

September 20, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) would like to inform you that your student will be taking the FCAT Retakes sometime between October 10, 2011, and October 21, 2011. This is a computer-based test (CBT), and your student will have an opportunity to practice test to become familiar with software, item types, and online tools they will encounter and use during testing.

If you or your student would like to review the CBT practice test at home, you may download instructions and a practice test (called an "ePAT") at [www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT](http://www.FLAssessments.com/ePAT). Your student may practice as often as is necessary prior to testing.

Please be sure to review the following policies before testing:

- **Electronic Devices** – If your student is found with **ANY** electronic devices during testing, his or her test will be invalidated, meaning it will not be scored. We encourage students to leave devices at home or in their lockers on the testing.
- **Cheating/Similarity of Answer Patterns** – Your students will be asked to sign a pledge prior to testing indicating that he or she will not give or receive unauthorized help during the test. In addition, the FDOE employs a test security company named Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns among students in close proximity to each other. If students are caught cheating during testing or statistically improbable answer patterns are detected by Caveon, their tests will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus** – If your student leaves campus before completing the test (for lunch, an appointment, or illness, etc.) he or she **WILL NOT** be allowed to complete the test. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Michael Meechin at 321-939-6621. For more information about the statewide assessment program, you may visit the FDOE website at <http://fcats.fldoe.org>.

Thank you for supporting your student as he/she prepares for the test.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laura Rhinehart