



A Message to Families: *Florida Emergency Order on State Testing, 4/9/2021*

On Friday, April 9, Florida's Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran issued an emergency order that eliminates many of the consequences associated with state testing for this school year. The order allows school districts to use measures other than the state-mandated FSA and end-of-course (EOC) tests to make decisions about students' course grades, promotion/retention and graduation. It also addresses the impact of those tests on school grades, teacher evaluations and other issues. You can find the order at:

<http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/19861/urlt/2021-EO-02.pdf>

Under state and federal law, districts are still required to administer the tests, which means the testing already underway in our schools will continue. While the order will affect how the state will use the test results, those results do help schools and teachers assess their students' academic progress and provide them with the instruction and other services they need to succeed.

We're expecting additional information from the Florida Department of Education about the order and will share more details at the next meeting of the School Board on April 20 at 6 p.m. That meeting can be viewed live at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFbqdGz4v9-8ag-607GvxaQ>.

Alachua County Public Schools remains committed to meeting the unique needs of our students and respecting the wishes of families while still meeting all state and federal requirements. We appreciate your continued support during this challenging time.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's school.