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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dr. Joseph P. Burke, Superintendent - 293-1400 ext. 53323

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Monroe County 2011 FCAT Writes Results Indicate Significant Student Achievement Increases

~ Results demonstrate student writing scores continue to climb ~

KEY WEST, FL - With Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) writing standards expected to increase this year, teachers and students have again proven they stand ready to match higher expectations with impressive achievement. According to the state level 2011 FCAT Writing results, the percentage of students scoring 4 or higher increased in all tested grade levels, with 4th, 8th, and 10th graders experiencing historic highs compared to previous years. On May 17th, the State Board of Education will consider the revision of grading criteria to reward schools for the percent of students scoring at/or above 4, rather than 3.5 as it has been since 2005. If approved, a score of 4 would be the standard used beginning this school year in the determination of school grades.

The latest release of Monroe County's writing results for students scoring at/or above a 4 on the six-point grading scale indicate significant gains in percentage points. Comparing 2010 to 2011 results; 4th graders increased from 63% to 78%, 8th graders increased from 74% to 82%, and 10th graders from 68% to 77%.

"These results confirm a remarkable success story about the work of our teachers and students," said Superintendent Dr. Joseph Burke. "I am proud of the significant increases at all grade levels, and very pleased that the rate of improvement in Monroe County was greater than that of the State. We are especially proud of those schools that had double-digit percentile gains."

Grade 4 (Percentile Gains)

Glynn Archer (35)

Poinciana (23)

Sigsbee Charter (12)

Key Largo (15)

Gerald Adams (12)

Plantation Key (22)

Key West Montessori (25)

Grade 8 (Percentile Gains)

Horace O'Bryant (18)

Marathon (19)

Grade 4					
	Average Essay Score		Percent Scoring at or above 4.0		Percentile Gain
	2010	2011	2010	2011	
State	3.8	4.0	68	81	13
District	3.7	3.9	63	78	15
Glynn Archer	3.4	3.6	40	75	35
Poinciana	3.6	4.1	61	84	23
Sigsbee Charter	3.5	3.7	54	66	12
Sugarloaf	3.4	3.5	43	52	9
Stanley Switlik	3.9	4.0	84	85	1
Key Largo	3.9	4.0	71	86	15
Gerald Adams	3.6	3.7	57	69	12
Plantation Key	3.7	4.2	63	85	22
Key West Montessori Charter	3.6	3.9	63	88	25
Treasure Village Montessori	4.3	3.8	95	70	-25
Big Pine Charter	3.5	4.4	47	93	46

Grade 8					
	Average Essay Score		Percent Scoring at or above 4.0		Percentile Gain
	2010	2011	2010	2011	
State	4.1	4.2	76	82	6
District	4.0	4.1	74	82	8
Horace O'Bryant	3.9	4.2	71	89	18
Marathon	3.5	4.0	54	73	19
Sugarloaf	4.3	4.1	82	82	0
Key Largo	4.2	3.9	84	73	-11
Plantation Key	4.2	4.1	85	88	3
Treasure Village Montessori		4.2		90	

Grade 10					
	Average Essay Score		Percent Scoring at or above 4.0		Percentile Gain
	2010	2011	2010	2011	
State	3.9	4.0	72	75	3
District	3.8	4.0	68	77	9
Coral Shores	3.9	4.2	72	80	8
Key West	3.8	3.9	66	75	9
Marathon	4.0	4.2	73	78	5