



SANDRA "SAM" HIMMEL – SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

*"Where Learning is the Expectation
And Caring is a Commitment"*

THOMAS KENNEDY
DISTRICT 1

VIRGINIA BRYANT
DISTRICT 2

PATRICIA DEUTSCHMAN
DISTRICT 3

BILL MURRAY
DISTRICT 4

LINDA B. POWERS
DISTRICT 5

December 8, 2011

Dear Parents of Students entering High School in 2010-11,

During the 2010 legislative session, the Florida Legislature approved new high school graduation requirements. The new requirements will be phased in over the next 7 years beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. They cover primarily science and mathematics courses. Although the total number of math and science courses needed to graduate with a standard diploma will remain the same (4 credits in math and 3 credits in science), the specific courses required within each category have been revised.

The new graduation requirements will take effect based on the year that students enter 9th grade. The new requirements for students entering 9th grade in 2010- 2011 are outlined below.

- ❖ Grade 10 FCAT Reading: Level 3 score required
- ❖ Pass Algebra 1 and take a statewide standardized end-of-course (EOC)* test that will be worth 30% of the student's course grade (Regardless of the grade level of the student when the course is completed)
- ❖ Pass Geometry

*According to the Florida Department of Education, end-of-course (EOC) assessments will be very different from the FCAT. Students will participate in these assessments on the computer at the conclusion of the specific high school courses. The initial year of the EOC exam administration will only occur in the spring. EOC requirements may be waived for some exceptional student education (ESE) students but they will need to take the exam.

Students completing Algebra I and Algebra IB during either 1st term will take the EOC during the December 2011 testing window (Dec 5 to 16) or if the course is completed during second term the EOC exam will be taken during the spring testing window (April 30 to May 18). Results will be reported to the district and the 30% calculation will take place. Due to this requirement, report cards listing Algebra I and Algebra IB will not be complete in the area of Semester Exam and Final Grade until the end of the school year when scores of the EOC are returned. The comment code listed on your student's report card, "+ No Final Grade - waiting on EOC Exam Results" will reflect this requirement.

Sincerely,