

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that students will take the following computer-based assessment(s):

- Grade 9 FCAT 2.0 Reading – April 21st – April 25th
- Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading – April 14th-April 18th
- FCAT 2.0 Reading Retake – April 7th –April 10th

Your student has had, or will have, an opportunity to participate in a computer-based practice test to become familiar with the software, item types, and online tools he or she will encounter and use during testing.

If you or your student would like to review the CBT practice test at home, you can download instructions and a practice test (called an “ePAT”) at www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT. Your student may practice as often as necessary prior to testing. You may also view Student Tutorials at www.FLAssessments.com/StudentTutorials.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—If your student is found with ANY electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones and smartphones, at any time during testing, including breaks (e.g., restroom), his or her test will be invalidated, which means it will not be scored. The best practice is for students to leave devices at home or in their lockers on the day of testing.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All FCAT/FCAT 2.0 tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads, “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators will read the rules to students, and students must acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking a box or circle next to the statement.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they affirm the acknowledgment states, “After the test, you may not discuss the test items with anyone. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on websites like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.” If students are found sharing information about test items, even without the intent to cheat, their tests will be invalidated.
- **Test Invalidations**—Students are responsible for working on their own during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. The FDOE employs a test security company, Caveon Test Security, to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student results within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (for lunch, an appointment, or illness, etc.), he or she WILL NOT be allowed to complete the test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Shane Billette at Shane.Billette@stjohns.k12.fl.us. For more information about the statewide assessment program, visit the FDOE website at <http://fcat.fldoe.org/>.

Thank you for supporting your student as he or she prepares for testing.

Sincerely,

Cathy Mittelstadt