

MEMORANDUM

August 21, 2013

TO: Board Members

FROM: Terry B. Grier, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: **JULY 2013 HISD TAKS EXIT-LEVEL PERFORMANCE OF RETESTERS**

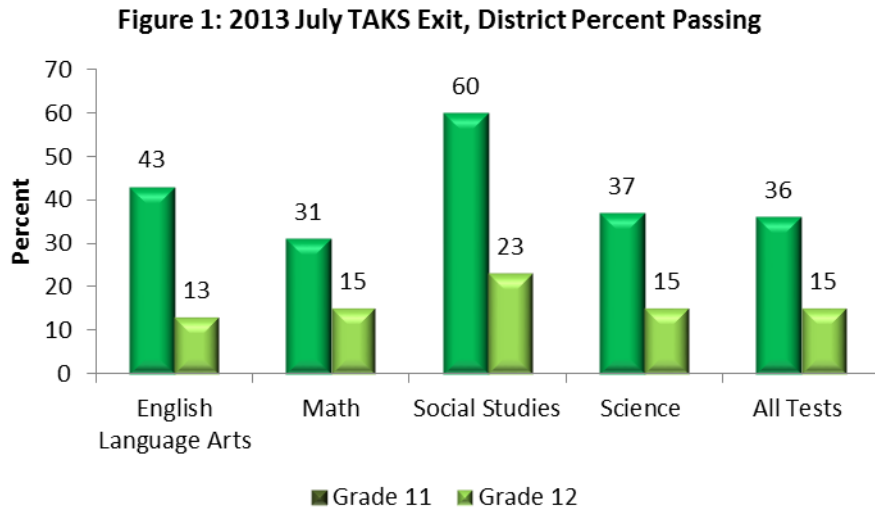
CONTACT: Carla Stevens (713) 556-6700

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) received the results from the July 2013 administration of the TAKS exit-level retest. This was a special exam only offered to eleventh and twelfth-grade HISD students who had not yet passed one or more of the TAKS subtests during prior administrations. The passing standard for retesting students is the state standard that was applicable on the exit-level test during the student’s first attempt on the test. The data presented provides a status report identifying the number of students by subject who still need to pass the TAKS to graduate. The next testing opportunity will be during the week of October 21–24, 2013.

There were 759 twelfth-graders who were expected to be tested during the July 2013 administration of the TAKS retest. Of these students, 522 were actually tested, 60 students were counted as absent, three students were not tested due to an ARD decision, and 174 were not tested for other reasons.

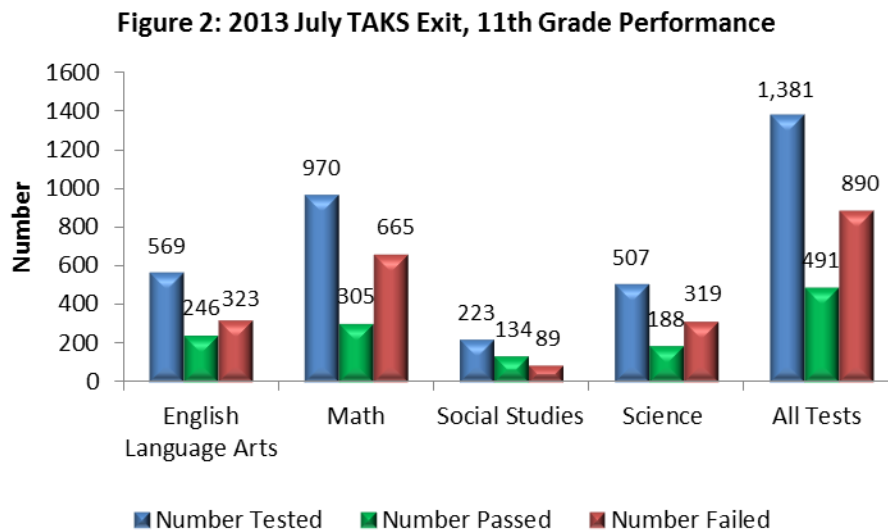
There were 2,021 eleventh-grade students who were expected to be tested during the July 2013 administration of the TAKS exit-level retest. Of these students, 1,381 were actually tested, 101 were counted as absent, two students were not tested due to an ARD decision, and 537 were not tested due to other reasons.

The results from an analysis of the performance of students who were administered the exam are presented at the district and campus levels in the following summary and attached tables. The district percent passing for both grade levels by subject are shown below in **Figure 1**.



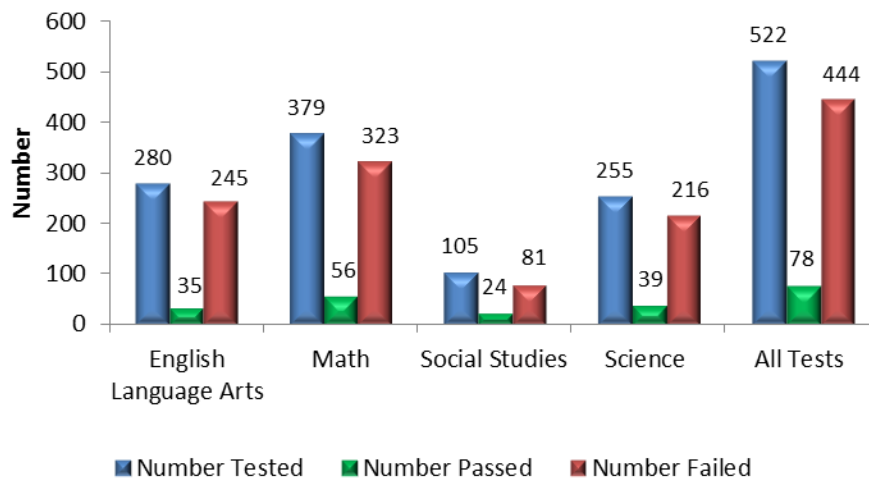
- The highest passing rate for all eleventh graders was in social studies at 60 percent, followed by English/Language Arts at 43 percent.
- The lowest passing rate for all eleventh-grade retesters was in math, where 31 percent of the students assessed met the standard.
- The highest passing rate for twelfth graders was in social studies where 23 percent of the students assessed met the passing standard.
- The lowest passing rate for twelfth graders was in English/Language Arts, where 13 percent of the twelfth-grade students assessed met the passing standard.

Figures 2 and 3 present the number tested and the number failing for grades 11 and 12 by subject.



- On the 2013 July TAKS exit-level retest, 1,381 eleventh-grade students took at least one subject test. Of these students, 491 students, or 36%, met the standard on all subject tests they took.

Figure 3: 2013 July TAKS Exit, 12th Grade Performance



- On the July 2013 administration of the TAKS exit-level retest, 522 twelfth-grade students took at least one subject test. Of these students, 78, or 15 percent, passed all subject tests they took.

Results by Number of Tests Taken

Districtwide results for eleventh and twelfth-grade students by the number of tests taken for the July 2013 TAKS exit-level retest are presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: District Results on the July 2013 TAKS Exit-Level Retest by the Number of Tests *						
Grade Level	N Tests Taken	N Students	N Met	% Met	N Not Met	% Not Met
11	1	828	410	50	418	50
11	2	295	44	15	251	85
11	3	169	24	14	145	86
11	4	86	12	14	74	86
11	Total	1378	490	36	888	64
12	1	264	68	26	196	74
12	2	89	2	2	87	98
12	3	84	1	1	83	99
12	4	79	7	9	72	91
12	Total	516	78	15	438	85

**Only scored tests are included*

The attachment provides HISD student performance for the 2013 July TAKS exit-level retest by subjects, for grades eleven and twelve for the district and for student groups. **Table 2** presents the results for the following demographic groups: all students, racial/ethnic subgroups, economically disadvantaged students, English Language Learners (ELL), and Students with Disabilities (SWD). School-level results for eleventh and twelfth-grade students for the July 2013 TAKS exit-level retest are presented in **Table 3**. The school-level results include the number taking, the percent passing, and the number not meeting the passing standard for each subject.

Table 2: Districtwide Results July 2013 Exit-Level Retest by Ethnicity and Student Group

	English Language Arts			Mathematics			Social Studies			Science			All Tests Taken			
	Grade	N Take	% Pass	N Fail	N Take	% Pass	N Fail	N Take	% Pass	N Fail	N Take	% Pass	N Fail	N Take	% Pass	N Fail
Amer. Ind./ Alaska	11	1	*	*	4	*	*	0			1	*	*	5	80	
	12	1	*	*	1	*	*	0			0			2	*	*
Asian American	11	26	38	16	18	50	9	8	38	5	15	40	9	35	49	18
	12	17	18	14	11	27	98	4	*	*	13	23	10	19	16	16
African American	11	183	48	95	353	27	258	76	61	30	179	35	116	470	32	320
	12	42	17	35	97	22	76	13	23	10	44	11	39	122	17	101
Hispanic	11	323	41	191	539	31	372	119	61	46	277	35	180	788	36	504
	12	210	10	189	262	11	233	86	22	67	193	16	162	364	13	317
Hawaiian/ Pacific Is.	11	2	*	*	3	*	*	2	*	*	1	*	*	5	20	4
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
White	11	27	48	14	43	47	23	16	75	4	29	72	8	64	52	31
	12	4	*	*	3	*	*	1	*	*	2	*	*	5	60	2
2 or More Ethnicities	11	2	*	*	4	*	*	1	*	*	1	*	*	5	80	1
	12	2	*	*	2	*	*	0			1	*	*	4	*	*
Econ. Disadv.	11	468	4	276	765	28	551	180	55	81	464	34	306	1092	36	699
	12	249	10	224	330	14	284	97	19	79	229	13	199	452	14	389
ELL	11	226	23	174	203	20	162	63	24	48	145	16	122	309	16	260
	12	234	7	218	213	6	200	88	10	79	187	9	170	306	7	285
SWD	11	102	29	72	153	14	132	34	44	19	96	24	73	217	18	178
	12	6	17	5	8	13	7	1	*	*	5	0	55	11	9	10
All Students	11	569	43	323	970	31	665	223	60	89	507	37	319	1381	36	890
	12	280	13	245	379	15	323	105	23	81	255	15	216	522	15	444

*Numbers masked when fewer than five students tested.

Administrative Response

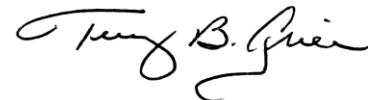
The High School Office will continue to analyze these results to better identify areas of strength that can be built upon and areas of weakness that need to be addressed. The High School Office will also:

- Assist individual schools in reviewing their results to improve understanding of the targeted instruction needed for each student still needing to pass one or more TAKS assessments,
- Ensure each school maintains a list to track each student still needing to pass TAKS – showing specific academic needs, planned interventions, and documenting the effectiveness of each intervention,
- Focus on schools with new leadership, in particular those who are less familiar with Texas standards, and
- Work with the Assistant Superintendent for College Readiness to explore online tools for better preparing students for passing the TAKS assessment.

The Curriculum Department is also working to improve the achievement of students who retested on TAKS by providing the following:

- Curriculum lesson-planning guides containing specific interventions for all tested content areas,
- Links to released TAKS assessment items,
- Links to writing prompts (identified by SE and TAKS objective),
- TAKS review materials in Social Studies,
- Social studies academic vocabulary review cards in both English and Spanish,
- Strategies for differentiating instruction in math using a graphing calculator and manipulatives,
- Ongoing meetings opportunities with campus department chairs to study TAKS data in an effort to develop targeted interventions,
- District curriculum with a strong focus on standards, and
- Numerous formative assessments to gauge student mastery

Finally, the Assistant Superintendent of Dropout Prevention will oversee the process of developing a tutorial program with Grad Lab Coaches to ensure the needs of these students are being successfully addressed.



TBG

Attachments

cc: Superintendent's Direct Reports
Chief School Officers
School Support Officers
High School Principals
Sowmya Kumar
Altagracia Guerrero
Nancy Gregory

Table 3: 2013 July TAKS Exit-Level Retest Exam Results by Campus

Campus	Grd	English Language Arts			Mathematics			Social Studies			Science			All Tests Taken		
		N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing
Adv. Virtual Academy	11	13	54	6	18	33	12	7	57	3	12	25	9	29	38	18
	12	5	60	2	20	10	18	1	*	*	10	10	9	25	16	21
Austin	11	19	26	14	27	26	20	3	*	*	18	11	16	44	27	36
	12	7	14	6	4	*	*	1	*	*	6	17	5	12	17	10
Bellaire	11	27	59	11	47	40	28	12	83	2	20	60	8	67	42	39
	12	3	*	*	8	25	6	1	*	*	1	*	*	12	17	10
Carnegie Vanguard	11	0			0			1	*	*	1	*	*	2	*	*
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
Chavez	11	57	42	33	74	34	49	28	64	10	48	50	24	122	39	75
	12	4	*	*	7	29	5	2	*	*	9	44	5	18	44	10
Davis	11	20	30	14	51	14	44	12	75	3	30	20	24	68	19	55
	12	8	0	8	16	19	13	0			5	0	5	20	5	19
DeBakey	11	2	*	*	3	*	*	2	*	*	1	*	*	6	100	0
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
Eastwood Academy	11	0			1	*	*	0			0			1	*	*
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
Furr	11	6	17	5	11	27	8	0			4	*	*	14	21	11
	12	6	0	6	7	43	4	1	*	*	4	*	*	14	36	9
HSLECJ	11	0			0			0			0			0		
	12	0			2	*	*	1	*	*	1	*	*	3	*	*
Hope Academy	11	2	*	*	11	36	7	0			3	*	*	12	42	7
	12	1	*	*	4	*	*	0			0			4	*	*
Houston International	11	1	*	*	2	*	*	2	*	*	2	*	*	4	*	*
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
Houston MST	11	38	34	25	54	22	42	18	56	8	35	34	23	84	27	61
	12	9	33	6	22	14	19	0	*	*	4	*	*	29	14	25
Jones	11	13	23	10	16	44	9	8	13	7	11	9	10	23	26	17
	12	1	*	*	3	*	*	1	*	*	1	*	*	3	*	*

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		N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing
Jordan, Barbara	11	11	45	6	15	27	11	3	*	*	14	57	6	29	48	15
	12	0			4	*	*	0			0			4	*	*
Kashmere	11	13	38	8	26	12	23	3	*	*	14	21	11	30	10	27
	12	2	*	*	2	*	*	0			1	*	*	4	*	*
Lamar	11	23	74	6	33	61	13	9	100	0	11	91	1	62	69	19
	12	2	*	*	3	*	*	0			2	*	*	5	20	4
Lee	11	43	26	32	55	15	47	10	20	8	33	30	23	78	19	63
	12	15	20	12	8	38	5	1	*	*	6	0	6	19	26	14
Liberty	11	0			0			0			0			0		
	12	166	4	159	174	5	165	85	12	75	160	6	150	213	4	205
Madison	11	28	57	12	37	49	19	3	*	*	14	57	6	55	49	28
	12	7	29	5	12	42	7	0			3	*	*	19	37	12
Milby	11	33	45	18	66	32	45	8	75	2	29	21	23	95	32	65
	12	2	*	*	1	*	*	2	*	*	4	*	*	8	50	4
Mt. Carmel Academy	11	0			6	33	4	0			1	*	*	6	33	4
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
N. Houston Early	11	0			1	*	*	1	*	*	0			2	*	*
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
REACH	11	11	18	9	32	9	29	5	20	4	23	17	19	40	13	35
	12	1	*	*	7	14	6	0			3	*	*	8	13	7
Reagan	11	3	*	*	15	67	5	3	*	*	4	*	*	20	70	6
	12	7	86	1	8	63	3	6	100	0	6	83	1	9	44	5
Scarborough	11	11	73	3	16	38	10	8	63	3	10	60	4	22	36	14
	12	2	*	*	2	*	*	0			0			3	*	*
Sharpstown	11	33	42	19	43	40	26	17	24	13	18	17	15	55	33	37
	12	9	11	8	6	33	4	1	*	*	4	*	*	13	31	9

Table 3: 2013 July TAKS Exit-Level Rest Exam Results By Campus

Campus	Grd	English Language Arts			Mathematics			Social Studies			Science			All Tests Taken		
		N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing	N Taking	% Passing	N Failing
Sharpstown Int'l.	11	4	*	*	8	50	4	0			3	*	*	10	30	7
	12	0			1	*	*	0			0			1	*	*
Sterling	11	5	80	1	13	38	8	2	*	*	10	40	6	20	50	10
	12	4	*	*	5	20	4	0			2	*	*	9	33	6
Texas Connections	11	6	83	1	21	38	13	2	*	*	4	*	*	25	48	13
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
Vision Academy	11	2	*	*	9	33	6	1	*	*	1	*	*	9	33	6
	12	0			0			0			0			0		
Waltrip	11	6	50	3	22	36	14	3	*	*	10	70	3	33	48	17
	12	1	*	*	1	*	*	0			2	*	*	4	*	*
Washington	11	5	40	3	8	63	3	1	*	*	2	*	*	13	54	6
	12	2	*	*	5	0	5	0			0			6	17	5
Westbury	11	34	41	20	66	20	53	8	88	1	24	13	21	84	24	64
	12	9	0	9	15	0	15	1	*	*	6	0	6	19	0	19
Westside	11	33	64	12	53	49	27	15	93	1	26	69	8	66	50	33
	12	1	*	*	6	50	3	0			3	*	*	7	57	3
Wheatley	11	35	26	26	46	35	30	15	27	11	30	23	23	65	38	40
	12	4	*	*	7	29	5	0			2	*	*	9	22	7
Worthing	11	18	33	12	47	17	39	3	*	*	26	42	15	58	22	45
	12	2	*	*	15	27	11	1	*	*	10	10	9	18	17	15
Yates	11	14	50	7	15	7	14	9	44	5	13	23	10	25	28	18
	12	0			4	*	*	0			0			4	*	*
Houston ISD	11	569	43	323	970	31	665	223	60	89	507	37	319	1381	36	890
	12	280	13	245	379	15	323	105	23	81	255	15	216	522	15	444

*Fewer than 5 students tested.