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New PASS Scores Released

Charleston County (CCSD) Students Continue to Outperform State Peers

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CHARLESTON, S.C.—Based on South Carolina's new Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)—which replaced the 10-year-old Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT) as the state's accountability measurement of student achievement—CCSD students earned higher "Exemplary" marks than those across the state in every subject and grade level tested. CCSD students also had higher "Met and Exemplary" scores than non-CCSD students in the vast majority of grades and subjects tested.

Last year, CCSD students earned their highest Proficient/Advanced scores in both English-Language Arts and Math in the history of the PACT test. They also did better than their state peers, earning higher Proficient/Advanced scores in every subject—English-Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science—and grade tested.

"These new PASS results give us a 'baseline' year to build on," said Dr. McGinley. "It's difficult to connect last year's PACT results—with our highest proficiency rates ever earned—with this year's PASS, but I'm very proud that our students continued to outperform their state peers by earning higher 'Exemplary' scores in every grade and subject tested. The PASS also shines a light on areas in need of improvement—we need to increase the percentage of students at 'Met' and close performance gaps between groups, and our new Accelerated Literacy Pathways plan will help us achieve these goals."

South Carolina and federal laws require end-of-the-year accountability tests for grades 3-8 that are based on state academic standards. PASS results include scores in five subject areas: writing, English language arts (reading and research), mathematics, science and social studies.

The retired PACT tests had four scoring levels: Below Basic, Basic, Proficient and Advanced, and students met state academic standards

by scoring Basic or above. For PASS, the General Assembly established three scoring levels: Exemplary (the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard); Met (the student met the grade-level standard); and Not Met (the student did not meet the grade-level standard).

For more information, please see below PASS tables with district-state comparisons, or visit www.ed.sc.gov.


Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) 2009

Percent Met/Exemplary

Grade	Math		ELA (Reading and Research)		Writing	
	CCSD	State	CCSD	State	CCSD	State
3	70.2	67.1	80.0	78.0	74.8	68.9
4	78.6	76.8	76.2	75.6	73.4	70.1
5	75.3	73.5	81.4	80.0	74.2	73.2
6	70.4	70.3	70.3	71.7	72.9	70.3
7	71.5	69.4	71.9	68.7	74.2	70.1
8	63.8	62.7	70.1	67.5	69.9	68.2

Percent Met/Exemplary

Grade	Science		Social Studies	
	CCSD	State	CCSD	State
3	64.0	61.6	79.1	74.4
4	68.7	68.7	83.2	79.8
5	68.8	68.3	73.7	70.0
6	62.6	64.0	79.7	79.6
7	71.6	71.1	64.6	60.2
8	62.2	62.3	72.0	69.6

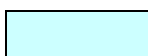
 CCSD performed better than SC (1.0% or greater)

Percent Exemplary

Grade	Math		ELA (Reading and Research)		Writing	
	CCSD	State	CCSD	State	CCSD	State
3	38.2	31.2	50.2	46.4	46.7	39.5
4	37.2	31.3	41.7	36.5	39.0	30.6
5	33.1	27.8	39.7	35.2	41.3	35.0
6	30.6	27.9	34.0	32.0	34.3	29.6
7	31.3	26.6	34.8	30.6	36.4	29.8
8	26.8	23.5	33.8	28.6	28.6	25.9

Percent Exemplary

Grade	Science		Social Studies	
	CCSD	State	CCSD	State
3	22.5	18.4	40.7	31.2
4	21.1	15.6	37.7	27.7
5	16.6	14.2	33.9	27.6
6	15.5	14.2	26.9	23.9
7	24.2	22.3	34.2	27.8
8	28.1	22.3	32.6	29.3



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