



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

3300 FOREST HILL BLVD., C-316
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406-5813
Ph: 561-357-7641
www.palmbeachschools.org

ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

JEFFREY J. HERNANDEZ
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

February 10, 2010
Bulletin #SP-1831-PA/A

Contact Person:
Bill Thompson
434-8664/PX 48664

ACTION BY:
For Information Only

TO: High School Principals
FROM: Judith Klinek, Chief Academic Office JK
SUBJECT: NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION (NGA) GRADUATION RATE

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) will use the National Governors Association (NGA) Graduation Rate in the high school grading calculation for school years 2009-10 and 2010-11.

How is the NGA graduation rate calculated?

The number of students who graduate within four years is divided by the number of students who entered four years earlier after adjusting for students who transfer-in and out of the school and for deceased students.

What are the steps to calculating the NGA graduation rate?

Step 1: Build the cohort. The cohort includes all students entering the school in grade 9, plus incoming transfers.

Incoming transfers include

- ninth graders who enter in the first year of the cohort (FY2006-07),
- tenth graders who enter in the second year of the cohort (FY2007-08),
- eleventh graders who enter in the third year of the cohort (FY2008-09), and
- twelfth graders who enter in the fourth final year of the cohort (FY2009-10).

Step 2: Create the adjusted cohort. Remove outgoing transfers from each grade level and deceased students.

Outgoing transfers include

- ninth graders who left in the first year of the cohort (FY2006-07),
- tenth graders who left in the second year of the cohort (FY2007-08),
- eleventh graders who left in the third year of the cohort (FY2008-09), and
- twelfth graders who left in the fourth or final year of the cohort (FY2009-10).

Palm Beach County Schools - Rated "A" by the Florida Department of Education 2005 – 2009
"Home of Florida's first LEED Gold Certified School"

www.palmbeachschools.org

The School District of Palm Beach County is an Equal Education Opportunity Provider and Employer

Students may transfer to:

- other public high schools (including DJJs) or private high schools;
- home-education programs;
- Adult-education programs; (Adult-Ed GED diploma recipients are also classified as adult-education transfers for the NGA rate and are removed from the cohort.)

The adjusted cohort becomes the denominator.

Step 3: Determine the numerator.

- Students included in the numerator are students in the denominator who graduate within four years. See the chart below for the NGA definition of a graduate.

Definition of a Graduate by the NGA Graduation Rate Model

Graduation Rate Model	Numerator (on-time graduates)
NGA Rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard diploma recipients• Special diploma recipients

- Students not included in the numerator are:
 - dropouts,
 - certificate recipients,
 - early Exit HS GED diploma recipients, and
 - continuing enrollees who are not on-time graduates.

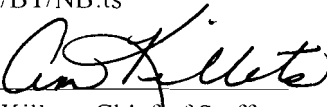
Step 4: Determine Graduation Rate. Divide the numerator by the denominator.

Additional detailed information regarding cohort adjustment, graduates and non-graduates diploma codes and classification, or information on the other graduation rate model is available at the following link:
<http://www.palmbeachschools.org/assessment/SchoolGrade.asp>.

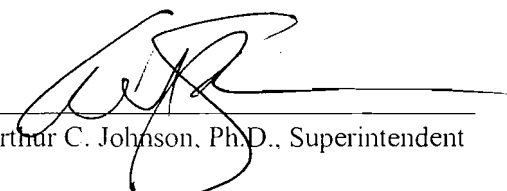
You may contact Nancy E. Brito by email, briton@palmbeach.k12.fl.us or phone, 561-357-7521, PX47521.

ACJ/AK/JK/MB/BT/NB:ts

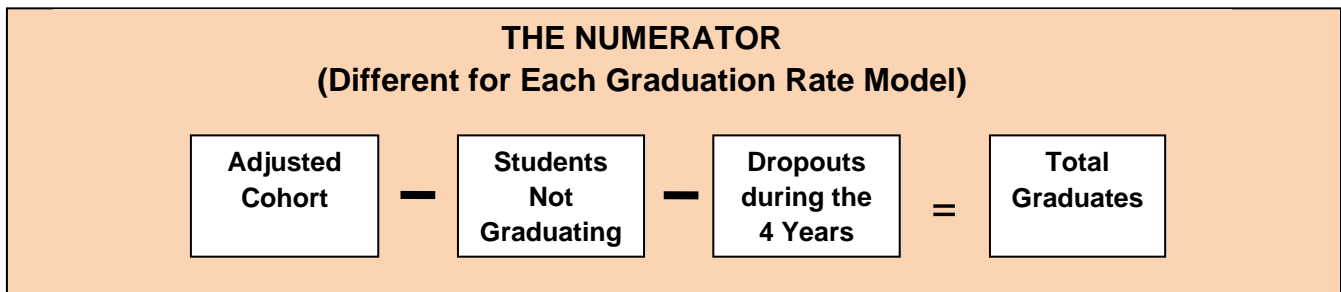
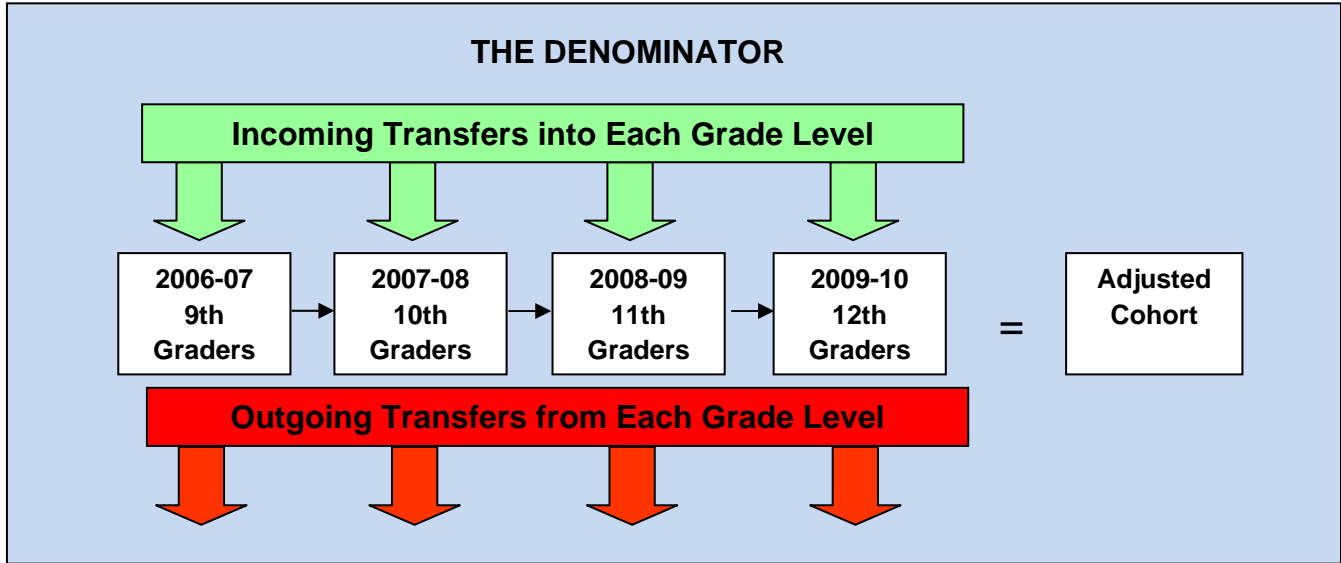
Reviewed: _____


Ann Killets, Chief of Staff

Approved: _____


Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D., Superintendent

Pictorial Representation of Graduation Rate Calculation for 2009-10 Graduates



GRADUATION RATE

