summary comparisons are based on largely different student groups as new, beginning English language learners enter the district and join the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program, while other students exit the program as they become English proficient.

District's students' NCLB accountability requirements, known as Annual Measureable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs), are reported on District students' achievement in three areas: (1) progress towards acquiring English language proficiency, (2) attainment of English language proficiency, and (3) adequate yearly progress in reading and mathematics based on the results of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Tests (FCAT/FCAT 2.0).

CELLA outcomes are reported by the FLDOE in terms of scale scores and proficiency levels for each grade level and area tested: Listening/Speaking, Reading and Writing. Based on the State-approved proficiency levels, students' CELLA scores are used to determine their ESOL level and be one factor considered in exiting students from the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. Additionally, CELLA results may be used diagnostically to track students' progress over time and to identify students' strengths and weaknesses in English.

Over 70,000 Miami-Dade County Public School students participated in the Spring 2013 CELLA, comprising 29% of all those tested in the state. District and state summary results by grade level and area tested which include the following highlights.

- Approximately 43% of the District's 70,258 ELL students were in grades K-2.
- M-DCPS total mean scale scores increased substantially in all grades, except grade 2, consistently outpacing the state.
- The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring "Proficient" in all three modalities (listening speaking, reading, and writing) increased in middle and senior high school grades.
- Approximately 43% of the District's ELL students were in grades K-2.
- The increase in total mean scale score for M-DCPS students exceeded that of the state all but one grade level.

District, State, and School Summary Reports are available online at: <http://oada.dadeschools.net/CELLA/CELLA.asp>. In addition, summary reports have been distributed to schools along with individual student reports to be distributed to the students' parents and retained in student's cumulative record.