



Office of Communications
803 W. Broad Street, Suite 300
Falls Church, VA 22046
Contact: Karen Acar, 703-248-5600

For Immediate Release
August 31, 2006

FCCPS Test Scores Indicate Overall Excellence Data indicate improvement needs for some students

As students and staff prepare for a new school year, school administrators are studying the recently released Standards of Learning (SOL) test scores for the 2005-2006 school year. Overall, the Falls Church City Public Schools performed well. The division and three of its four schools made adequate yearly progress (AYP), as defined by the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*, in all target areas. Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School met 28 of 29 AYP objectives, with a deficiency in limited English proficiency (LEP) mathematics.

“We are studying the individual student reports to determine where the deficiencies are,” said Dr. Gloria Guba, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. “From that data, we will work with our staff to develop a plan of action to ensure all of our students are proficient in mathematics.”

The Falls Church City School Board recently adopted a 6-year strategic plan that includes a heavy emphasis on data-driven decision-making. Staff members are being trained to disaggregate student data to identify academic areas that may need additional attention and resources to ensure student success.

“The overall picture for the division is excellent,” Guba said. “However, we still see evidence of achievement gaps between students in demographic subgroups, and we are committed to making sure all students experience academic success.”

In addition to studying achievement data, school administrators will consider other factors that may have an effect on student performance, such as attendance and student participation. By scrutinizing the data, division leaders can more efficiently and effectively provide resources to support student learning.

-End-