

PALMETTO ACADEMY OF LEARNING & SUCCESS

3021 Fred Nash Blvd
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Grades	K-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	302 Students	
Principal	Ms. Courtney Fancher	843-293-1725
Superintendent	Dr. Cynthia Elsberry	843-488-6700
Board Chair	Joe DeFeo	843-222-5912

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2014 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2014	Good	Below Average
2013	Excellent	Excellent
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Good	Average
2010	N/A	N/A

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

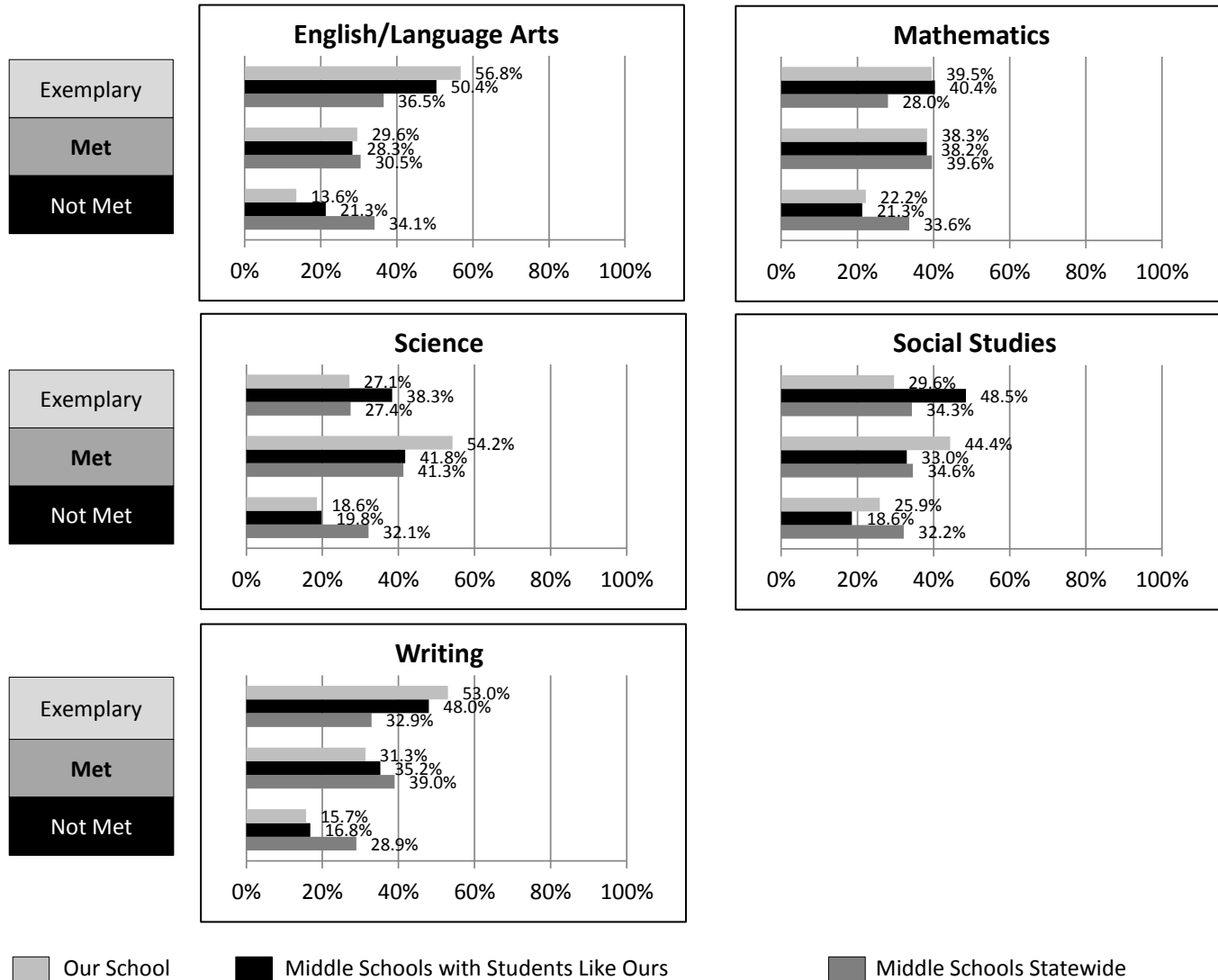
Percent of students tested in 2013-14 whose 2012-13 test scores were located 88.4%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
16	4	2	0	0

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

South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SC PASS)



* Middle Schools with Students Like Ours are middle 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	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n = 302)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	98.3%	N/A	43.9%	26.0%
Retention Rate	0.6%	No change	0.3%	0.6%
Attendance Rate	97.0%	Up from 94.5%	96.8%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	20.0%	Down from 26.3%	31.6%	19.4%
With disabilities	6.1%	Down from 7.7%	10.7%	12.8%
Older than usual for grade	0.3%	Down from 1.3%	2.8%	4.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	N/A	0.2%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n = 21)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	33.3%	Up from 30.0%	67.8%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	47.6%	Down from 60.0%	84.9%	75.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	81.8%	N/A	90.5%	85.4%
Teacher attendance rate	97.5%	Up from 95.5%	95.1%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$36,262	Down 9.1%	\$48,363	\$47,081
Professional development days/teacher	11.3 days	N/A	8.6 days	10.6 days
School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	N/A	5.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	13.8 to 1	N/A	24.7 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	94.4%	Up from 89.6%	90.9%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	N/A	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	99.4%	N/A	99.7%	99.0%
Character development program	Good	N/A	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,456	Down 1.3%	\$6,888	\$7,616
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	43.6%	Down from 56.0%	63.8%	62.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	42.8%	Up from 41.0%	63.1%	61.3%

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

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	83.3%	98.7%
English 1	100.0%	93.3%
Biology 1	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	100.0%
All Subjects	90.4%	98.7%

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success, a Palmetto Gold recipient, is a public charter school located in the Market Common area of Myrtle Beach. The mission of PALS is to create a small, diverse learning environment that accommodates each student’s individual differences, learning styles, and development while promoting high expectations for all students. By providing meaningful and innovative learning experiences, instruction for multiple learning styles, access to technology, and encouraging family and community involvement PALS is committed to guiding students in the development of both their character and academic potential in preparation for their success as lifelong learners. The staff at PALS is committed to the reinforcement of PALS’ rigorous curriculum and high expectations for all students with more than 75% of the staff members holding or actively pursuing advanced degrees and almost half of the elementary classroom teachers holding certifications as reading specialists. PALS serves students from kindergarten through eighth grade and maintains class sizes of only 18 students per class. PALS’ eighth graders moving on to high school have had the opportunity to earn 4 high school credits – English I honors, algebra I, geometry, and computer science/keyboarding. PALS also offers a full day gifted & talented pullout program with an average student to teacher ratio of 10:1. Students in kindergarten through second grade also receive gifted & talented instruction each week from a gifted and talented teacher. This small, diverse learning environment with highly qualified teachers attracts families seeking academically rigorous curriculum and whole-child development. The 2013-2014 school year was filled with many significant accomplishments for PALS! PALS moved into a brand new facility that was designed specifically to meet the goals of our program. The school also had two groups of teachers who were awarded \$1,000 each for innovative projects and PALS’ teachers had over 12 projects (which totaled more than \$5,000 in materials) funded through community support. PALS continues to offer a local chapter of both the National Junior Honors Society and the Junior BETA club. Students had the opportunity to participate in sports (basketball, soccer, cheerleading, softball, baseball, volleyball) and more than 10 afterschool clubs. The PALS’ Science Competition Team placed in numerous events at the Science Olympiad competition. Each class participated in a community service project such as: a canned food drive, pet supply drive, cards & letters to nursing homes, letters to veterans, beach sweeps, and recycling programs. We are looking forward to an equally exciting and rewarding 2014-2015 school year!

☐

☐

Courtney Fancher- Executive Director☐

☐

Stephanie Meridith- Board of Director’s’ President

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	21	26	15
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	92.3%	93.4%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	88.4%	93.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	92.3%	64.3%

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

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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	99.4
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)

PALMETTO ACADEMY OF LEARNING & SUCCESS 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.
	Title I School - does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
X	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	2.5	3.2%	
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.8	7.3%	
	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.2%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	97.0%	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

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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 6-8							
All Students	650.8	639.2	640.2	630.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	647.6	644.0	646.3	N/A	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female	654.5	633.5	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	649.6	640.6	642.5	630.8	100.0	100.0	100.0
African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
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	656.1	628.6	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	100.0
Migrant	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

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

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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Two Year Elementary and Middle School Grades Trend Data

2013	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	17	694.4	100.0	17	666.1	100.0
4	18	683.6	100.0	18	684.1	100.0	
5	17	656.6	100.0	17	645.7	100.0	
6	18	671.5	100.0	18	660.7	100.0	
7	18	645.3	100.0	18	635.6	100.0	
8	13	676.0	100.0	13	648.4	100.0	
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
3	9	I/S	I/S	8	I/S	I/S	
4	18	656.6	100.0	18	667.2	100.0	
5	8	I/S	I/S	9	I/S	I/S	
6	9	I/S	I/S	9	I/S	I/S	
7	18	655.3	100.0	18	645.6	100.0	
8	6	I/S	I/S	7	I/S	I/S	

2014	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	35	700.2	100.0	35	676.6	100.0
4	36	668.2	100.0	36	696.9	100.0	
5	35	677.0	100.0	35	662.0	100.0	
6	34	645.2	100.0	34	638.7	97.1	
7	36	654.5	100.0	36	646.0	100.0	
8	24	653.3	100.0	24	628.5	100.0	
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
3	17	648.6	100.0	18	651.8	100.0	
4	36	647.1	100.0	36	661.4	100.0	
5	16	665.3	100.0	19	652.3	100.0	
6	17	619.1	100.0	17	634.1	94.4	
7	36	643.2	100.0	36	629.8	100.0	
8	13	662.1	100.0	11	629.1	100.0	

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

NOTE: Results include the SC-ALT test.

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Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (District) 4/27/2015 2601602

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies*/ History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	653.4	661.5	634.3	654.5	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	649.1	662.4	635.1	657.5	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Female	658.0	660.5	633.5	651.3	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
White	664.6	674.7	646.2	664.3	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
African American	626.3	629.6	605.9	630.2	99.8	99.8	99.8	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	672.7	688.8	656.0	674.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Hispanic	642.4	648.5	623.9	645.3	99.3	99.9	99.7	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	650.7	643.0	633.2	634.6	98.5	98.5	98.0	N/A
With Disabilities	607.0	607.0	593.4	615.5	99.0	99.4	99.8	N/A
Limited English Proficient	641.6	651.0	622.5	647.7	99.3	100.0	99.7	N/A
Subsidized Meals	641.2	646.5	622.1	641.9	99.6	99.7	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	631.7	642.1	644.2	644.6	99.8	99.9	99.7	N/A
Male	624.8	639.4	643.0	646.8	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Female	639.1	645.1	645.5	642.2	99.9	100.0	99.6	N/A
White	643.0	653.1	656.3	655.1	99.8	99.9	99.7	N/A
African American	602.5	612.5	612.1	615.3	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	654.9	680.3	675.4	680.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Hispanic	620.5	633.3	633.2	636.7	99.7	99.9	99.8	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	648.9	641.4	647.9	638.2	100.0	100.0	98.0	N/A
With Disabilities	576.2	587.7	589.7	596.5	99.5	99.7	99.3	N/A
Limited English Proficient	614.3	630.5	629.3	632.4	99.7	99.9	100.0	N/A
Subsidized Meals	617.7	627.8	629.5	629.5	99.7	99.8	99.6	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	230.4	226.1	84.5	77.0	98.8	98.7	100.0	78.8
Male	226.6	226.2	84.6	78.1	98.5	98.3	100.0	72.3
Female	234.3	226.0	84.3	75.9	99.1	99.1	100.0	85.5
White	235.1	231.3	87.1	78.5	98.9	98.8	100.0	81.8
African American	217.3	210.1	76.2	71.6	98.4	98.1	100.0	69.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	239.6	243.6	89.8	83.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	85.5
Hispanic	222.1	218.9	80.3	76.2	98.5	98.5	100.0	75.6
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	69.2
With Disabilities	206.6	200.5	70.4	67.1	96.7	96.3	100.0	43.8
Limited English Proficient	217.1	214.9	78.1	74.3	100.0	99.2	100.0	68.8
Subsidized Meals	224.1	218.5	80.9	73.9	98.6	98.3	100.0	72.1
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.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (State) 4/27/2015 2601602

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	1

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