



## **The School District of Osceola County, FL**

Terry Andrews, Superintendent

### **Press Release (English and Spanish)**

**December 13, 2011** - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Osceola's Graduation and Dropout Rates Continue To Be Better Than State Average**

A report released yesterday from the Florida Department of Education shows that on average more Osceola students are staying in school and graduating compared to their peers across the state. While the Osceola School District's graduation rate dipped slightly from 83.5 percent for the 2009/2010 school year to 82.7 percent in 2010/2011, the district had a higher graduation rate than the state average of 81.2 percent for last school year.

The graduation rate approved by the State Board of Education uses a formula recommended by the National Governors Association (NGA), which includes standard and special diplomas as graduates but excludes all GEDs (General Educational Development). The NGA rate replaces Florida's previous calculation method that included GEDs.

In addition, the Osceola School District continues to have a lower dropout rate of 1.6% for last school year when compared to the state average of 1.9%.

"Ensuring that our students graduate college- and career-ready is critical to their future," said Superintendent Terry Andrews. "I am extremely proud of the efforts that our teachers, guidance counselors, and support staff make each day working with our students during these trying financial and political times. We will continue to place the resources and support directly where it benefits our students and teachers to keep the focus on the classroom and learning."