



Many parents turn to The Opt Out Florida Network after their child has been harmed or threatened by high stakes testing. You must find your own connection to the bigger picture. Your reason for finding us may be your own, but testing abuse reverberates far beyond your child and we must all unite to take back our classrooms; return professional autonomy to our teachers; remove the high stakes attached to testing; and insist on "all for ALL children."

High stakes testing has NEVER been about improving education for children. It's called "high stakes" because poor scores carry severe punitive consequences to students, teachers and schools. With predetermined failure rates as high as 37% baked in, the FSA could accurately be called, "rigged."

Opting Out is an act of civil disobedience in protest of so-called "education reform." Any act of civil disobedience may involve risks and potentially unknown consequences. Opting out of standardized tests is no different. We cannot guarantee that you will receive no pushback or consequences to standing up in protest. **We can promise this... If you do nothing, nothing will change.**

Since 1998, "ed reform" has bludgeoned OUR public schools with high stakes testing, manipulating data to perpetuate the labeling of struggling (high poverty) schools as "failing," driving panicked parents to corporate charter schools and unregulated private and religious voucher schools, taking public dollars with them. THIS is the reason for unsurpassed testing, test prep, and progress monitoring of even our youngest students, which creates a toxic, high stress learning environment for children and teachers. **You don't have to consent to this abuse. YOU CAN OPT OUT.**

FSA FACTS

- Florida law mandates that districts must administer the FSA. It says that all students must "participate." The law does not define "participation."
- Schools may be obligated to tell you that "there is no opt out," however...
When students sit for the test, break the seal on the test, and push it away, they have PARTICIPATED. Breaking the seal compromises test security and they cannot be re-tested. They have now "opted out."
- Since spring 2013, tens of thousands of students in Florida have successfully opted out of the FSA. Many students have NEVER taken the state-mandated FSA/FCAT and have been successfully promoted and/or graduated, without incident.
- The FLDOE's own FSA validity report (Alpine, 2015) confirms that the purpose of FSA results is NEITHER to improve student learning, NOR to inform teacher instruction (See the last page of this guide.)

"...standardized tests are "not like the weather, something to which we must resign ourselves. They are not a force of nature but a force of politics-and political decisions can be questioned, challenged, and ultimately reversed." Teachers, parents, and students CAN turn their frustration into action and successfully turn back the testing juggernaut in order to create classrooms that focus on learning."

Alfie Kohn - The Case Against Standardized Testing, 2000

For parents to give their informed consent on testing:

It is EACH PARENT'S DUTY to investigate and to weigh the harm being done to their child's education by high stakes testing, and TO CONSCIOUSLY CHOOSE, whether or not, to allow their child to test, with the understanding that doing so provides the data with which the state ranks, sorts and labels their children, teachers and schools... harming public education for all.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Steps to A Successful Opt Out.....3

Refusing a Paper Based Test.....6

Refusing a Computer Based Test.....7

Alternative Assessments - 3rd Grade.....8

Alternative Assessments – 10th Grade.....9

Working w/ School and District to Opt Out – A Parents’ Story10

What About Those NR2 and NT codes?.....11

Emails from FLDOE RE: NR2/NT scores and VAM.....12

Test Questions Every Parent Needs To Ask.....14

Resources..... 15

Third Grade Resources.....15

Intended Uses of FSA Scores.....16

STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL OPT OUT

1. **Have conviction in your reason to opt out.** Your reasons might include:
 - a. The test is written with trick questions, distractors and a pre-determined failure rate of more than 30%.
 - b. You want multiple measures of meaningful assessments, not one test that counts for everything.
 - c. No single test should be used for high stakes decisions, such as retention, remediation and graduation, teacher pay, teachers' and principals' job security, or school grades (real estate values).
 - d. Poor scores threaten schools in low-income neighborhoods with takeover by private interests, diverting funds to charter schools or unregulated voucher schools, unaccountable to the public.

Whatever your reason, commit to it. Opting out is an act of civil disobedience to protest the rigged tests, which steal valuable instruction time and resources and are used to diminish OUR public schools. Understanding this will help you handle any push back from your school or district and will help your child to have a successful opt out.

2. **Do your research** and determine what tests you want to opt out of (FCAT, FSA, etc.). Only you can decide what level of risk is acceptable to you and your family. Understand the risk to GPA should you opt out of End of Course Exams.
3. **Share with your child why you are choosing to opt them out of testing.** Your child, who is opting out is the one with the most skin in the game and most 8- and 9-year-olds do understand the issues if parents talk to them calmly and frankly. Kids talk to each other and they will get well-intentioned, but misinformed pressure from their friends about the test and about opting out. Parents can remind their kids that we make these decisions as a family. As the parents, we are responsible for them and WE make the decisions about what's best for our kids. If you're not sure how to start the conversation with your child, check out the links in the [Third Grade Opt Out Toolbox](#).
4. **Determine what kind of opt out will work for you.** A student can refuse the test (see instruction to refuse a computer based and paper based test). You can also keep your child home during the testing window. If you keep your child home, research and be mindful of your district's truancy policy beforehand. The actual testing window can last as long as 4 weeks because of testing make-up days, and you do not want to be found truant.
Note 1: A scheduled dentist or doctor appointment is considered an excused absence in many districts, so this might be a good time to plan those.
5. If you plan to write an **Opt Out letter**, your letter should inform the school of your instructions to have your child refuse the test. You are not asking for permission to opt out. You are notifying them – as a courtesy. **The best reason to notify in advance is that it can free your child's teacher from requiring test prep from your child, returning them to an imaginative, meaningful curriculum.** Another reason to send a letter in advance is to gauge push back from school or district personnel. You can still have your child show up on the day of testing and not take the test... but most teachers would appreciate a "heads up."

REMEMBER: You want cooperation from the teacher and principal, so if you choose to write a letter, be polite and respectful. Acknowledge that they (faculty, staff and administrators) have a job to do. Schools are not obligated to accommodate your wishes to opt out, nor to provide alternative activities for your child. The most successful opt outs result in the least disruption to other students. There's no need to get tough unless you get push back. Pick your battles.

NOTE: If you write a letter quoting constitutional laws or parental rights, expect to receive a response from your district's legal department. The school is not obligated to provide alternative activities for your child after (s)he refuses the test.

If you plan to pick up your child in the office after (s)he refuses, you should also notify the school of your plans to sign out and return your child to school and at approximately what time.

Once you notify the school of your plan, expect a stern letter in response telling you that opting out is not allowed. See link: [What Does This Bully Letter Really Mean?](#)

6. **If you are opting out of the Third Grade FSA**, you may choose to/need to ask the classroom teacher to keep a portfolio demonstrating your child's mastery of content standards (see [Letter to Request for a 3rd Grade Portfolio](#) for example). Portfolios are considered an acceptable alternative assessment for a Good Cause Exemption in the state of Florida.
7. **Be prepared for test day. There are 2 options.**
 - a. **Option #1 - Refuse the test on test day:**

Your child may go to school and refuse the test on test day. Florida gives paper tests and computer tests, and the refusal process is different for each one. Ask school personnel which test your child will be taking. See "instructions for refusing a paper test" or "Instruction to refuse a computer based test". Once a student breaks the seal on a paper test, or breaks the seal virtually on a computer test, the student will receive a score of NR2 or non-attemptedness.
 - b. **Option #2 - Stay home on test day:**

You may choose to keep your child home during test days, but if you do, ask school personnel how they handle testing make-up days. Some schools accept the family's wish to opt out, and they will not try to test your child during the make-up days. Other schools may try to test your child on every make-up day. If your school does this, you may choose to keep your child home during the entire make-up period. Review your district truancy policy, and remember that you may be able to avoid excessive unexcused absences by scheduling doctor and/or dentist visits. The State of Florida allows up to a 20-day window to administer the test.

NOTE: Some tests are given in one day, some are two-day tests, If your child is opting out of a 2-day paper-based test, (s)he only needs to refuse it on the first day in order to get an NR2 for that particular test.

8. **Every opt out case is different.** Each school handles opt outs differently. Some schools make students sit and stare. Some allow them to go to other classrooms to read or do schoolwork. Some parents choose to pick up their students, once they have opted out. You will need to work this out with your school. However you choose to opt out, confirm your arrangement by email. Always communicate by email so you can keep a written record. YOU make the plan. Don't count on the school to do that for you. If you opt out it is YOUR responsibility to work all of this out.
9. **Third and Tenth grades are considered "high risk" grades for the FSA.** Both grade levels have special circumstances. For third grade, please find Third Grade Resources within this guide.

When your student opts out of the tenth grade ELA FSA, they must take and pass either the SAT or ACT and achieve a concordant (passing) score.

See Alternative Assessments

Check the FLDOE website for the most current information.

For your student's cohort (graduating class):

See "**Graduation Requirements for Florida's Statewide Assessments**" - FLDOE - Aug '20: Pg 3
<http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7764/urlt/GradRequireFSA.pdf>

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REFUSING A PAPER BASED TEST (PBT)

Procedure letter for test refusal...used for third grade but could be any paper test. Send to teacher and principal two days before the test. Edit to serve your students needs.

"The procedure my student has been instructed to follow is:"

- He will sit for the test.
- He will politely refuse to sign the Test Rules Acknowledgement.
- He will "break the seal" on the FSA test.
- He will slide the test away.
- If he is prompted to sign the acknowledgement or to begin the test, he is to say, "No thank you". Only one reminder is needed, anything more may be considered coercion.
- At that time, he should be sent to the office where I will be waiting to take him to his dentist appointment on the 14th and home on the 17th.
- Upon test refusal, he cannot be asked to make up the test. This will accommodate valuable instruction time.
- Because he will not take Day 1 of testing, Day 2 is automatically invalidated. Therefore, on Day 2, for each test, I will keep him home during the test window and bring him in late.
- I do not wish to cause any disruption to your testing procedures. I do need to know what time testing will end.

Notes: Some students may be asked to sign the outside folder and to fill in the name and district before they can get to the colored tab to break the seal. This is fine and does not interfere with a refusal.

This procedure will score his test as an NR2 or NT. As the FLDOE changes this annually, we will not speculate how they will score tests this year (see additional information on NR2 and NT codes on page 11).

REFUSING A COMPUTER BASED TEST (CBT)

Computer Based Test Refusal Instructions:

1. Log onto test.
2. When prompted to adjust preferences such as font size, volume, etc., fill out appropriate information
3. When prompted, hit: "Yes, start my test."
4. Go to question 1
5. Hit "End Test"
6. In the event that the "End Test" does not appear, type one letter and the button should be visible, then hit "END TEST"
7. If you receive a prompt like, "Are you sure you want to submit this test?", Hit "YES"
8. You have successfully "Opted Out" AND "participated"

Link to video on how to opt out of a computer based test:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAiYnFtGl6c>

At this point, you must decide if you will pick up your student or if they will sit and stare. Some districts have directives to allow students to leave the room or to read a book. It is your responsibility to work this out.

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ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENTS

Students need alternatives to the FSA for many reasons – disabilities, absences, illness, mishaps. Therefore, Alternative Assessments are mandated by the State of Florida.

- Check your district Progression Plan for details on what your district has adopted for the current school year.

THIRD GRADE –

- FLDOE lists 8 separate alternatives to the FSA, approved for Good Cause Exemptions, for promotion to 4th grade.
- A teacher-selected portfolio is also approved for Good Cause Exemption: <http://bit.ly/FLDOEPortfolioGuidance>

Portfolio

Many districts, by policy/progression plan, do not start a portfolio until the student shows reading deficiency. For purposes of opting out, you want this started as soon as you make your decision to opt out. Ask nicely. Some districts have refused to provide a portfolio until after a student fails the test, some districts are now embedding portfolio into their third grade curriculum.

Understand the difference between a portfolio of your child’s work completed through the year in school, which must reflect a passing grade on each required standard – and the “Test Portfolio,” which many districts use and which are made up of up to 42 mini-FSA tests, which are just as secret as the FSA. This is MORE testing.

Both are allowable by state law, HOWEVER only ONE alternative assessment is required for a Good Cause Exemption.

FLDOE – Approved Assessments:

Alternative Assessment	Requirement for Good Cause Exemption
SAT10	45 th Percentile
Terranova	50 th Percentile
ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills)	50 th Percentile
NWEA MAP	50 th Percentile
STAR Enterprise	50 th Percentile (must use Enterprise version)
i-Ready	50 th Percentile (Must use I-Ready Norming Tables) http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7539/urlt/iready-norms-tables-K-8-2020.pdf
i-Station	50 th Percentile
Achieve 3000 Level Set	50 th Percentile
<i>Updated Feb 20, 2021</i>	

IMPORTANT: In case of more recent updates, always check the FLDOE website for the latest approved assessments and percentile required for promotion. Search: “FLDOE Third Grade Guidance”

IMPORTANT THIRD GRADE RESOURCES

Detailed information containing direct links to FLDOE documents about portfolios is available at: <https://theoptoutfloridanetwork.wordpress.com>

Third Grade Opt Out Toolbox: bit.ly/Gr3OptOutToolbox

TENTH GRADE

Graduation Requirements for Florida’s Statewide Assessments

<http://www.fl DOE.org/core/fileparse.php/7764/urlt/GradRequireFSA.pdf> - FLDOE - Aug '20: Page 3

Table 3: Grade 10 ELA Concordant Scores

Grade 10 FSA ELA or Grade 10 FCAT 2.0 Reading	
Available for all students who entered grade 9 in 2010–11 and beyond:	
SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) ¹	480
ACT English and Reading subtests ²	18
Available only for students who entered grade 9 prior to 2018–19:	
SAT EBRW ¹	430
SAT Reading Subtest ³	24
ACT Reading	19

¹ Administered in March 2016 or beyond. The combined score for the EBRW must come from the same administration of the Reading and Writing subtests.

² The average of the English and Reading subtests. If the average of the two subject test scores results in a decimal (.5), the score shall be rounded up to the next whole number. The scores for the English and Reading subject tests are not required to come from the same test administration.

³ Administered in March 2016 or beyond. Students who entered grade 9 prior to 2018–19 may also use a concordant score of 430 on the SAT Critical Reading if administered prior to March 2016.

Table 4: Algebra 1 EOC Comparative Scores

Algebra 1 EOC (FSA or NGSSS)	
Available for all students who entered grade 9 in 2010–11 and beyond:	
PSAT/NMSQT Math ¹	430
SAT Math ²	420
ACT Math	16
FSA Geometry EOC ³	499
Available only for students who entered grade 9 prior to 2018–19:	
PERT Mathematics	97

¹ Administered in 2015 or beyond. Students who entered grade 9 in 2010–11 and beyond may also use a comparative score of 39 on PSAT/NMSQT Math if it was earned prior to 2015.

² Administered in March 2016 or beyond. Students who entered grade 9 in 2010–11 and beyond may also use a comparative score of 380 on SAT Math if it was earned prior to March 2016.

³ Students eligible for either the FSA Algebra 1 EOC alternate passing score of 489 or the FSA Geometry EOC passing score of 492, as defined by [Rule 6A-1.09422\(6\)-\(7\), F.A.C.](#), may use the alternate passing score of 492 on the FSA Geometry EOC as an Algebra 1 EOC comparative score. See the Scholar Diploma Designation section on the next page for eligibility criteria.

IMPORTANT

- Be sure to Check the FLDOE website for the most current information as the FLDOE may change the scores required - and they can change requirements at any time.
- These tests can be taken anytime during the four years of high school. If you plan a 10th grade opt out, the student can achieve these concordant scores before and after the FSA and Algebra I EOC.
- Confirm with your district that these concordant scores will be applied to the transcript. In most districts, students will still need to opt out before the scores are applied. Take them early and you will be prepared.
- See also Rule 6A-1.09422: Concordant and Comparative Scores - Page 3
FLDOE- Jun 13 '19: <http://www.fl DOE.org/core/fileparse.php/5663/urlt/Rule6A109422Ann-FAQ.pdf>

Working with Your School and District – One parent’s story

This is one parent’s experience dealing with a school in Orange County. The principal obtained this information from Cyndi Landers, OCPS Assessment Department.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with my request. I received a call yesterday from my children’s school. Next week, they will only be made to refuse two days, not all four. This is how it must happen if a student is to be considered to have refused:

1. The proctor will read the test instructions.
2. Students will be asked to sign the Test Rules Acknowledgement, which reads:
“I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.”
Prior to testing, test administrators will read the rules to students, and students must acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signing their names under the statement. The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign the acknowledgment reads, “After the test, you may not discuss the test with anyone. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on websites like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.” If students are found sharing information about test items, even without the intent to cheat, their tests will be invalidated. All students are required to sign this contract. Even 8 year olds.
3. Students opting out may push the Test Rules Acknowledgment away AND SHOULD NOT SIGN IT. The Test Administrator is supposed to notify the school’s Test Coordinator, so there may be a little commotion if the school has not been prepared for this. PER the test Instruction Manual - If they ask the student to sign it and they refuse, they should make a note of the refusal to sign and move on.
4. After they are instructed to open their test and start testing, they must break the seal on the test and refuse – they should simply push the test away and say, “No thank you.” Any additional prompting from test administrators may be considered coercion or intimidation. The test security breach is what precludes them from having to sit for the makeup test. The student should NOT write on the test.
5. a) ****At some schools**** after a student has refused, on the two days they refuse, they may be removed from the classroom (the parent must request the child in person), signed out of school for about an hour or more and returned in time to resume class after testing is completed for the day. Especially for the younger children, there’s no sense making them sit and stare just because they can cope. Parents need to determine how their child will cope for the four days, if required.
OR
b) Some students consciously choose to use “sit and stare” as their own “silent protest” in the name of their own education.
6. Because refusing Day 1 testing invalidates Day 2, my children’s school will not require kids to refuse again on Day 2. I could also take them to school late, since they would not be made to refuse. But they will be allowed to go to a non-testing classroom – Kindergarten, First grade, etc., so they’ll just go to school and actually learn and be useful during testing. So I will not have to keep them out of school for the entire testing window and they won’t have to miss regular instruction. Sanity.

AND – Per our school administration, “This is from Cynthia Landers,” - in charge of the OCPS Student Assessment Dept. This is a pretty big deal considering how literally OCPS has interpreted the test administration rules until now. It’s a pleasant surprise to see common sense being put into practice, especially with younger students.

END OF COURSE EXAMS (EOCs)

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- EOCs count for 30% of your students' final grade
- Algebra 1 EOC is a graduation requirement
- The Algebra 1 EOC is also called the "FSA EOC"
- Because students did not have Alg 1 EOC last year, as a result of the Spring 2020 lockdown, Geometry EOC is currently an approved alternative assessment for the Algebra 1 EOC for the 2020/2021 school year, however that is not expected to carry forward.

While some parents do choose to opt out of EOCs, parents must understand that EOCs count for 30% of a student's final grade, and if you choose to opt out of EOCs, you need to discuss openly with your child the hit to their final grade and their GPA.

For specific information about EOCs, please read:
2020–21 Florida Statewide End-of-Course Assessments Fact Sheet
<http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5663/urlt/EOCFS2021.pdf>

WHAT DO NR2 AND NT CODES MEAN?

"While students who had an NR code recorded in lieu of a score count toward participation, these codes are not used to calculate a school's grade"

"How districts incorporate NR or NT codes in any local accountability measures is entirely up to them"

"Some of you asked this year about the rule for "attemptedness" that generates the score code of NR2. How data codes are determined is subject to review and revision each year. For this year's tests, students answering at least one but fewer than six items in a test session had the code of NR2 assigned. For the purposes of School Grades, students assigned a code of NR2 count as "participants" in the calculation of the percent of students tested. This policy, too, is subject to review and revision each year."

"Currently, students receiving an NR or NT code do not impact VAM calculations."

The FLDOE has maintained that, each year, they will review and determine what generates a specific data code and the NR2/NT designation is "fluid."

Note: A student who opts out will receive an N score code, which is not the same as a "0." The ideal goal for the school would be to achieve a designation of NR2 because that doesn't impact the school or teacher negatively. Historically, students who answered 5 or fewer questions have received NR2. However, each year, FLDOE has the ability to change how the designation is assigned at any time, so you never know exactly what a student will get for reusing, except that it will never be a "0." That's up to the school, district and FLDOE. Families can only control one important thing, the refusal to provide data that harms children, teachers, and schools alike.

The email thread that follows on the next page is the source of these quoted statements...

Subject: RE: FSA Scores
From: Verges, Vince (Vince.Verges@fldoe.org)
To: [REDACTED].com;
Date: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 8:58 AM

Good Morning,

I forwarded to the appropriate office your question regarding VAM calculations. The response is as follows:

“Florida’s VAM models are grade and subject specific, and make use of all data available to generate accurate model coefficients. Teachers will receive a teacher effect (which is part of the VAM score) if they have at least 2 students at the same school and in the same grade during the same year. If there are enough data to compute a school effect as well for ELA and Mathematics, the teacher will receive a VAM score. For Algebra 1, the VAM score does not incorporate the school component, so if a teacher effect is generated a VAM score will be too. However, State Board Rule 6A-5.0411, F.A.C. allows districts to use an alternate measure of student performance for teachers with VAM scores that contain scores based on fewer than 10 assessments.

In order to count in the school grades percent tested calculations, a student must have attempted to take the test. An NR means not reported. In this case it is presumed that the student sat for the test and will be counted as tested, even though there is no score. An NT means that the student did not test. In these cases, the student would count in the denominator, but not the numerator, of the percent tested calculation. In order to count for achievement and learning gains, a student must have a valid test score. NT and NR are both excluded from these calculations. In order to be included in the VAM calculation, a student must have a valid score and a valid prior score.”

No final decisions have been made regarding timelines for review and revision of the policies for this year.

Regards,

Vince Verges
Assistant Deputy Commissioner
Division of Accountability, Research, and Measurement
Florida Department of Education

From: Jennifer [REDACTED].com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 11:21 PM

To: Verges, Vince
Subject: Re: FSA Scores

Thank you for that information.

I'd like to seek further clarification. Is it true that the state will calculate a teacher's VAM score based on as few as two students? And, while you addressed how NR codes affect participation, school grade, and VAM, would you clarify how a 'score' of NT affects the school grade as well? Based on my understanding of your previous replies, it seems that NT does affect the participation rate, but has no effect on VAM. If my understanding is incorrect, please let me know.

Finally, since you mentioned that these policies are subject to review and revision each year, do you expect this information to change for the 2016-17 test administrations? If so, when would a decision about that be made, before or after testing?

| Jennifer [REDACTED]

From: "Verges, Vince" <Vince.Verges@fldoe.org>
To: Jennifer [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2016 3:15 PM
Subject: RE: FSA Scores

Good Afternoon,

While students who had an NR code recorded in lieu of a score count toward participation, these codes are not used to calculate a school's grade. These codes only affect a school's grade to the extent that the students' performance would have increased or decreased a school's grade, had these students had a valid score.

How districts incorporate NR or NT codes in any local accountability measures is entirely up to them.

Vince Verges
Assistant Deputy Commissioner
Division of Accountability, Research, and Measurement
Florida Department of Education

From: Jennifer [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 07, 2016 11:56 AM
To: Verges, Vince
Subject: Re: FSA Scores

Thank you for your prompt response. Would you confirm that, if the code NR2 counts towards the participation requirement, is it also included in calculating the school grades? In other words, does a NR2 bring the school grade down? If so, what numerical value is NR2 assigned in the formula for school grades?

Has the state provided any guidance to districts as to how they could incorporate NT or NR2 into their local VAM calculations? If so, what guidance was provided?

| Jennifer [REDACTED]

From: "Verges, Vince" <Vince.Verges@fldoe.org>
To: Jennifer [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@com>

“TEST” QUESTIONS EVERY PARENT NEEDS TO ASK

Written by a veteran teacher

For principals:

1. How many standardized tests does my child have to take this year?
2. Where do these tests originate?
3. What is the specific academic purpose for each one?
4. How will these tests affect my child's academic future or standing?
5. For each test, does the teacher see individual student results and have a chance to adjust individual instruction to help each student?
6. Who sees the scores, where will they be recorded, and for what purpose?
7. How soon after testing does the teacher receive results?
8. Do the scores become part of my child's record?
9. Who in the district instructed you to give these tests?

For school superintendents:

1. Identify by name and frequency each standardized test your district requires in each grade.
2. Explain where these tests originate and, for each, explain its specific academic purpose and the year it started.
3. Which tests are state-mandated, and which are required by the district?

For school board attorneys:

Explain your district's policy on opting out of/refusing standardized tests and cite its legal foundation.

For school board members:

1. How do you view the academic purposes for standardized testing?
2. Are you familiar with all the standardized tests your district requires and their academic purposes?
3. Are you willing to initiate a parent/teacher review of the use of testing in your district?

RESOURCES

Florida Education Statutes can be found online.

<http://www.fldoe.org/policy/edu-laws-legislation>

The Opt Out Florida Network - A public Facebook community page for statewide news and information about education and testing. <https://www.facebook.com/TheOptOutFloridaNetwork>
Click "LIKE" to get the most current news updates.

Opt Out Orlando is a statewide support and discussion group on Facebook. Please join us!

Opt Out Toolbox: <http://bit.ly/OptOutToolbox>

Check your district website:

- Student/Pupil Progression Plan for the current year
- District Testing Calendar

Check the [FLDOE.org](http://www.fldoe.org) website for:

Graduation Requirements
Current Florida Statewide Assessment Program

THIRD GRADE RESOURCES

Opt Out Florida Third Grade: <http://bit.ly/OOFL3rd>

- Facebook group for information and support

Third Grade Opt Out Toolbox: bit.ly/Gr3OptOutToolbox

- Important FLDOE Progression documents
- Links to support, if your child is remediated or retained
- Alternative assessments
- Good Cause Exemptions
- Portfolio defined and sample checklist.
- Help with talking to kids about opting out.

Third Grade Guidance and Resources – by Just Read Florida

<http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/third-grade-guidance.stml>

Successful Opt Out with links to supporting documents:

Sammy Addo: "I Did My Job As A Third Grader."

<http://bit.ly/SAddo3>

Additional information on the portfolio and research can be found at:

<https://theoptoutfloridanetwork.wordpress.com>

FLDOE: Intended Uses of the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) Scores

Evaluation of FSA Final Report

Table 2. Intended Uses of the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) Scores

Content Area	Grade	Individual Student			Teacher	School			District	State
		Grade Promotion	Graduation Eligibility	Course Grade	Teacher Evaluation	School Grade	School Improvement Rating	Opportunity Scholarship	District Grade	State Accountability
English/ Language Arts	3	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	5				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	6				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	7				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	8				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	9				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	10		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mathematics	3				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	5				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	6				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	7				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	8				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Algebra 1		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Geometry			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Algebra 2			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Source:

Independent Verification of the Psychometric Validity for the Florida Standards Assessment
 Final Report August 31, 2015 - Page 27
 Prepared by Alpine Testing Solutions, Inc.

Submitted to: Vince Verges, Florida Department of Education
<http://bit.ly/FSAValidityReportAug2015>