

## Key Message for Teachers

- At the beginning of test administration if a student declines to participate, teacher will remain neutral and ask if they are going to take the test.
- If the student indicates they are declining the test, the teacher will continue to remain neutral and inform the student that their parent will be contacted that the student is declining to test.
- At this time, the teacher will ask the student, "At this time, would you like to turn in your test?"
- The teacher will inform the student that once the test is collected, the teacher will no longer be allowed to return it to the student.
- Once student's test is collected, the student will be directed to remain silent and in their seat until the testing session is completed. The student may read a book they have brought with them or the one that will have already been placed at the student station.
- There will be no discipline or questions asked of any student declining to participate even after their test has been collected.
- The student(s) declining to participate will be prohibited from working at a computer or and/or running errands.
- If a child fails to follow the teacher's direction or do anything that disrupts the testing environment for other students, the teacher will contact the principal to address immediately.

## School Administrator Key Message When a Student Refuses To Participate

Principal or Administrative Designee must contact by phone the parents of students who attend school but do not participate in any component of the FSA. A phone call will be made by a well-informed administrator to respond confidently and accurately to parent concerns.

## Key Message for Principal

- Today your child was in attendance during the administration of \_\_\_\_\_. When the test began, he/she declined to participate and turned in the test.
- Your child was allowed to remain quietly in their seat and was allowed to read a book.
- *According to section 1008.22(3), Florida Statutes*, "Participation in the assessment program is mandatory for all school districts and all students attending public schools, including adult students seeking a standard high school diploma under s. [1003.4282](#) and students in Department of Juvenile Justice education programs, except as otherwise provided by law. If a student does not participate in the assessment program, the school district must notify the student's parent and provide the parent with information regarding the implications of such nonparticipation." If you wish to access this legislation, please go to [http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&Search\\_String=&URL=1000-1099/1008/Sections/1008.22.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=1000-1099/1008/Sections/1008.22.html).
- The caller needs to keep a log of parents contacted and times of contact.

If a student is absent for original testing day and attends on a make-up testing day, the student will be required to go to the make-up session. Please follow the same steps outlined above during the make-up session with any student who declines to participate on the make-up day.

Implications of not testing (per Florida Statute 1008.22: Student assessment program for public schools):

- In order to earn a standard high school diploma, a student who has not earned a passing score on the grade 10 Reading assessment or, upon implementation, the grade 10 ELA assessment must earn a passing score on the assessment retake or earn a concordant score as authorized under subsection (7).
- All students enrolled in Algebra I must take the Algebra I EOC assessment. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2011-2012 school year, a student who is enrolled in Algebra I must earn a passing score on the Algebra I EOC assessment or attain a comparative score as authorized under subsection (8) in order to earn a standard high school diploma. In order to earn a standard high school diploma, a student who has not earned a passing score on the Algebra I EOC assessment must earn a passing score on the assessment retake or a comparative score as authorized under subsection (8). Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all students enrolled in Geometry must take the Geometry EOC assessment. Middle grades students enrolled in Algebra I, Geometry, or Biology I must take the statewide, standardized EOC assessment for those courses and shall not take the corresponding subject and grade-level statewide, standardized assessment. When a statewide, standardized EOC assessment in Algebra II is administered, all students enrolled in Algebra II must take the EOC assessment. Pursuant to the commissioner's implementation schedule, student performance on the Algebra II EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of a student's final course grade.
- Statewide, standardized EOC assessments in science shall be administered according to this subparagraph. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, all students enrolled in Biology I must take the Biology I EOC assessment. Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2013-2014 school year, performance on the Biology I EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade.
- Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, each student's performance on the statewide, standardized middle grades Civics EOC assessment constitutes 30 percent of the student's final course grade in civics education.