



CENTRAL FLORIDA PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS COALITION

Purpose: To address public educational issues impacting Central Florida.
Representing over 900,000 Florida Students and their families.



Florida's Testing and Accountability System Three-Year Delay Needed November 10, 2014



Position

Central Florida Public School Board members believe in valid, reliable, consistent statewide measures that document student growth. In order to restore confidence in Florida's assessment and accountability program, provide accurate information related to student achievement, and implement a fair teacher evaluation system, it is essential that the Florida Department of Education collects Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) data for three years prior to setting standards for calculating learning gains, issuing any form of school grades and impacting teacher performance.



Issues

- The Florida Department of Education has not conducted a thorough and comprehensive investigation of every standardized test that the state and school districts are requiring of students.
- It is now required that the assessment data for every K-12 course at every school be collected and analyzed for the purpose of teacher evaluation despite the discrepancy in creating, validating, scoring and securing test documents.
- The Florida Department of Education has not sufficiently field tested the Florida Standards Assessments with Florida students to be able to determine learning gains and to calculate a school grade.
- Multiple changes in the Florida accountability system over the last three years have caused parents, administrators, and the general public to lose confidence in the school grading system.
- The Florida Department of Education failed to release test item specifications for the FSA in adequate time for school districts to properly prepare teachers, adjust instructional plans and align progress monitoring tools prior to the start of the 2014-15 school year.



Solution

- 2014-15
Administer FSAs and End-of-Course Assessments and use scores as baseline measures. These scores would not be used for teacher evaluation or performance pay.
- 2015-16
Administer FSAs and End-of-Course Assessments and set proficiency scores in the summer of 2016. These scores would not be used for teacher evaluation or performance pay.
- 2016-17
Assign preliminary school grades with no related consequences including teacher evaluation and performance pay.

