

FairTest

National Center for Fair & Open Testing

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FLORIDA SCHOOL GRADES ARE “POLITICALLY MANIPULATED SCAM” ASSESSMENT REFORM LEADER CALLS FOR END OF “FAILED EXPERIMENT IN BOGUS ACCOUNTABILITY”

Today’s Board of Education vote to again change the school rating system demonstrates that “Florida’s test-driven school grading system is a politically manipulated scam,” according to a national assessment reform leader. Bob Schaeffer, Public Education Director of the National Center for Fair & Open Testing (FairTest), explained, “When the votes of seven political appointees can instantly transform a ‘C’ school into one rated ‘B,’ it’s easy to see that the grades have no real meaning.”

Schaeffer noted that the state admits to having made more than 30 changes to its school rating system in just the past two years. He concluded, “The standards for letter grades are not even consistent from one year to the next. Nor are they educationally useful. It’s time for Florida to end this cynical, failed experiment in bogus accountability.”

Founded in 1985 by leaders of major education reform, civil rights and student groups, FairTest is based in Boston, Massachusetts. Schaeffer has lived in southwest Florida for 14 years while continuing to work for the organization.

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