Vol 1801
August 2018

Christie Blazer
Vanessa Gonzalez Hernandez, PhD
Andrea Tirado

## 2017-2018 OVERVIEW OF M-DCPS' ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE


#### Abstract

At a Glance This Information Capsule answers the most frequently asked questions about M-DCPS' academic performance during the 2017-2018 school year. M-DCPS earned a District Performance Grade of " $A$ " in 2018. The percentage of $M$-DCPS schools earning a School Performance Grade of " $A$ " increased by eight percentage points from 2017 to 2018. No traditional M-DCPS school received a grade of "F." One Miami-Dade County charter school received an "F."


From 2017 to 2018, M-DCPS students' performance on the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics improved at the majority of grade levels tested. Performance on the FCAT 2.0 Science improved at both grade levels tested.

Across all grade levels, the percentage of first-time test takers scoring at the higher Achievement levels increased on the two FSA End of Course (EOC) assessments (Algebra 1 and Geometry) from 2017 to 2018. Similarly, the percentage of first-time test takers scoring at the higher Achievement Levels increased on the three Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) EOC assessments (Biology 1, Civics, and U.S. History).

From 2017 to 2018, the District made progress reducing the achievement gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students at selected grade levels on the FSA and FCAT 2.0 assessments. The gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students was also reduced on two of the three NGSSS EOC exams (Biology 1 and Civics).

## M-DCPS DISTRICT PERFORMANCE GRADE

For the first time in the history of Florida's Performance Grades, M-DCPS received a performance grade of " $A$ " in 2018. The District had received a grade of " $B$ " every year since the 2007-2008 school year.

Performance grades may include up to 11 components: four achievement components, four learning gains components, middle school acceleration, high school graduation rate,
and college and career acceleration. The number of points earned for each component is added together and divided by the total number of available points to determine the percentage of the points earned. In 2018, M-DCPS earned 688 points, or $63 \%$ of the total possible points, equivalent to a grade of "A."

## M-DCPS SCHOOL PERFORMANCE GRADES

The 2018 School Performance Grades were computed by the Florida Department of Education using student results from the following assessments:

- Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) English Language Arts (ELA),
- FSA Geometry EOC assessment for secondary

Figure 1
Proportions of Grades Assigned to M-DCPS in 2018



Note: Percentages are based on the 430 M-DCPS schools that received a 2018 School Performance Grade and exclude the 14 M DCPS schools that received an Incomplete School Performance Grade. students enrolled in the course;

- NGSSS Civics EOC assessment for secondary students enrolled in the course; and
- NGSSS U.S. History EOC assessment for secondary students enrolled in the course.

Figure 1 shows the proportions of grades assigned to M-DCPS schools. A total of $430 \mathrm{M}-$ DCPS elementary, middle, combination, and senior high schools, including charter schools, received a 2018 School Performance Grade.

The percentage of M-DCPS schools earning a grade of "A" increased by eight percentage points from 2017 to 2018 (from 39\% in 2017 to $47 \%$ in 2018). No traditional M-DCPS school received a grade of "F." One Miami-Dade County charter school received an "F."

## FLORIDA STANDARDS ASSESSMENTS (FSA)

## English Language Arts (ELA)

The FSA ELA includes reading and language components in grades $3-10$, as well as writing and listening components in grades 410.

In Spring 2018, 208,625 M-DCPS students in grades 3-10 took the FSA ELA. Test results are reported in terms of Achievement Levels that range from Level 1 (lowest) to Level 5 (highest). Level 3 indicates satisfactory performance. As can be seen in Figure 2, the percentage of M -
 DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 increased at seven of the eight grade levels tested (grades 3-5 and $7-10$ ) from 2017 to 2018. The percentage of students scoring at Achievement Levels $3-5$ remained stable at grade 6 .

## Mathematics

The FSA Mathematics was administered to students in grades 3-8. At the secondary grade levels, students enrolled in corresponding courses take EOC assessments in Algebra 1 or Geometry instead of the comprehensive FSA Mathematics exam. In Spring 2018, 143,919 M-DCPS students in grades 3-8 took the FSA Mathematics.

As can be seen in Figure 3, the percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 increased at four of the six grade levels tested (grades 3 and 5-7) from 2017 to

Figure 3
M-DCPS FSA Mathematics: Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, 2017 and 2018
 2018. Most notable was the six percentage point increase in M-DCPS students scoring at Levels 3-5 at grade 5. The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 remained stable at grade 4 and decreased at grade 8.

## FCAT 2.0 SCIENCE

While students at the secondary level (usually grade 10) take a NGSSS EOC assessment in Biology 1, students in grades 5 and 8 still take the FCAT 2.0 Science test. In Spring 2018, 48,107 MDCPS students in grades 5 and 8 took the FCAT 2.0 Science test. Figure 4 shows that the percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 on the FCAT 2.0 Science increased by five percentage points at grade 5 and by two percentage points at grade 8.

Figure 4
M-DCPS FCAT 2.0 Science: Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, 2017 and 2018


## FSA END OF COURSE (EOC) ASSESSMENTS

The State of Florida administers FSA End of Course (EOC) assessments in Algebra 1 and Geometry.

## Algebra 1

All of Florida's EOC assessments target specific course content and are administered to all students taking the applicable course without regard to grade level. Therefore, accelerated middle school students, as well as senior high school students, participate in the exam.

Figure 5
M-DCPS FSA Algebra 1 EOC Assessment:
Percentages Scoring at
Achievement Levels 3-5, 2017 and 2018

In M-DCPS, 27,828 first-time test takers participated in the 2018 FSA Algebra 1 EOC assessment. Fifty-seven percent of the students taking the assessment were enrolled in grade 9; 39\% of these students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5 (Figure 5). The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 increased at grade 7,
 remained stable at grades 8 and 9, and decreased at grades

Note: The total includes a small number of grade 6 and adult students. At the middle grades, only high-performing students enrolled in Algebra 1 as an accelerated course. 10-12. Across all grade levels combined, $60 \%$ of M-DCPS students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5, a one percentage point increase from 2017 to 2018.

## Geometry

In Spring 2018, 25,482 M-DCPS first-time test takers participated in the FSA Geometry EOC assessment. The majority of students taking the assessment were enrolled in grade 10 (59\%); 35\% of these students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5 (Figure 6). The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 increased at grades $8-10$ and 12 , but decreased at grade 11. Across all grade levels combined, $54 \%$ of M DCPS students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5, a six percentage point increase from 2017 to 2018.

Figure 6
M-DCPS FSA Geometry EOC Assessment:
Percentages Scoring at
Achievement Levels 3-5, 2017 and 2018


Note: The total includes a small number of grade 7 and adult students. At the middle grades, only high-performing students enrolled in Geometry as an accelerated course.

## NEXT GENERATION SUNSHINE STATE STANDARDS (NGSSS) EOC ASSESSMENTS

The State of Florida administers Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) EOC assessments in Biology 1, Civics, and U.S. History.

Figure 7
M-DCPS NGSSS Biology 1 EOC Assessment: Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, 2017 and 2018

## Biology 1

In Spring 2018, 25,774 M-DCPS first-time test takers participated in the NGSSS Biology 1 EOC assessment. The majority of students taking the assessment were enrolled in grade 10 (55\%); 49\% of these students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5 (Figure 7). The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5
 increased at grades $8-10$ and 12, but decreased at grade 11. Across all grade

Note: The total includes a small number of grade 7 and adult students. At the middle grades, only high-performing students enrolled in Biology 1 as an accelerated course. levels combined, $65 \%$ of M-DCPS students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5 in 2018, a three percentage point increase from 2017.

## Civics

In Spring 2018, 25,516 M-DCPS first-time test takers participated in the NGSSS Civics EOC assessment. The vast majority of students

Figure 8
M-DCPS NGSSS Civics EOC Assessment Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, 2017 and 2018 taking the assessment were enrolled in grade 7 (99\%); 72\% of these students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5 (Figure 8). The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 increased at both grades 7 and 8. Across both grade levels combined, 72\% of M-DCPS students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5, a three percentage point increase from 2017 to 2018.


Note: The total includes a small number of grade 6 students.

## U.S. History

In Spring 2018, 23,698 M-DCPS first-time test takers participated in the NGSSS U.S. History EOC assessment. The majority of students taking the assessment were enrolled in grade 11 (95\%); $68 \%$ of these students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5 (Figure 9). The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 increased at grades 10 and 11, but decreased at grade 12. Across all grade levels combined, $67 \%$ of M-DCPS students scored at Achievement Levels 3-5, a two percentage point increase from 2017 to 2018.

Figure 9
M-DCPS NGSSS U.S. History EOC Assessment: Percentages Scoring at
Achievement Levels 3-5, 2017 and 2018


Note: The total includes a small number of grades 8, 9 , and adult students.

## ACHIEVEMENT GAP ON THE FSA, FCAT 2.0, AND NGSSS EOC EXAMS

As can be seen from the data presented below, the District made progress reducing the achievement gap between Black and White Students and between Hispanic and White students at selected grade levels on the FSA and FCAT 2.0 assessments from 2017 to 2018. The gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students was also reduced on the Biology 1 and Civics NGSSS EOC exams, but remained stable on the U.S. History NGSSS EOC exam.

FSA ELA. The achievement gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students on the FSA ELA decreased at six of the eight grade levels tested, remained stable at one grade level, and increased at one grade level (Table 1).

Table 1
M-DCPS FSA ELA: Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018

|  | Size of 2018 Gap |  | Did the Gap Increase or Decrease from 2017 to 2018? |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap |
| Grade 3 | 35\% | 16\% | -3\% | -2\% |
| Grade 4 | 32\% | 14\% | -3\% | -3\% |
| Grade 5 | 36\% | 17\% | -3\% | -2\% |
| Grade 6 | 39\% | 18\% | -2\% | -2\% |
| Grade 7 | 39\% | 19\% | 0\% | -1\% |
| Grade 8 | 41\% | 20\% | +2\% | +2\% |
| Grade 9 | 39\% | 20\% | -1\% | -1\% |
| Grade 10 | 38\% | 22\% | -1\% | 0\% |

FSA Mathematics. As can be seen in Table 2, M-DCPS made progress in reducing the achievement gap on the FSA Mathematics. The gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students was reduced at four of the six grade levels tested.

Table 2
M-DCPS FSA Mathematics: Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018


FCAT 2.0 Science. The achievement gap between Black and White students decreased at grade 5, but increased at grade 8 . The gap between Hispanic and White students decreased at grade 5 and remained stable at grade 8 (Table 3.)

Table 3
M-DCPS FCAT 2.0 Science: Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018

|  |  |  | Did the Gap Increase or Decrease |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Size of 2018 Gap | from 2017 to 2018? |  |  |
|  | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap |
| Grade 5 | $35 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $-2 \%$ | $-1 \%$ |
| Grade 8 | $35 \%$ | $23 \%$ | $+1 \%$ | $0 \%$ |

FSA Algebra I EOC Assessment. As can be seen in Table 4, the achievement gap between Black and White students decreased at one grade level and increased at two grade levels. The gap between Hispanic and White students decreased at all three grade levels.

## Table 4

M-DCPS FSA Algebra 1 EOC Assessment:
Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018

|  |  |  | Did the Gap Increase or Decrease from |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Size of 2018 Gap | 2017 to 2018? |  |  |
|  | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap |
| Grade 7 | $10 \%$ | $3 \%$ | $+4 \%$ | $-2 \%$ |
| Grade 8 | $10 \%$ | $4 \%$ | $+1 \%$ | $-1 \%$ |
| Grade 9 | $24 \%$ | $12 \%$ | $-5 \%$ | $-2 \%$ |

Note: Results are not reported for grade levels with fewer than 10 students in at least one of the subgroups tested for both academic years.

FSA Geometry EOC Assessment. The achievement gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students decreased at two grade levels and increased at one grade level (Table 5).

Table 5
M-DCPS FSA Geometry EOC Assessment:
Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018

|  | Size of 2018 Gap |  | Did the Gap Increase or Decrease from 2017 to 2018? |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap |
| Grade 8 | 5\% | 3\% | -4\% | +1\% |
| Grade 9 | 25\% | 7\% | -4\% | -4\% |
| Grade 10 | 31\% | 12\% | +4\% | -2\% |

Note: Results are not reported for grade levels with fewer than 10 students in at least one of the subgroups tested for both academic years.

NGSSS Biology 1 EOC Assessment. As can be seen in Table 6, the achievement gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students decreased at three grade levels and increased at one grade level.

Table 6
M-DCPS NGSSS Biology 1 EOC Assessment: Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018

|  |  |  | Did the Gap Increase or Decrease |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | Size of 2018 Gap | from 2017 to 2018? |  |  |

Note: Results are not reported for grade levels with fewer than 10 students in at least one of the subgroups tested for both academic years.

NGSSS Civics EOC Assessment. The achievement gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students decreased from 2017 to 2018 (Table 7).

Table 7
M-DCPS NGSSS Civics EOC Assessment:
Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018

|  |  |  | Did the Gap Increase or Decrease |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Size of 2018 Gap | from 2017 to 2018? |  |  |
|  | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap |
| Grade 7 | $26 \%$ | $14 \%$ | $-1 \%$ | $-3 \%$ |

Note: Results are not reported for grade levels with fewer than 10 students in at least one of the subgroups tested for both academic years.

NGSSS U.S. History EOC Assessment. The achievement gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students remained stable from 2017 to 2018 (Table 8).

Table 8
M-DCPS NGSSS U.S. History EOC Assessment:
Differences in Percentages Scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5, Black-White and Hispanic-White Achievement Gaps, 2017 and 2018

|  |  |  | Did the Gap Increase or Decrease from |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Size of 2018 Gap | 2017 to 2018? |  |  |
|  | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap | Black-White Gap | Hispanic-White Gap |
| Grade 11 | $30 \%$ | $16 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |

Note: Results are not reported for grade levels with fewer than 10 students in at least one of the subgroups tested for both academic years.

## SUMMARY

This report provided an overview of M-DCPS' 2017-2018 academic performance. Highlights include:

- M-DCPS earned a District Performance Grade of "A" in 2018 for the first time in the history of Florida's Performance Grades.
- The percentages of M-DCPS schools earning a School Performance Grade of "A" increased by eight percentage points from 2017 to 2018 (from 39\% to $47 \%$ ). A higher percentage of M-DCPS schools received a grade of " $A$ " in 2018 than schools statewide and in other large Florida districts. No traditional M-DCPS school received a grade of "F." One Miami-Dade County charter school received an " $F$."
- From 2017 to 2018, M-DCPS students' performance on the FSA ELA improved at seven of the eight grade levels tested.
- M-DCPS students' performance on the FSA Mathematics improved at four of the six grade levels tested from 2017 to 2018.
- The percentage of M-DCPS students scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 on the FCAT 2.0 Science increased at both grades 5 and 8 from 2017 to 2018.
- Across all grade levels combined, M-DCPS students' performance on FSA EOC assessments improved from 2017 to 2018. The percentage of first-time test takers scoring at Achievement Levels $3-5$ increased on the Algebra 1 and Geometry exams.
- M-DCPS students' performance also improved on NGSSS EOC assessments. Across all grade levels combined from 2017 to 2018, the percentage of first-time test takers scoring at Achievement Levels 3-5 increased on the Biology 1, Civics, and U.S. History exams.
- The District made progress reducing the achievement gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students at selected grade levels on the FSA and FCAT 2.0 assessments (FSA ELA, FSA Mathematics, FCAT 2.0 Science, Algebra 1 FSA EOC exam, and Geometry FSA EOC exam). The gap between Black and White students and between Hispanic and White students was also reduced on two of the three NGSSS EOC exams (Biology 1 and Civics), but remained stable on the U.S. History NGSSS EOC exam.

