ST. JOHNS TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the following paper/pencil-based assessment(s):

- Grade 7th/8th FCAT Math (April 22nd)
- Grade 8 Science (April 24th)

The FCAT 2.0 assessments are criterion-referenced tests that measure student achievement of the *Next Generation Sunshine State Standards*.

If you or your student would like to gain familiarity with the item types and response formats your student will see on the test, sample test questions and answer keys are available at http://fcat.fldoe.org/fcat2/.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—If your student is found with ANY electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones and smartphones, at any time during testing, including breaks (e.g., restroom), his or her test will be invalidated, which means it will not be scored. The best practice is for students to leave devices at home or in their lockers on the day of testing.

- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All FCAT 2.0 tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads, "I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated." Prior to testing, test administrators will read the rules to students, and students must acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signing their names below the statement.

- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they affirm the acknowledgment states, "After the test, you may not discuss the test items with anyone. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on websites like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram." If students are found sharing information about test items, even without the intent to cheat, their tests will be invalidated.

- **Test Invalidations**—Students are responsible for working on their own during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. The FDOE employs a test security company, Caveon Test Security, to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student results within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.

- **Leaving Campus**—If your student leaves campus before completing a test session (for lunch, an appointment, or illness, etc.), he or she WILL NOT be allowed to complete the test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Richard Church at 547-8499. For more information about the statewide assessment program, visit the FDOE website at http://fcat.fldoe.org/.

Thank you for supporting your student as he or she prepares for testing.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Williams, Principal