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*Superintendent of Schools*



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Monroe County 2012 FCAT Writing Results Reflect Transition to Higher Standards**

Two days after an emergency State Department of Education meeting to discuss the FCAT Writing scores, Commissioner Gerard Robinson officially released the state's FCAT Writing results late Thursday evening.

"Florida's higher standards help ensure students are learning what they are expected to know so that they are prepared for college, career, and life. As Florida transitions to higher standards and higher expectations, we can expect our assessment results to reflect those changes," stated Commissioner Gerard Robinson.

The Monroe County School District students scored one percent below the state average at the assessed grades 4, 8, and 10 for writing. In addition, the average district writing score was consistent with the state average score.

<b>FCAT Writes</b>	<b>State Average 3.0 and above</b>	<b>MCS D 3.0 and above</b>	<b>State Average Score</b>	<b>District Average Score</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	81	80	3.3	3.2
<b>Grade 8</b>	78	77	3.3	3.2
<b>Grade 10</b>	84	83	3.4	3.4

The State Department of Education voted unanimously to set the proficient score at three for this school year. Student papers were scored by two individuals (one scorer for 2010-2011) and assessed with greater emphasis placed on the quality of support and conventions. The rigor of evaluation for the 2011-2012 school administration of FCAT Writes was increased to prepare students for college and careers.

Two schools in the district made significant gains in fourth grade; Sugarloaf School with a 36 percent increase and Treasure Village Montessori Charter with a 26 percent increase. "The Monroe County School District is pleased to recognize the students and teachers who transitioned into the more rigorous assessment. We are committed to providing our students with the competencies necessary to transition into college and careers with excellent writing skills, states Superintendent, Dr. Jesus Jara.

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