

# Keys to Changing Teachers' Practice

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Just Read Florida! Leadership  
Conference  
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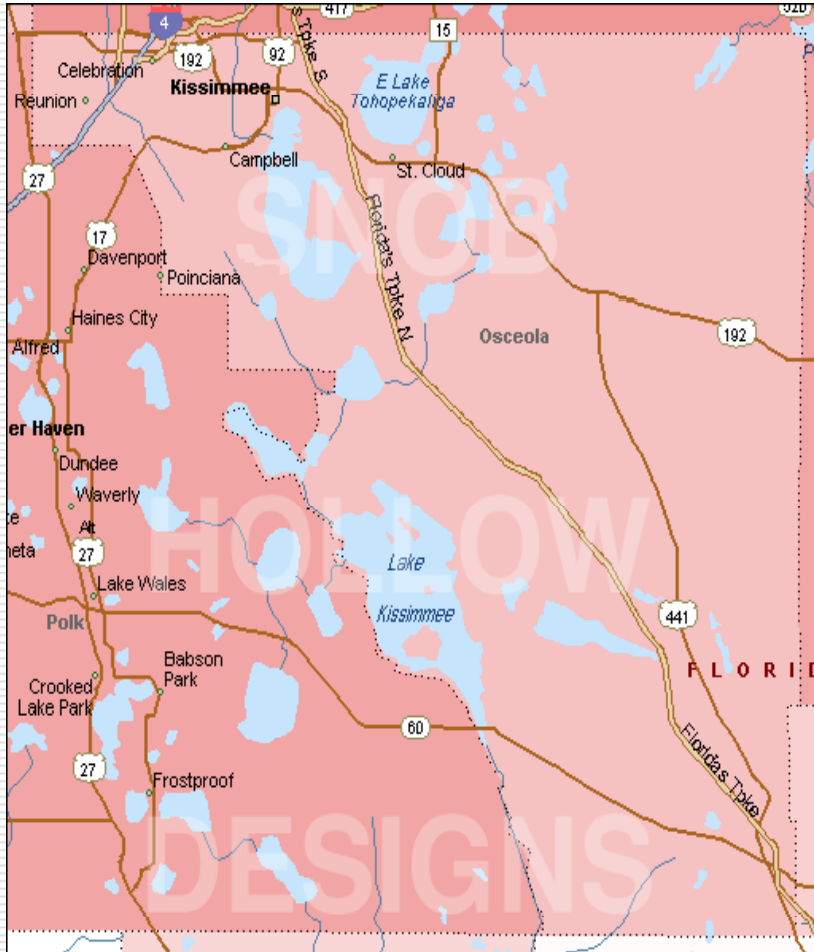
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# Advanced Organizer

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- Context of New Dimensions High School
  - Literacy Leadership Team
  - Research Base
  - Implementation
  - Evaluation
  - Lessons Learned
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# Osceola School District



# Rapid Changes



# New Dimensions High School

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- ❑ Charter school.
  - ❑ Built upon the premise of small class sizes and more personalized attention.
  - ❑ NDHS is a public school alternative to the students and parents of Osceola County.
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# Demographics

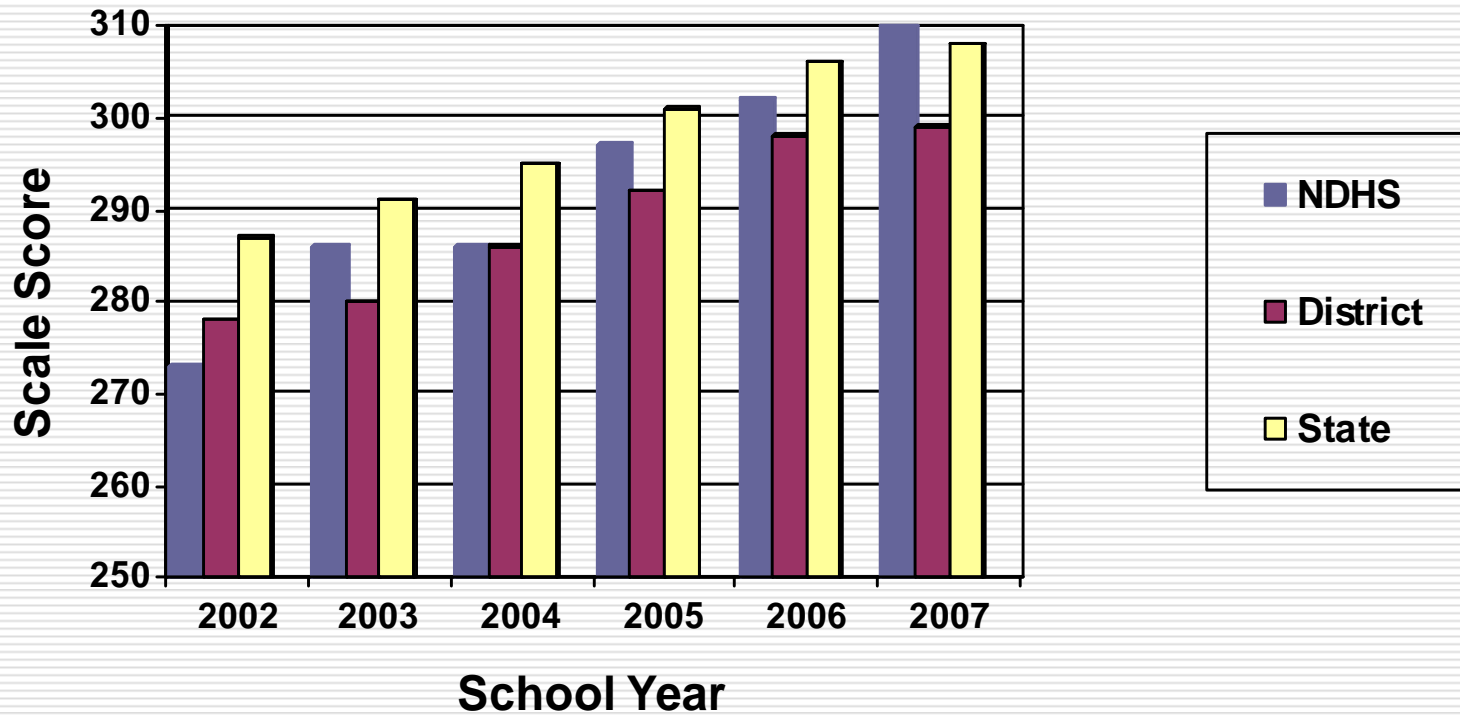
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- ❑ Student body enrollment = 320
  - ❑ Minority rate = 89%
  - ❑ ESOL Population = 16%
  - ❑ ESE Population = 3%
  - ❑ Free and Reduced Lunch = 61%
  - ❑ Female Population = 55%
  - ❑ Male Population = 45%
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# FCAT Average Scale Reading Score- Grade 9

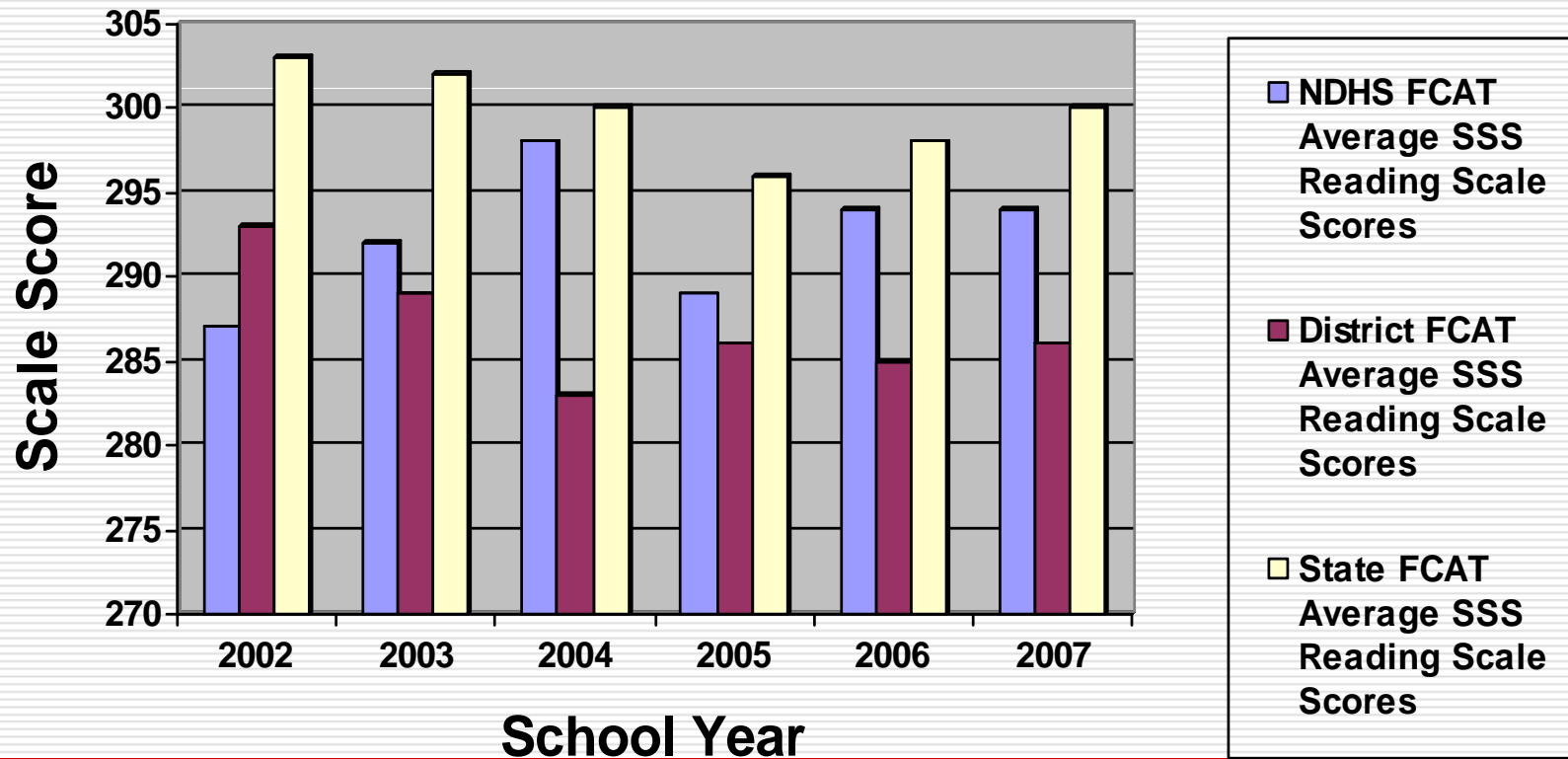
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## FCAT Reading Average Scale Score Grade 9



# FCAT Average Scale Reading Score- Grade 10

## Reading: Average Scale Scores Grade 10



# Background

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- Literacy Leadership Team
  - Last year's shared reading *My Sister's Keeper*
  - Areas of concern
    - Student engagement
    - Lecture format
    - Down time with block schedule
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# Vision for Future

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- Text sets
    - Primary sources
    - Multi-media
    - Poetry
    - Read aloud
    - Class libraries
    - Small groups
    - Differentiated instruction
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# Begin the Journey

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- ❑ Facilitate teachers incorporating reading and writing across the content.
  - ❑ Rely less on lecture format.
  - ❑ Take small steps with LOTS of SUPPORT!
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# Effective Professional Development

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- Ongoing
  - Problem centered
  - Value teachers' knowledge of context and craft
  - Builds on strengths
  - Takes place in a context of inquiry
  - Support during implementation
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# Instructional Strategies

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- LLT choose one instructional strategy per month beginning in January.
    - January: Paired Reading
    - February: Vocabulary
    - March: Read Aloud Strategies and Picture Books
    - April: Reading Minute
    - May: Classroom Libraries
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# Our Plan-

## Create Learning Communities

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- Demonstration lessons by Dr. Lewis.
  - Research background, discussion group.
  - Follow-up at department meetings with LLT person.
  - Co-planning.
  - Co-teaching.
  - Observations.
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# Role of Department Meetings

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- Focused discussion on PD topic.
  - Opened LLT member's classroom for observations.
  - Encouraged peer collaboration and observation.
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# Evaluation

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- Student focus group
  - Teacher survey
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# Students

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- Reading alternate text
    - Digital Design Independent Reading
    - Health
    - Economics- Newspaper
    - Career Research- 7 Habits Highly Effective People
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# Students

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## □ Paired Reading

- Happening in various classes
  - “It helps me cause if you don’t know then you can ask people and people around you explain it to you and see different views.
  - “I don’t know that much English and I don’t understand some words there is always somebody there that knows.”
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# Students

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## □ Vocabulary

- "I love learning new words."
  - "She does all these things to help you out to learn the word. What it looks like, what it sounds like, draw a picture."
  - "He makes us do these alphabet books and we use the word and a definition and draw a picture."
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# Students

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- "Last year we were more like by yourself and if you had questions you would ask. But this year its more like interactive."
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# Questions??

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