

## **Washington County third graders perform near state average on final FSA administration**

Florida Standards Assessment results show Washington County's third graders are performing one percent below the state average.

Statewide, 53% of third grade students scored at or above grade level on the FSA ELA (English Language Arts) in 2022, a decline of 1 percentage point from 2021. Nearly 11,000 more third grade students tested this year compared to last year in Florida.

In our district, 52% of third graders scored a level three (3) or higher on the FSA English Language Arts test.

This cohort of 3rd graders were the same first graders whose 2019-2020 school year was disrupted with an extended spring break and their second grade year was further disrupted due to distance and hybrid learning. Despite these challenges, our schools' leadership and staff and the students and their parents should be proud of the hard work and effort.

"Our third graders have had a very non-traditional start to their educational journey. We aim to continue the great work in our schools to minimize learning loss and prepare students for readiness in future grade levels," said Superintendent of Schools Joseph Taylor.

The 2021-2022 school year ends the era of Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) as the standards for teaching and learning have recently changed to B.E.S.T. Our students in VPK through grade 10 will participate in three progress monitoring assessments (for English Language Arts and Math) starting next school year. Students taking EOC assessed courses will still be expected to take the corresponding EOC.

The new Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) system aims to increase student performance by getting critical data to teachers more quickly to support differentiated instruction and necessary interventions throughout the school year.

Third grade FSA ELA scores are currently available in the FOCUS Parent Portal. All other FSA, EOC, and FCAT scores will be released on or before June 30. Parents will be notified via School Messenger and by way of the district website and facebook page upon the release of all other scores.