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New Beginnings...High Expectations

*Constant Improvement*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Monroe County School District**  
**2011-2012 High School Grades Released**  
**SCHOOL GRADES REFLECT NEW HIGHER STANDARDS**

The Monroe County School District is pleased to announce the release of the 2011-2012 high school grades as reported by the Florida Department of Education. This year's school grades are impacted by the transition to FCAT 2.0 and its more rigorous standards.

The Florida Department of Education released, "While elementary and middle school grades are calculated using assessment components, high school grades include both assessment-based components and other components, such as graduation rates and accelerated coursework. In addition, numerous changes were made to the grading formula, such as moving to the federal graduation rate and using more challenging measures of postsecondary readiness. The largest increase in points for assessment-based components came from overall reading gains and reading gains of the lowest performing 25 percent of students."

In Monroe County, two out of three high schools received a "B" rating and one received an "A." Key West High School increased one letter grade and achieved an "A" distinction, while Coral Shores and Marathon High School were rated a "B." The Monroe County School District continues to recognize the dedication and hard work of its students, educators, administrators, and staff.

"Congratulations to each of our high schools, their leadership teams and staffs for these outstanding results, and in particular congratulations to Amber Bosco and her staff at KWHS for their "A" rating. While there remains a great deal of evaluation to do regarding the data associated with this complex grading system it appears that CSHS and MHS were both extremely close to obtaining an "A" rating and that one of the significant factors in KWHS improvement to "A" was their ability to generate growth in their lowest quartile students."

Additional information is available at the Florida Department of Education website at [www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org).