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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **2011 CRCT Scores - Houston Outperforms State**

HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) system scores were released recently by the Georgia Department of Education for the state assessment given April 2011. Houston County students continue to outperform the state average, with Houston’s students scoring as well or better in all 30 areas.

“We are pleased with our performance as compared to the state, having outperformed the Georgia averages 29 out of 30 areas,” commented Dr. Eric Payne, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning. “It is apparent that our teachers are working hard to meet the needs of our students and that our students are applying themselves in learning a more rigorous curriculum. While we place an emphasis on those students not meeting standards, we also keep a focus on those who meet standards, as evidenced by a high percentage of our students who exceeded standards.”

Georgia has used the CRCT for 12 years to measure the knowledge and skills students master by the end of the school year. Based on state standards, student scores are categorized as either: *does not meet standard*, *meets standard* or *exceeds standard*. Students in grades 3–8 were tested in the areas of reading, mathematics, English/language arts, social studies and science.

The CRCT scores are used to provide educators with student achievement data to drive decision-making at the classroom, school, local and state level, and to serve as gateway assessments for certain grades, meaning students must pass certain portions of the test to be promoted to the next grade. State law requires that students in third, fifth and eighth grades meet or exceed standards in reading to be promoted to the next grade. Fifth- and eighth-graders must also pass math to be promoted.

The percentage of students who met or exceeded standards on the 2011 CRCT is provided for both Houston County and Georgia.

MORE

<b>Houston County School System</b>					
	<b>Reading</b>	<b>English/LA</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>
<b>Grade</b>	<b>Meeting or Exceeding State Standards</b>				
<b>3</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>81%</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>81%</b>

<b>Georgia</b>					
	<b>Reading</b>	<b>English/LA</b>	<b>Math</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>
<b>Grade</b>	<b>Meeting or Exceeding State Standards</b>				
<b>3</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>81%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>77%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>71%</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>73%</b>

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