

Roger C. Cuevas, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REPORT ON HIGHLIGHTS OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT ON THE FCAT 2001 AND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE GRADES**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has made significant improvement in its statewide standing on the 2001 administration of the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). Administrators, faculty, staff, and students worked diligently to improve test scores through a number of school-based strategies that included before-school, after-school, and Saturday tutoring; targeting and providing assistance to low performing students; refining professional development opportunities for teachers; and realigning resources to support increased student achievement.

On Wednesday, May 30, 2001, the Florida Department of Education released the School Performance Grades for the 2000-2001 school year. M-DCPS' performance data revealed the following:

- an increase in the number of schools receiving the designation of "A" from 40 to 51;
- an increase in the number of schools receiving the designation of "B" from 19 to 25;
- an increase in the number of schools receiving the designation of "C" from 100 to 108;
- a decrease in the number of schools receiving the designation of "D" from 119 to 91;and
- a decrease in the number of schools receiving the designation of "F" from 2 to 0.

These performance results represent quantitative evidence that the strategies and objectives identified in school-site school improvement plans are making a substantive difference. These results also demonstrate that M-DCPS is well on its way toward improving the learning process for all students.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, receive the report on **Highlights of Academic Achievement on the FCAT 2001 and School Performance Grades.**

BAS:irm