



# The Ambassador



Freedom 7 Elementary School of International Studies  
An International Baccalaureate World School

Kathryn Lott, Principal      Lisa Megown, Assistant Principal

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

January 12, 2024



Dear Freedom 7 Families,

We hope you have had a restful and healthy winter break. We had a wonderful start to 2024 here at school. First up... we broke ground on our new shade pavilion! January 15, we go vertical! We need all the good weather vibes sent our way to keep the process moving forward!



It is an exciting time of year to see all the growth and learning that occurs during the spring months! In the next few weeks, we will enjoy Literacy Week, Jog-A-Thon, and The Spelling Bee. We thank you for your constant support of our Freedom 7 Family. Together we keep quality education going strong.

Remember to look for report cards in Focus and home January 12<sup>th</sup> and we will have no school on January 15<sup>th</sup> for the observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Kathy Lott



400 Fourth Street South, Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931

Telephone: 321-868-6610 Fax: 321-877-0931 <https://www.brevardschools.org/Freedom7ES>

Freedom 7 Elementary School of International Studies, an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme School, provides a quality public education with a rigorous and relevant transdisciplinary curriculum. Students are encouraged to become critical and open-minded thinkers, lifelong learners and compassionate world citizens who respect cultural diversity and take action to better our world.

# Congratulations 2023-2024 School Spelling Bee Champion Tatum and Runner up Aadhira!



# Congratulations School Spelling Bee Finalists!



As our third-grade students embark on learning about folktales in their PYP Unit of Inquiry

“How We Express Ourselves,” we are seeking your help!

Please complete the [Google Form](#) if you are interested in sharing a folktale read aloud related to your culture/country of origin.

Thank you for your interest!



**Folk Tales**

- Stories have been told orally
- Reflect the customs or beliefs of a group of people
- Passed down from generation from generation
- Usually has a good and a bad character

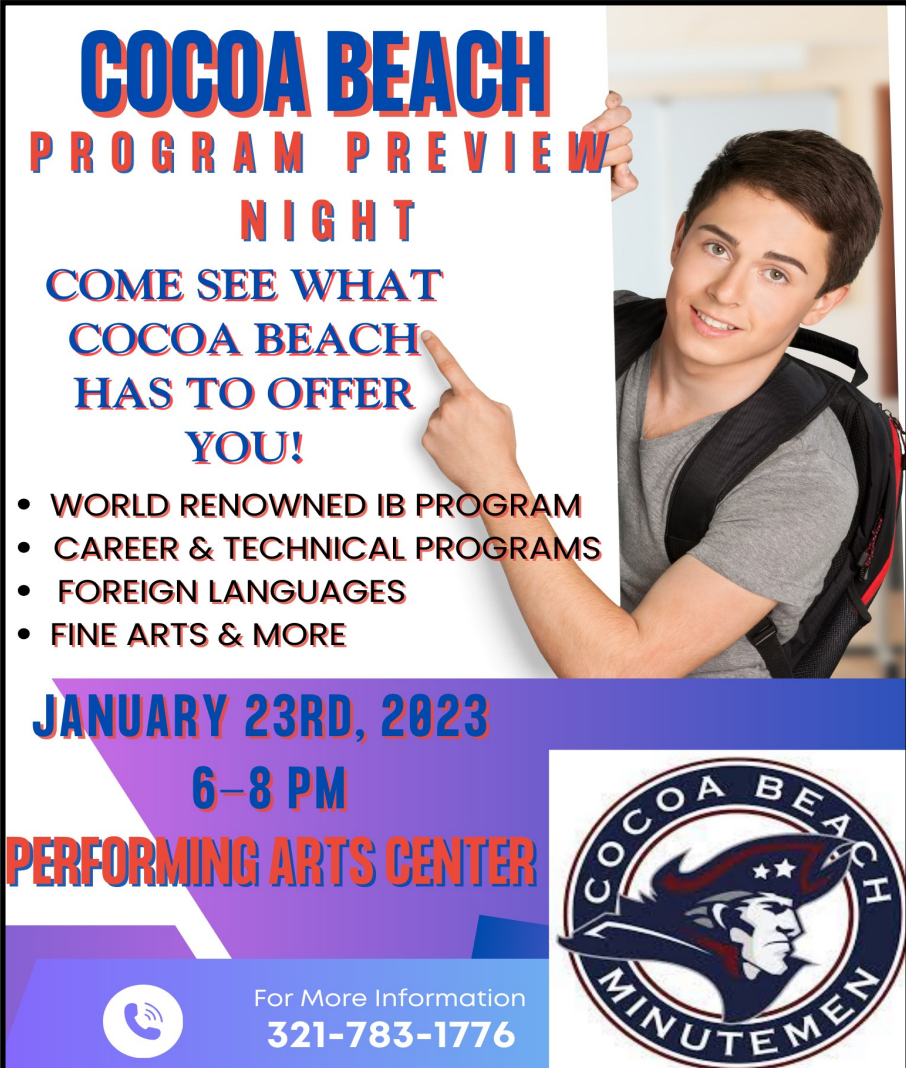


Jog-A-Thon in color!  
January 26



Jan 15 - Jan 19

Monday	Holiday
Tuesday	Day 2
Wednesday	Day 3
Thursday	Day 4
Friday	Day 0



**COCOA BEACH**  
**PROGRAM PREVIEW**  
**NIGHT**  
**COME SEE WHAT**  
**COCOA BEACH**  
**HAS TO OFFER**  
**YOU!**

- WORLD RENOWNED IB PROGRAM
- CAREER & TECHNICAL PROGRAMS
- FOREIGN LANGUAGES
- FINE ARTS & MORE

**JANUARY 23RD, 2023**  
**6-8 PM**  
**PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**



For More Information  
**321-783-1776**



# How to Access the Family Portal



The Family Portal provides a central location for your student's assessment results.

## The Family Portal can be used to

- Access your student's results starting from the 2020–2021 school year to the current year.
- Download and print score reports.

## How can I access the Family Portal?

- At the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal: <https://flfast.org>
- Or at the direct link: <https://fl-familyportal.cambiumast.com/>

## What information do I need to log in to the Family Portal?

- Your student's unique six-digit access code (provided by your student's school).
- Your student's date of birth.
- Your student's name as it appears on their official school record.

## What information can I find on the Family Portal?

- Your student's results from Fall 2020 through present
- Your student's Individual Student Reports with interpretative guides
- Glossary
- FAQs
- Scale Score and Achievement Level

## Where do I get the Access Code?

Your student's school will provide the access code. If you do not already have an access code, contact your student's school to request one.

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is a progress monitoring system that is administered three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the Benchmarks of Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards throughout this school year. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will participate in the first administration (PM 1) of the **Grades 3-6** Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) ELA Reading and Mathematics assessments on the sessions of the following days:

- **Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Reading**
- **Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024- Math**

**Please make an effort for your student to be present in school on these two important days of state-wide testing.**

Your student's results from PM2 are for informational purposes only, and you will be provided with information about how to access the results after testing is completed.

FAST assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get easier or more difficult depending on how the student responds, and each student will see different questions from a common item bank. Each test attempt (PM1, PM2, and PM3) will present 35–40 items that will cover the entire test “blueprint,” meaning students will encounter items representative of the standards within the subject or grade level. For more information on the test design, please visit <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/>. If you or your student would like to interact with the online testing platform or review FAST ELA Reading and Mathematics sample items at home, sample test materials are available at <https://flfast.org/families.html>.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to access any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing **or** during breaks (e.g., restroom). If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test may be invalidated.
- **Calculator Policy**—For Grades 7–8 FAST Mathematics, approved handheld scientific calculators may be used. For Grade 6 FAST Mathematics, a handheld four-function calculator may be used.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**— All 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 read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking the box in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**— The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items and passages) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your

Kathryn Lott, Principal

Mark J. Rendell, Ed.D., Superintendent

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- student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work 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.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss any testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Lisa Megown, Assistant Principal at [Megown.lisa@brevardschools.org](mailto:Megown.lisa@brevardschools.org)

For more information about the FAST program, please visit the portal at [FLFAST.org](http://FLFAST.org).

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Lott  
Principal

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Estimados padres de familia/tutores:

La Evaluación del razonamiento estudiantil de la Florida *FAST (Florida Assessment of Student Thinking, FAST)* es un sistema que ayuda a monitorear el avance en la enseñanza y se administrará tres veces al año para observar el progreso de su estudiante en el aprendizaje de los indicadores de referencia de un razonamiento estudiantil de excelencia (*Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking, B.E.S.T.*) durante este curso escolar. El propósito de esta carta es informarle que su estudiante participará en la primera administración (*PM1*) del grado's 3-6 evaluación(es) *Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) ELA de Lectura (Reading) Matemáticas (and Mathematics)]* el

- **Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Reading**
- **Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> 2024- Math**

Los resultados del PM2 de su estudiante se utilizan solo para fines informativos y se le proporcionará información sobre cómo acceder a los resultados una vez completadas las pruebas.

Las evaluaciones FAST son pruebas adaptativas que se toman en una computadora o tableta. Las preguntas se vuelven más fáciles o difíciles en dependencia de cómo responda el alumno y cada alumno verá diferentes preguntas de un banco común de elementos. Cada intento de prueba (PM1, PM2 y PM3) presentará de 35 a 40 elementos que cubrirán todo el "plan de contenido" de la prueba, lo que significa que los estudiantes encontrarán elementos representativos de los indicadores dentro de la materia o nivel de grado. Para obtener más información sobre el diseño de la prueba, por favor, visite: <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/>. Si usted o su estudiante desean interactuar con la plataforma de pruebas en línea o revisar los materiales y pruebas de práctica de *FAST ELA de Lectura [y Matemáticas (and Mathematics)]* en su hogar, los mismos están disponibles en <https://flfast.org/families.html>.

Por favor, revise las siguientes políticas con su estudiante antes de que tome la prueba:

- **Dispositivos electrónicos:** A los estudiantes no se les permite el acceso a ningún dispositivo electrónico, entre otros, los teléfonos celulares, los teléfonos y relojes inteligentes, en ningún momento durante la prueba o durante los descansos (por ejemplo, en los servicios/aseos). Si se encuentra a su estudiante con algún dispositivo electrónico o usando Bluetooth/auriculares inalámbricos/auriculares durante la prueba, su prueba puede quedar anulada.
- **Política para el uso de calculadoras:** Para la prueba *FAST* de Matemáticas de los grados 7–8, se proporcionarán calculadoras científicas portátiles aprobadas. Para la prueba *FAST* de Matemáticas del 6<sup>o</sup> grado, se proporcionará una calculadora portátil de cuatro funciones.
- **Aceptación de la política de exámenes:** Todas las pruebas incluyen un reconocimiento de las políticas de la prueba que declara: "Entiendo las reglas de la prueba que me acaban de leer. Si no sigo estas reglas, la puntuación de mi prueba puede quedar anulada". Antes de la prueba, los administradores de esta leen las reglas a los estudiantes, los cuales deben aceptar que comprenden dichas reglas haciendo clic en la casilla en el navegador seguro que indica que entienden las reglas de prueba.

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- **Divulgación del contenido de las pruebas una vez que hayan concluido:** La última sección de las reglas de la prueba se lee a los estudiantes antes de que firmen para aceptar que comprenden las reglas de la prueba, las cuales establecen que debido a que el contenido de todas las evaluaciones estatales es confidencial, los estudiantes no pueden dialogar ni revelar detalles sobre el contenido de la prueba (incluidos los elementos y pasajes de la prueba) al concluir la misma. Esto incluye cualquier tipo de comunicación electrónica, como mensajes de texto, correos electrónicos o publicaciones en sitios de redes sociales. Por favor, asegúrese de que su estudiante comprenda esta política antes de tomar la prueba y recuérdese que "dialogar" sobre el contenido de la prueba incluye cualquier tipo de comunicación electrónica como mensajes de texto, correos electrónicos, publicaciones en redes sociales o compartir en línea. **Si bien los estudiantes no pueden compartir información sobre el contenido confidencial de la prueba después de tomar la misma, esta política no pretende evitar que los estudiantes hablen sobre sus experiencias en la prueba con sus padres/familias.**
- **Examinarse de forma independiente:** Los estudiantes son responsables de realizar su propia prueba y de proteger sus respuestas de manera que otros no las vean. Si algún estudiante es sorprendido haciendo trampa durante la prueba, la prueba será anulada.
- **Adaptaciones para las pruebas—** Si su estudiante tiene un Plan de Educación Individual (Individual Education Plan, IEP), un Plan de la Sección 504, o es un Aprendiz del Idioma Inglés (English Language Learner, ELL) o un ELL recientemente egresado de dicho programa, por favor, comuníquese con la escuela para analizar las adaptaciones para las pruebas que se proporcionarán a su estudiante.

Si tiene alguna pregunta relacionada con la administración de esta prueba, puede comunicarse con [] en Lisa Megown, Assistant Principal at [Megown.lisa@brevardschools.org](mailto:Megown.lisa@brevardschools.org)

Para obtener más información sobre el programa FAST, por favor, visite el portal en [FLFAST.org](http://FLFAST.org).

Gracias por apoyar a su estudiante y animarlo/a a dar lo mejor de sí mismo/a durante la administración de esta prueba.

Atentamente,

Kathryn Lott  
Principal

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