

March 15, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Florida is utilizing computer-based testing (CBT) beginning this year. As such, this letter serves as notification that your student will be given the CBT for the FCAT Grade 10 Mathematics test or the FCAT Reading and Mathematics Retakes. Your child's school will administer the test(s) beginning Wednesday, March 30, 2011 for retakes and Thursday, April 14, 2011 for grade 10 testing.

While this is the first year Florida will administer statewide computer-based assessments, the specific software being used has been successfully proven through more than five million tests in seven other states over the past four years. Additionally, your student will have had an opportunity to participate in a practice test to become familiar with the software, item types, and online tools they will encounter and use during testing.

If you or your student would like to review the practice test at home, you can download instructions and a practice test (called an "ePAT") at www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT. You will also find a "Script for Administering the ePAT" that is read aloud to students during scheduled practice tests. The script includes a thorough walk-through of the software interface and instructions for using each of the online tools. Your student may practice as often as is necessary prior to testing.

In May 2011, the Algebra I End of Course Exam (EOC) computer-based test will be administered to 9th grade students. The End of Course Assessment program is a Florida requirement. The purpose and design of the EOC statewide assessment program can be found in Chapter 1008, Part II, [Florida Statutes](#).

The Algebra I EOC test will count as 30% of the final grade for Algebra 1 for the 2010-11 year. The Florida Department of Education (FL DOE) has informed districts that the scores for the Algebra I EOC exam will not be sent to districts until after June 7th.

As a result, the final grade for Algebra 1 will not be calculated until the scores are provided by the FL DOE. Students who are enrolled in Algebra 1 will receive a report card, however, there will not be a FINAL grade for Algebra 1 until the EOC exam has been calculated. This will also cause a delay in the Grade Point Average (GPA) calculation.

We appreciate your assistance in ensuring a successful CBT administration this spring. If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Debra Abbott, Assistant Principal at 407-320-5786. You may also access additional information regarding computer-based testing at the Florida Department of Education's website at <http://fcats.fldoe.org/fcat2/cbt.asp>.

Sincerely,

Connie E. Collins, ED.D
Principal