



## Darlington County School District

120 East Smith Avenue  
Darlington, SC 29532

<b>Grades</b>	PK-12 District	
<b>Enrollment</b>	10,252 Students	
<b>Superintendent</b>	Dr. Rainey H. Knight	843-398-5100
<b>Board Chair</b>	Warren Jeffords	843-326-5970

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT CARD

## RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
<b>2013</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good*</b>
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Average
2010	Good	Excellent
2009	Below Average	At-Risk

\* The District's 2013 Growth Rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students. The Growth Rating may or may not have been affected by the performance of these groups in prior years.

## 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 PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating**

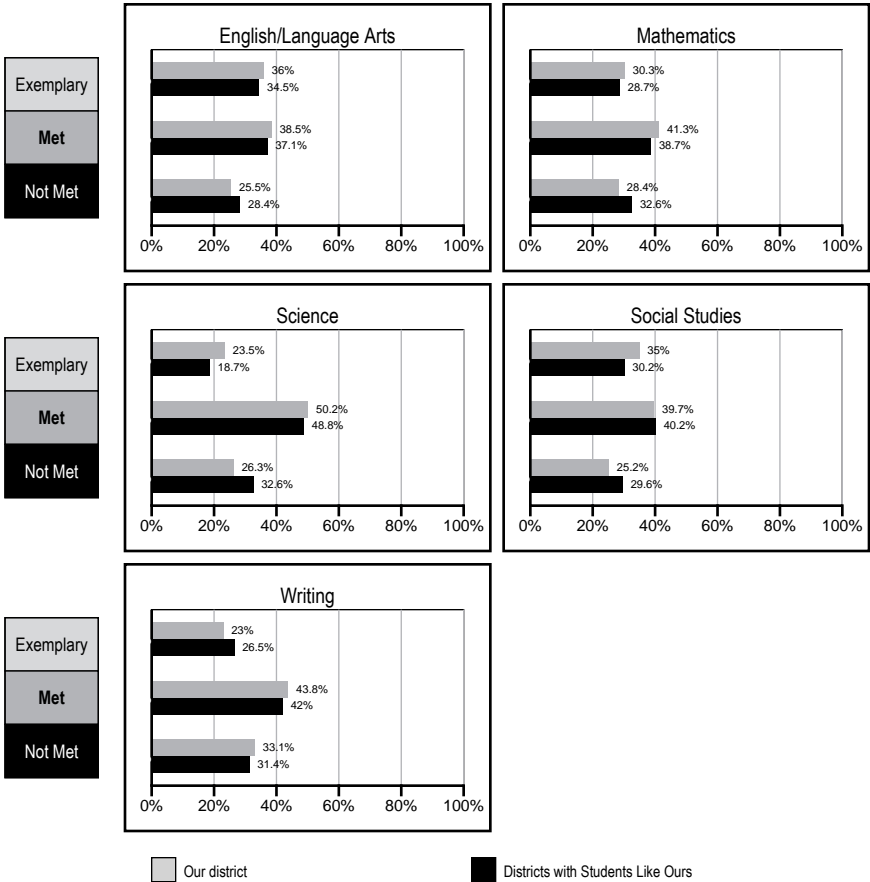
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 97.4%

**ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF DISTRICTS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\***

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
5	7	11	0	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 01/16/2014.

**Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)**



\* Districts with Students Like Ours are districts with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the district.

**Definition of Critical Terms**

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the 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

## High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

Percent	Our District			Districts with Students Like Ours		
	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
Passed both subtests	73.0%	79.8%	82.9%	74.1%	77.2%	78.6%
Passed one subtest	13.8%	10.8%	9.8%	14.1%	13.1%	12.3%
Passed no subtests	13.2%	9.4%	7.3%	11.8%	9.7%	9.5%

## End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	80.7%	80.4%
English 1	72.3%	70.7%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	67.7%	70.8%
US History and the Constitution	52.2%	50.9%
All Subjects	69.3%	68.7%

## Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Our District		Districts with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort	630	663	392	392
Number of Graduates in Cohort	586	619	296	306
Rate	93.0%	93.4%	75.6%	78.4%

## Five-Year Graduation Rate

	Our District		Districts with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Cohort	728	623	416	393
Number of Graduates in Cohort	677	588	321	307
Rate	93.0%	94.4%	77.7%	78.2%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

District Profile

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
<b>Students (n=10,252)</b>				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	98.0%	Up from 94.5%	99.6%	99.2%
Retention rate	3.5%	Down from 3.8%	2.7%	1.9%
Attendance rate	95.1%	Down from 95.4%	95.7%	95.8%
Served by gifted and talented program	11.3%	N/A	11.6%	12.0%
With disabilities	13.6%	N/A	14.2%	12.7%
Older than usual for grade	7.7%	N/A	6.1%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.4%	No Change	0.4%	0.7%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	9.3%	Up from 7.9%	11.5%	14.0%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	48.6%	50.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	31.5%	Up from 29.3%	32.9%	31.8%
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	74	Down from 326	33	50
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	61	Down from 89	27	37
Annual dropout rate	0.4%	Down from 0.6%	2.6%	2.3%
<b>Teachers (n=631)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	56.7%	Down from 57.7%	61.7%	61.4%
Continuing contract teachers	83.5%	Down from 86.7%	83.9%	80.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	89.8%	Down from 89.9%	90.5%	90.4%
Teacher attendance rate	95.3%	Down from 95.7%	94.8%	94.8%
Average teacher salary*	\$46,088	Up 0.9%	\$46,664	\$47,587
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.2%	Down from 0.3%	0.2%	0.2%
Professional development days/teacher	14.3 days	Down from 17.7 days	11.6 days	10.3 days
<b>District</b>				
Superintendent's years at district	14.0	Up from 13.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	26.4 to 1	Down from 27.0 to 1	21.8 to 1	22.2 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.0%	Down from 89.8%	89.1%	89.4%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,726	Up 2.3%	\$9,026	\$9,101
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	51.0%	Up from 50.3%	52.0%	52.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	54.0%	Up from 53.8%	54.0%	56.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Number of schools	25	Up from 23	10	11
Number of magnet schools	1	Down from 7	0	0
Portable classrooms	2.3%	Down from 2.9%	0.6%	0.9%
Average age in years of school facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	23.0	No Change	10.0	10.0
Parents attending conferences	98.8%	Down from 100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Average administrator salary	\$82,237	Up 3.5%	\$79,713	\$79,389

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

\*\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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**Performance By Student Groups**

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013		End of Course Tests Passage Rate		On-time Graduation Rate, 2013	
	n	%	t	%	n	%
All Students	623	94.9%	2752	69.3%	663	93.4%
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	329	93.0%	1318	68.7%	359	90.3%
Female	294	96.9%	1434	69.9%	304	97.0%
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>						
White	267	97.4%	1203	79.5%	286	95.5%
African American	349	92.8%	1490	60.6%	365	91.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	16	81.3%	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	34	82.4%	10	100.0%
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Disability Status</b>						
Disabled	90	68.9%	262	42.7%	103	66.0%
<b>Migrant Status</b>						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>						
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	31	83.9%	N/A	N/A
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>						
Subsidized meals	396	92.4%	1774	62.7%	404	90.3%

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

**HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013**

	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours
Percent	94.9%	90.9%

**College Admissions Tests**

SAT	Critical Reading		Math		Writing		Total			
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013		
District	474	458	474	469	465	447	1412	1373		
State	477	479	487	484	458	460	1422	1423		
Nation	491	491	505	503	481	480	1477	1474		
ACT	English		Math		Reading		Science		Total	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
District	16.6	16.6	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.2	18.1	18.4	17.8	17.9
State	19.1	19.3	20.1	20.1	20.1	20.5	19.9	20.1	19.9	20.1
Nation	20.5	20.2	21.1	20.9	21.3	21.1	20.9	20.7	21.1	20.9

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**School District Governance**

Board Membership	8 trustees elected to single-member seats
Fiscal Authority	District Board
Average Number of Hours of Training Annually	20.0 per board member
Percent New Trustees Completing Orientation	N/A

**District Superintendent's Report**

The Darlington County School District (DCSD) is a countywide district serving more than 10,400 students in 23 schools, including a state-of-the-art career and technology center, an alternative school, and both a nationally recognized high school and a nationally recognized early childhood center. All schools and the district are fully accredited on the state and national level by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools/AdvancED and the SC Department of Education.

Our District believes in providing challenging educational experiences for all children. In addition to our regular classes, Darlington County School District offers elementary and middle school magnet programs in the arts, as well as science & technology. Three high schools offer challenging academic magnet programs: The International Baccalaureate/Honors College at Hartsville High School; Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology; and the Early College at Darlington High School. Our district has established a one-of-a-kind public-private partnership with Sonoco, Coker College, Yale University and the South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics (SCGSSM) to offer Hartsville students the PULSE program. For students who struggle academically, our district offers interventionists, computer-assisted learning, and extended school days.

We believe that exceptional educators are the key to a student's success. The district supports a comprehensive program of professional development, including offering several degree programs through partnerships with local colleges and universities. Our teachers are dedicated and committed to providing our students with the best educational opportunities available.

Darlington County School District is committed to providing cutting-edge technology in the classroom. Through our comprehensive technology plan, all core curriculum teachers have laptop computers and document cameras. All schools are wired for the Internet, with some featuring wireless laptop computer labs, computer-based programs to evaluate and differentiate instruction, online coursework, and/or online credit-recovery tools for our students. All of our schools also have interactive whiteboards in the classrooms. In 2013, DCSD will begin to rollout our iTel (iPad) pilot program, which will allow teachers to implement a personal learning system for our students and which will eventually provide one-to-one mobile computing devices for all our students.

We are proud of our many successes this year. Our district is ranked third in the state in terms of academic achievement, according to the South Carolina Department of Education. Our drop-out rate is 0.6%, the third lowest rate in the state. The district's graduation rate is 93%, far exceeding the state average of 74.9%. Twenty students were recognized as Junior Scholars. Thirteen schools earned Palmetto Gold and Silver awards, which recognize high levels of academic achievement and high rates of student academic improvement. We are proud of our students and staff!

Dr. Rainey Knight

## Abbreviations for Missing Data

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**ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System**

South Carolina uses new Annual Measures of Objectives (AMOs) that are based on actual school performance as measured by student test scores on the state standards assessments and end-of-course exams.

<b>Overall Weighted Points Total</b>	<b>88.7</b>
<b>Overall Grade Conversion</b>	<b>B</b>
Points Total - Elementary Grades	<b>89.4</b>
Points Total - Middle Grades	<b>87.6</b>
Points Total - High School Grades	<b>89.9</b>

<b>Index Score</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Description</b>
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 state's expectations

**Accountability Indicator (Title I Schools)**

Ten schools were identified as Title I Reward School.

<b>School</b>	<b>Status</b>
Lamar High	Reward-Performance
Spaulding Middle	Reward-Performance
Brockington Elementary	Focus
Spaulding Elementary	Reward-Performance
Brunson-Dargan Elementary	Reward-Performance
St John's Elementary	Reward-Performance
Thornwell School For The Arts	Reward-Progress
West Hartsville Elementary	Reward-Performance
Washington Street Elementary	Reward-Performance
Darlington Middle	Reward-Performance

**Accountability Indicator Definitions**

Title I Reward Schools for Performance are among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.

Title I Reward Schools for Progress are Title I schools that demonstrates the most substantial progress in identified subgroups of students.

Title I Focus Schools are Title I schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.

Title I Priority Schools are the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.

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## Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
<b>Grades 3-5</b>							
All Students	660.5	651.7	629.2	647.9	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	657.0	652.4	633.3	652.3	99.9	99.8	N/A
Female	664.2	651.0	625.1	643.4	99.7	99.7	N/A
White	680.2	668.6	650.7	666.6	99.9	99.9	N/A
African American	644.3	637.2	610.4	631.1	99.8	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	650.1	646.6	627.5	652.8	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	622.5	609.3	596.3	613.1	99.2	98.8	N/A
Limited English Proficient	657.6	666.4	636.8	660.8	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized meals	650.2	642.1	618.8	636.6	99.8	99.7	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	635.0	635.0	635.0	635.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 6-8</b>							
All Students	642.9	638.9	628.8	630.5	99.9	99.9	N/A
Male	639.0	637.2	628.3	634.3	99.9	99.8	N/A
Female	647.0	640.7	629.4	626.6	99.8	99.9	N/A
White	664.6	655.7	648.8	649.3	99.9	100.0	N/A
African American	626.8	626.0	614.0	616.0	99.9	99.8	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	642.6	647.5	629.1	634.4	100.0	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	605.8	603.7	587.5	597.2	99.6	99.6	N/A
Limited English Proficient	642.3	648.1	636.4	633.9	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized meals	632.3	629.5	618.8	619.6	99.9	99.9	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	628.0	628.0	628.0	628.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
<b>Grades 9-12</b>							
All Students	233.2	230.9	79.0	69.1	99.5	99.5	91.6
Male	231.1	230.6	79.7	70.1	99.2	99.2	86.9
Female	235.3	231.2	78.2	68.0	99.7	99.7	95.4
White	241.9	240.1	84.9	72.5	100.0	100.0	93.2
African American	225.5	222.6	73.6	66.2	99.0	99.0	90.0
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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	208.2	205.6	66.5	63.1	97.1	97.1	63.1
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	227.5	225.1	75.3	67.1	99.4	99.4	90.7
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	226.0	223.0	77.0	73.0	95.0	95.0	74.1

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

## Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
<b>SC-Alt Grades 3-5</b>							
All Students	540.7	569.3	531.6	578.9	100.0	100.0	N/A
Male	530.0	560.5	526.4	572.4	100.0	100.0	N/A
Female	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
African American	549.1	582.1	543.2	581.2	100.0	100.0	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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	540.7	569.3	531.6	578.9	100.0	100.0	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	556.1	585.2	552.3	578.9	100.0	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	458.0	458.0	458.0	458.0	95.0	95.0	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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## PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
<b>English/Language Arts</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	775	99.4	18.1	26.9	54.9	81.9
	4	794	100	24.2	37.5	38.3	75.8
	5	805	99.9	24.4	40.9	34.7	75.6
	6	886	99.9	38.6	29.6	31.9	61.4
	7	857	99.7	38.3	36	25.7	61.7
	8	803	99.8	29.1	36.6	34.3	70.9
<b>2013</b>	3	739	100	17.6	30.3	52	82.4
	4	776	99.6	22	41.9	36.1	78
	5	800	99.9	17.9	45.6	36.5	82.1
	6	846	100	27.6	41.8	30.7	72.4
	7	847	99.9	31.9	37	31.1	68.1
	8	823	99.8	34.9	34.1	30.9	65.1
<b>Mathematics</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	775	99.7	24	34.3	41.7	76
	4	794	100	21.5	39.8	38.7	78.5
	5	805	99.8	25.5	42.9	31.7	74.5
	6	886	99.9	28.7	41.9	29.3	71.3
	7	856	99.8	32	43.1	24.8	68
	8	803	99.9	26.6	51.6	21.8	73.4
<b>2013</b>	3	739	100	31.2	27.1	41.7	68.8
	4	776	99.5	15.8	46.2	38.1	84.2
	5	800	99.9	25.6	43.2	31.2	74.4
	6	846	100	34.5	41.2	24.4	65.5
	7	847	100	33.4	41.7	24.8	66.6
	8	823	99.6	29.1	50	20.9	70.9
<b>Science</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	389	100	38.6	36.8	24.6	61.4
	4	791	100	19.6	62.2	18.2	80.4
	5	416	99.5	22.1	49.4	28.5	77.9
	6	451	100	37.3	51.5	11.2	62.7
	7	854	99.8	28.4	39.9	31.8	71.6
	8	407	99.8	18.9	38.6	42.5	81.1
<b>2013</b>	3	371	100	28.6	49.3	22.1	71.4
	4	772	99.6	22.1	56	22	77.9
	5	408	99.8	25.9	54.1	20	74.1
	6	427	98.8	34.5	49.1	16.4	65.5
	7	846	99.9	24.9	48.8	26.3	75.1
	8	412	99.3	24.6	43.8	31.5	75.4

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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

PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
<b>Social Studies</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	396	99.2	24.7	39.1	36.2	75.3
	4	788	100	16.1	51.7	32.3	83.9
	5	389	99.2	31.6	36.2	32.2	68.4
	6	438	99.8	25.4	51.9	22.7	74.6
	7	852	99.8	35	38.3	26.8	65
	8	395	99	27.2	36	36.8	72.8
<b>2013</b>	3	374	100	16.6	46.7	36.7	83.4
	4	770	99.6	14.6	45.5	39.8	85.4
	5	395	99.8	31.1	33.7	35.2	68.9
	6	424	99.8	22.9	52.6	24.6	77.1
	7	845	100	34.8	32.6	32.5	65.2
	8	412	99.3	28.1	35.6	36.4	71.9
<b>Writing</b>							
<b>2012</b>	3	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	4	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	5	804	97.8	26.3	42.5	31.2	73.7
	6	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	7	N/A	N/AV	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
	8	798	99.3	29.3	41.1	29.6	70.7
<b>2013</b>	3	737	97.6	36	33.9	30.1	64
	4	771	97.4	31.6	48	20.4	68.4
	5	802	96.5	31.9	45.3	22.8	68.1
	6	844	97.9	34	44.4	21.6	66
	7	852	98.9	30.6	46.5	22.9	69.4
	8	820	98.9	33.4	45.3	21.3	66.6

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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**Two-Year HSAP Trend Data**

	School Year	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	District % Proficient or Advanced*
<b>English/Language Arts</b>								
All Students	2012	715	98.2	12.4	33.3	35.1	19.2	54.2
	2013	747	99.5	10.0	33.8	28.7	27.6	56.3

<b>Mathematics</b>								
All Students	2012	715	98.5	16.8	30.7	30.7	21.8	52.5
	2013	747	99.5	14.4	32.2	31.0	22.5	53.4

**Teacher Quality and Student Attendance**

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	3.5%	4.9%

	Our District	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	1.8%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate, grades K-8	95.1%	94.0%*	Yes

\* Adjusted to account for natural variation in performance.

\*\* Or greater than last year

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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