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Dade County High School Graduation Rates - 2019

The Georgia State Department of Education released the 2019 four and five-year graduation rates yesterday to the public. **The Dade County High School four-year percentage rate of 80.71 is a decrease from last year's 92.19 rate. However, DCHS did see an increase in its five-year graduation rate. In 2018, the five-year percentage was 89.04 and has now increased to 94.57. With these combined 2019 rates, the overall graduation rate that will be reported through CCRPI stands at 85.3.**

Director of Academics Patti Johnson, stated, "There are many factors to calculating the graduation rate that dates back four years ago. This year's graduation rate is calculated on those students who entered the 9th grade during the 2015-2016 school year and there was a total of 140 students. Students who officially graduate with a general education diploma are the only students who count in the percentile that is announced. Those students who graduate with a skills diploma or their GED do not count for the school. There was a small number of students who were removed during the 2016-2017 school year for lack of attendance who did not count as well."

Dr. Jan Irons Harris, Superintendent, said, "Our team, from Pre-K through high school, believes that quitting school is not an option. This four year rate will improve over time, just as the five year rate has this past year. We are proud of students and staff, and the record-high growth in student achievement and climate at Dade County High School."

Principal James Fahrney shared the following statement: "We want every Wolverine in the building to leave us with a diploma in-hand and a future that is full of possibilities. While we are certainly not happy with our current graduation rate, I can tell you that we weren't happy with the 92.2% we got the year before either. Our achievement growth and improved climate over the past two years are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff and students. I can assure everyone the graduation rate will go up, our standards will remain high, and we will continue to work tirelessly to the benefit of all our students. Stakeholders that have questions or concerns are more than welcome to call me or send an email. I would be more than happy to discuss how the graduation rate is calculated and can review the other metrics that paint a more complete picture of what is happening in our school."