

Merriwether Elementary School

565 Spring Haven Drive
North Augusta, SC 29860

Grades	PK-5 Elementary School	
Enrollment	682 Students	
Principal	Dr. Mendi Tucker	803-279-9993
Superintendent	Greg W. Anderson	803-275-4601
Board Chair	J. Carroll Wates	803-637-6732

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2014 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2014	Good	Average
2013	Good	Average
2012	Good	Good
2011	Good	Good
2010	Average	Good

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student SC PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

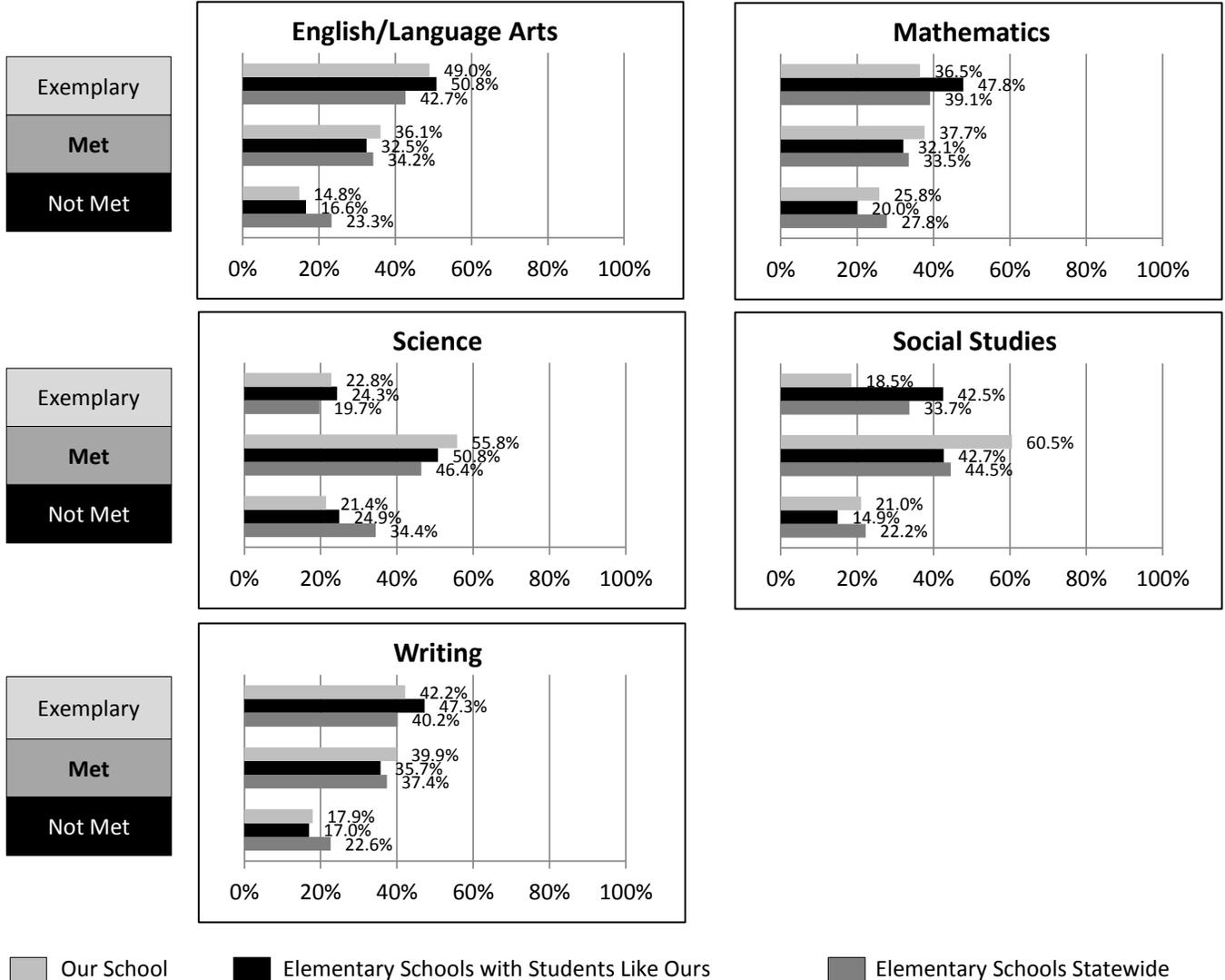
Percent of students tested in 2013-14 whose 2012-13 test scores were located 93.9%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
53	31	9	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015.

South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SC PASS)



* Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours are elementary schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable N/AV-Not Available N/C-Not Collected N/R-Not Reported I/S-Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n = 682)				
1st graders who attended full-day kindergarten	98.2%	Up from 96.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Retention Rate	2.6%	Up from 2.5%	0.8%	1.0%
Attendance Rate	97.1%	Up from 96.8%	96.7%	96.5%
Served by gifted and talented program	9.1%	Down from 10.0%	9.9%	7.3%
With disabilities	12.8%	Up from 12.7%	11.6%	12.5%
Older than usual for grade	4.2%	Up from 3.1%	1.4%	1.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n = 50)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	66.0%	Down from 69.6%	64.3%	62.3%
Continuing contract teachers	88.0%	Down from 91.3%	83.1%	81.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.9%	Down from 93.4%	90.4%	88.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.1%	Up from 94.8%	95.4%	95.3%
Average teacher salary*	\$47,852	Down 1.4%	\$50,031	\$47,902
Professional development days/teacher	0.9 days	Down from 9.9 days	12.0 days	10.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	5.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.1 to 1	Down from 26.4 to 1	20.2 to 1	19.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	92.2%	Up from 90.7%	91.3%	90.7%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,867	Up 5.1%	\$7,294	\$7,680
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	72.0%	Down from 73.0%	67.0%	66.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	71.8%	Up from 71.0%	66.6%	66.0%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Merriwether Elementary School continues to strive to fulfill our mission, "Creating Leaders for Tomorrow. "All stakeholders have worked diligently to create a learning community that enables students to communicate, demonstrate, and master skills essential for success in life. The goal of teachers, staff, and parents is to prepare students to be leaders for tomorrow by implementing a rigorous curriculum that meets the needs of all learners and instill core values that will empower students to think critically, solve real-world problems, and develop perseverance. Using Stephen Covey's Leader in Me Program, we teach students key traits that will prepare them to be college and career ready.

Our student demographics change on a continual basis. Changes in student ability levels, socioeconomic status, ethnicity groups, and family dynamics have prompted teachers and staff members to analyze instructional, assessment, and behavioral strategies used in the classroom. We provide teachers and staff members with extensive professional development in the areas of differentiated instruction, classroom intervention strategies, technology integration, data analysis, and strategies to meet the needs of students with disabilities. Through high expectations and diverse strategies, our teachers and support staff help all students to reach their maximum potential.

Merriwether Elementary has seen several new initiatives during the 2013 – 2014 school year. This year, scheduling has allowed teachers to participate in professional learning communities during common planning. While in professional learning communities, teachers and administrators collaborate to develop integrative units, analyze school and grade level data, reflect on lessons, and share instructional strategies are effective in the classroom. The Student Leadership Team (SLT) is also a new addition to the school's community. The SLT is a group of students in grades 3 – 5 who serve as ambassadors for the school. They work together to improve the school's community by modeling positive behaviors, being a voice for all students, and promote school spirit and unity within the school.

The RTI program at Merriwether Elementary maintains commitment to closing the achievement gap. Based on the analysis of PASS, MAP, and AimsWeb test scores, identified students receive instruction that targets essential skills needed to overcome instructional gaps. We believe that the ongoing analysis of data and small group instruction will help all students experience academic success.

Our school continues to make advances in the area of technology. Our school is 100% Wi-Fi accessible. This allows our students to use Google Chromebooks, iPads, and Kindle Fires to research and play interactive learning programs from anywhere in the building. Several of our teachers have received grants to purchase technology equipment for their classrooms.

We believe that having a positive relationship with the community is essential to building leaders and encouraging community awareness. Throughout the year, the faculty and students participate in several service learning projects that help support a variety of organizations. This year, we raised over \$4,000.00 for Relay for Life and Jump Rope for Heart. Students celebrated the 100th day of school by collecting 803 non-perishable items for the Edgfield Food Bank and Sweetwater Baptist Church's Food Pantry.

Merriwether Elementary continues to strive for excellence without excuses. Because of our commitment to academics and the community, we are the recipients of the Palmetto Silver Award and the Relay for Life Award for our district. Through high expectations, differentiated instruction, collaboration, and increased accountability, the teachers and faculty members create environments that facilitate the learning process for all students regardless of their diverse backgrounds. We will continue to motivate and empower students to use leadership skills as they make daily decisions. Additionally, we will maintain our close relationships with our community. Understanding that education is an evolving entity, we will monitor and adjust our practices to ensure that our students are leaders for tomorrow.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	31	104	40
Percent satisfied with learning environment	96.8%	84.7%	90.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	81.5%	92.5%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	96.7%	81.6%	76.9%

* Only students at the highest elementary school grade level and their parents were included.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	90.3
Overall Grade Conversion	A

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the states' expectations.

Accountability Indicator (Title I Schools)

Merriwether Elementary School has been designated as a:

	Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
	Title I Reward School for Progress - one of the schools with substantial progress in school subgroups.
	Title I Focus School - one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
	Title I Priority School - one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
X	Title I School - does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
	Non-Title I School - therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State	
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	6.9	3.2%	
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0	7.3%	
	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.0%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	97.1%	94.0%*	Yes
		State	
Professional qualifications of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State (Advanced Degrees)		61.9%	
Percentage of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State with emergency or provisional credentials		0.0%	

* Or greater than last year

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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SC PASS Performance By Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean*	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested
Grades 3-5							
All Students	649.3	638.4	636.7	630.0	100.0	100.0	99.5
Male	645.3	639.1	634.0	632.7	100.0	100.0	99.1
Female	653.7	637.6	639.7	627.4	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	658.0	648.2	647.0	635.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
African American	624.9	611.7	607.5	612.1	100.0	100.0	98.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	635.1	619.8	615.6	620.6	100.0	100.0	99.0
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Two Year Elementary and Middle School Grades Trend Data

2013	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	105	651.9	99.1	105	626.6	99.1
4	102	648.2	100.0	102	638.8	99.0	
5	109	649.6	100.0	109	637.9	100.0	
6	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV	
7	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV	
8	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV	
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
3	52	619.5	100.0	53	615.6	98.1	
4	102	636.8	100.0	102	640.7	100.0	
5	54	640.6	100.0	55	634.5	98.2	
6	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV	
7	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV	
8	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV	

2014	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	109	656.7	100.0	109	630.3	100.0
4	109	646.3	100.0	109	647.0	100.0	
5	109	645.1	100.0	109	638.0	100.0	
6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
3	53	617.9	98.1	55	629.2	100.0	
4	108	643.1	100.0	109	635.0	100.0	
5	56	642.4	100.0	53	621.1	100.0	
6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

NOTE: Results include the SC-ALT test.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (District) 4/27/2015 1901008

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies*/ History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	641.9	639.3	619.4	627.7	99.9	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	635.8	638.0	616.5	628.0	99.8	99.8	99.6	N/A
Female	648.3	640.8	622.2	627.3	100.0	99.8	100.0	N/A
White	657.8	653.8	638.1	640.6	99.8	99.8	100.0	N/A
African American	623.6	623.1	597.1	613.2	100.0	100.0	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	629.2	627.5	N/A	N/A	100.0	97.6	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	599.0	590.8	573.9	598.6	99.2	99.2	100.0	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	627.6	625.9	601.4	616.4	100.0	99.8	99.7	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 6 - 8								
All Students	620.5	629.6	611.6	624.1	99.7	99.5	99.7	N/A
Male	614.6	627.3	612.6	625.0	99.4	99.4	99.3	N/A
Female	627.6	632.4	610.6	622.9	100.0	99.8	100.0	N/A
White	634.3	642.7	625.0	633.7	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
African American	604.4	613.9	595.3	611.0	99.5	99.5	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	608.5	619.1	N/A	N/A	100.0	97.2	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	562.2	579.3	564.8	582.2	99.3	99.3	100.0	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	604.8	614.1	600.2	609.8	99.6	99.4	99.7	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 9 - 12								
All Students	228.6	219.4	79.1	71.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	76.7
Male	226.8	221.3	78.4	71.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	72.5
Female	230.4	217.6	79.8	70.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	81.6
White	232.9	225.3	84.4	73.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	78.3
African American	223.4	213.2	74.1	67.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	74.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	N/A	N/A	71.1	64.3	N/A	N/A	100.0	36.7
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	223.9	214.1	76.1	69.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	66.9
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (State) 4/27/2015 1901008

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies* / History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	643.8	644.3	626.4	645.0	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	638.9	643.9	627.0	646.5	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Female	649.0	644.6	625.8	643.4	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
White	659.5	662.7	644.4	659.5	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
African American	622.3	617.3	601.2	624.1	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	669.9	686.6	655.9	673.4	99.9	100.0	99.8	N/A
Hispanic	631.7	634.6	614.5	636.5	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	642.1	640.4	627.1	641.8	99.7	99.9	99.5	N/A
With Disabilities	599.3	596.5	587.6	609.2	98.9	99.5	99.5	N/A
Limited English Proficient	631.2	638.6	615.0	638.1	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
Subsidized Meals	627.7	625.2	609.4	628.7	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Migrant	608.2	615.1	590.4	623.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 6 - 8								
All Students	627.8	632.2	634.7	637.4	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
Male	620.6	630.1	634.4	639.8	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Female	635.4	634.3	635.0	634.9	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
White	644.3	647.7	652.3	652.3	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
African American	604.3	608.5	608.9	615.2	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	658.5	680.2	673.0	677.3	99.9	99.9	99.9	N/A
Hispanic	617.3	625.4	625.0	630.5	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	629.4	631.2	637.2	638.3	99.9	99.8	99.7	N/A
With Disabilities	574.5	584.3	584.9	592.8	99.4	99.4	99.2	N/A
Limited English Proficient	612.5	625.8	622.5	629.8	99.6	99.7	99.8	N/A
Subsidized Meals	610.0	614.6	616.3	619.9	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Migrant	586.4	606.8	600.8	607.7	98.2	98.2	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 9 - 12								
All Students	229.3	222.6	81.8	74.9	98.7	98.7	100.0	80.0
Male	225.6	222.4	81.8	75.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	75.7
Female	233.2	222.9	81.9	74.0	99.2	99.1	100.0	84.5
White	235.9	230.8	86.1	78.1	99.0	98.9	100.0	82.8
African American	219.6	209.6	75.2	69.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	76.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	240.2	245.8	89.4	80.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	88.0
Hispanic	225.1	219.4	79.5	73.5	98.9	99.0	100.0	76.9
American Indian/Alaskan	228.8	220.3	81.9	77.2	98.9	99.3	100.0	74.3
With Disabilities	204.3	196.5	68.4	66.2	96.6	96.5	100.0	43.2
Limited English Proficient	218.0	214.7	76.6	71.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	73.4
Subsidized Meals	221.1	212.6	76.8	70.8	98.3	98.2	100.0	72.5
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.5
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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I/S-Insufficient Sample

*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level.



Key	
NSLP	National school lunch program
SD	Student with disabilities
ELL	English language learner
NAEP	National Association of Education Progress

	SD Participation Rate	ELL Participation Rate
Reading, Grade 4	89.0%	96.0%
Reading, Grade 8	85.0%	96.0%
Mathematics, Grade 4	93.0%	99.0%
Mathematics, Grade 8	90.0%	95.0%

	Our School
Number of recently arrived ELL students exempted from ELA in state assessments	0

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