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“Student Success,
Whatever It Takes”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dr. Joseph Burke, Superintendent, 305-293-1400 ext. 53323

Date: December 7, 2010

MONROE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL GRADES IMPROVE

*~ New high school grading system tracks wider spectrum of performance,
including schools' ability to prepare students for 21st Century economy ~*

New accountability measures for high schools are pushing for higher standards beyond just FCAT performance. High school grades are now based on additional components as well as FCAT scores. The new non-FCAT based components for school grades include:

- The school's graduation rate.
- The performance and participation of students in Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Dual Enrollment, Advanced International Certification of Education (AICE), and industry certification.
- The college readiness of students as measured by the SAT, ACT or College Placement Test (CPT).
- The high school graduation rate of at-risk students.
- The growth or decline in these data components from year to year.

Results for Monroe County schools show an increase in both school grades and performance.

School	2008-2009 Final Grade	2009-2010 Final Grade	2009-2010 Total Points Earned
Coral Shores High School	B	A	1,152
Marathon High School	B	B	1,056
Key West High School	C	B	1,210

- Overall graduation rate at each high school increased from last year.
- The graduation rate is recalculated for only at-risk students. The state target is 75%; both Coral Shores High School and Key West High School met this goal.

- Participation of students in accelerated course work at each high school increased from last year. Furthermore, the performance in accelerated coursework increased at Key West High School.
- Both Coral Shores and Key West High School showed an increase over last year in Reading and Mathematics college readiness.

All three high schools earned enough points to receive an A (1050 points), but Key West High School and Marathon High School both dropped a letter grade due to the performance on a single indicator. Key West High School did not show growth for the lowest 25% of students on the Reading portion of the FCAT for two consecutive years and Marathon did not meet the state goal of 75% for the graduation rate of at-risk students. However, both schools made tremendous strides to surpass the points necessary to earn an A grade.

Dr. Burke is proud of the students, faculty and administrators in our high schools for meeting the demands of the new accountability standards for student and school performance.