



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

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January 20, 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has made great progress in its efforts to increase the third-grade promotion rate. We continue to offer a variety of instructional models to meet the needs and learning styles of our diverse population of students. It is our goal to keep parents and guardians informed regarding the different pathways for promotion to grade 4 that are available to students.

As required by the statewide public school student progression law eliminating social promotion (Section 1008.25, Florida Statute), a student may be promoted to grade 4 if the student demonstrates reading mastery in one of several assessments: the Grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA) Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Progress Monitoring (PM) 3; the Grade 3 Reading Student Portfolio; or another standardized reading assessment that has been approved by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE).

The Grade 3 Reading Student Portfolio, mandated by the FLDOE, is the first assessment that is administered in January 2026. This portfolio contains a variety of assessments that provide important information regarding each student's mastery of the standards assessed on the Grade 3 English Language Arts (ELA) Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) PM 3.

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) PM 3 will be administered May 1-May 29, 2026. The FAST assessment measures students' performance on selected state standards. Grade 3 students who do not score a Level 2 or above on this test may take the alternative standardized reading assessments administered by the District. One such assessment is given at the end of the school year after FAST results are received, and the other is administered during the summer reading camps.

The testing schedule delineated on the following chart indicates the dates on which students in grade 3 will be assessed during the 2025-2026 school year.

*Perla Tabares Hantman School Board Administration Building
1450 N.E. 2nd Avenue • Miami, Florida 33132
305-995-1000 • www.dadeschools.net*

| Assessment | Dates Administered |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Grade 3 Reading Student Portfolio | January – May 2026 |
| Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) PM 3 | May 1- May 29, 2026 |
| Alternative Standardized Reading Assessment (ASRA)*-i-Ready or ITBS | May 11- May 22, 2026 |
| Summer FAST Grade 3 ELA Reading* | Third Grade Summer Camp (Summer 2026) |

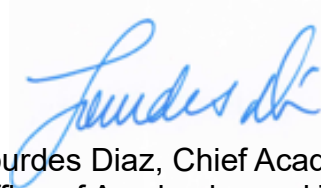
*Administered only to grade 3 students who score a level 1 on the FAST ELA PM 3.

The District strongly recommends that students who do not meet the requirements for promotion attend summer reading camp and take the Summer FAST Grade 3 ELA Reading. Students who do not attend summer reading camp are also eligible to take the Summer FAST Grade 3 ELA Reading. However, in order to participate they must register during the designated registration period before the end of the school year. Students may register to take the Summer FAST Grade 3 ELA Reading at their home school (if available) or at a school in their region that is administering the assessment. Enrollment information and important registration deadlines for the 2026 summer reading camp will be provided by your child’s school and via the M-DCPS website at <http://summerschool.dadeschools.net>.

If you have questions or would like to know more about your child’s academic performance, please contact your child’s teacher.

Our commitment to quality education for every student is unwavering as we strive to ensure that your child continues to receive a world class education.

Sincerely,



Lourdes Diaz, Chief Academic Officer
Office of Academics and Transformation

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