

February 3, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is time for FCAT testing. Attached is the district calendar which details the 2010 high school writing, reading, math and science testing sessions for our students as well as make-up testing. These tests are very important to our students and school. Tenth grade students will be taking the FCAT for graduation. Test scores count toward our school grade and determine course placement for students next year. Our goal is for all students to succeed and for West Florida High School to earn an "A." I am confident our students will be successful.

In addition to the strategies that the teachers are implementing in their classrooms, I encourage students to practice at home. The Florida Department of Education has some excellent practice sites--FCAT Explorer and FCAT released tests. At the Florida Department of Education site ([fldoe.org](http://fldoe.org)) click on "FCAT" link. Locate the section titled "**Understanding the FCAT.**" To log on to FCAT Explorer, you need a user name and password. The user name is your child's last name and first initial. The password is the 2-digit district code (17) followed by the first 4 letters of the last name and two digits each for month and day of birth. For example: Mary Turner born 3-2-89 would have a user name of turnerm and a password of 17turn0302. Also, your child has recently been given an FCAT booklet with information and test samples.

Your support is essential during this time. You can assist us in preparing your child for FCAT by ensuring the student reviews FCAT materials, obtains sufficient rest, and receives proper nutrition prior to testing. It is important that your child do his/her best on the test. Your child should report to school promptly at 8:20 a.m. Testing will begin at 8:25 a.m.

The following special schedule has been approved by district administration for our 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students during testing. This schedule is necessary so that all instructors will be available to assist with test administration and allows us to provide the best testing environment for our students. Students not scheduled for testing should report to the gym at the designated time listed below. Bus transportation will follow the regular schedule; however, students reporting after the 8:25 a.m. bell must provide their own transportation. Once students arrive on campus, they will not be allowed to check out.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Reporting Time</u>
All 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, February 9	10:00 a.m.
11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> (Only Juniors and Seniors who have passed FCAT)	Tuesday, March 9 and Wednesday, March 10	12:00 noon

**Students in grades 11 and 12 who have NOT passed the FCAT should report to school at 8:20 a.m. for testing on March 9 for FCAT Reading and March 10 for FCAT Mathematics.**

It is very important that students providing their own transportation on February 9 report **promptly** to school at 10:00 a.m. and on March 9 and 10 report **promptly** to school at 12:00 noon. **Instructors will require students to complete graded class activities on these testing dates.**

Again, I appreciate your support as we work together to make sure every student at West Florida High School is successful. If you have any questions regarding the schedule or information provided, please contact me at 941-6221, ext. 2119.

Sincerely,

Lesla Morgan  
Principal