

School Committee Meeting Book

January 18, 2023 7:00 pm

Town Hall -100 Maple Avenue Selectmen's Meeting Room



AGENDA January 18, 2023 7:00pm Town Hall—Selectmen's Meeting Room 100 Maple Avenue

<u>Items</u>

Suggested time allotments

I.	Public Participation	7:00-7:05
II.	Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports	
III.	Superintendent's Report	
	Time Scheduled Appointments: SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report Sleep Health Advisory Committee: Recommendation for Changes to 2023-2024 School Start and End Times	7:05 – 7:25 7:25 – 7:55
	Curriculum Shrewsbury High School Program of Studies Proposed Changes: Report State MCAS Testing: Annual Report	8:00 - 8:20 8:20 - 8:45
VI.	Policy	
VII. A.	Finance & Operations ESSER-3 Grant Recommended Amendment: Vote	8:45 - 8:55
VIII.	Old Business	
IX.	New Business	
Х.	Approval of Minutes	8:55 - 9:00
XI. A.	Executive Session For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) "[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements" ("Purpose 7"), Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) – for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and releasing executive session minutes.	9:00 – 9:30 Vor



- B. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) "to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares" ("Purpose 3") the Shrewsbury Education Association Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association
- C. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) "to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel" non-union administrators. ("Purpose 2")
- XII. Adjournment

Next regular meeting: January 25, 2023



ITEM NO: I Public Participation

MEETING DATE: 01/18/23

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear thoughts and ideas from the public regarding the operations and the programs of the school system?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Copies of the policy and procedure for Public Participation are available to the public at each School Committee meeting.

ITEM NO: II. Chairperson's Report/Members' Reports

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from the Chairperson of the School Committee and other members of the School Committee who may wish to comment on school affairs?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Chairperson and members of the Shrewsbury School Committee to comment on school affairs that are of interest to the community.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION: School Committee Members Ms. Lynsey Heffernan, Chairperson Mr. Jason Palitsch, Vice Chairperson Mr. Jon Wensky, Secretary Ms. Erin Boucher, Committee Member Ms Sandra Fryc, Committee Member

ITEM NO: III. Superintendent's Report

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This agenda item allows the Superintendent of the Shrewsbury Public Schools to comment informally on the programs and activities of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

ACTION RECOMMENDED FOR ITEMS I, II, & III:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.



ITEM NO:IV.Time Scheduled Appointments:MEETING DATE:01/18/23A.SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Under the Massachusetts Education Reform Act, school districts are required to have a Student Advisory Committee (SAC), consisting of five high school students who are elected by the student body. The SAC is required to meet with the School Committee during the year to review various issues of concern to the student body. Mr. Andrew Smith, Shrewsbury High School (SHS) social sciences teacher, serves as the faculty advisor to the SAC. The agenda for the SAC report is enclosed.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

STAFF & STUDENTSAVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:
Mr. Andrew Smith, SHS Teacher and Faculty Advisor to the SAC Mr. Todd Bazydlo, SHS Principal
Students:
Shalini Biju, Class of 2023, Chair
Laura Lee, Class of 2023
Nicole Shen, Class of 2023
Aanya Gupta, Class of 2024
Siri Ural, Class of 2024

Student Advisory Committee Agenda for the School Committee on January 18th, 2023

I. Student Life

Students at Shrewsbury High School are excited to welcome the start of the new year.

- a) Student general feelings
- b) Late buses
- c) Waterfall schedule
- d) Town Meeting

II. Co-curriculars at SHS

SHS students have had a great time getting involved with co-curriculars outside of the school day.

- a) Monthly Volunteer Plan for Seniors
- b) Winter sports
- c) STUCO/CSLAB
- d) VSA Movie Night
- e) Speech and Debate

III. School Spirit

As the school year progresses, students have been actively participating in various events and fundraisers to make positive contributions to our community.

- a) SHS Winter Concerts
- b) Chill-Out Week

Thank you for your continuous support of the SAC.

Respectfully submitted,

Shalini Biju Chairperson

Laura Lee, Nicole Shen, Siri Ural, Aanya Gupta SAC members



ITEM NO: IV. Time Scheduled Appointments:MEETING DATE:01/18/23B. Sleep Health Advisory Committee: Recommendation for Changes to
2023-2024 School Start and End Times

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In December 2022 representatives from the Sleep Health Advisory Committee presented two options for potential changes to school schedules next year and students, staff, and parents/caretakers had an opportunity to subsequently provide feedback regarding these potential schedule changes via stakeholder surveys. On January 4, Dr. Lizotte and members of the Sleep Health Advisory Committee presented a report to the School Committee that summarized the results of the surveys and answered Frequently Asked Questions from respondents, and members of the public had an opportunity to provide their perspectives on the proposed changes during a Public Hearing. At tonight's meeting, members of the Sleep Health Advisory Committee will present a modified version of Option A as the Sleep Health Advisory Committee's recommendation for a school schedule change for the 2023-2024 school year. A memorandum from the Sleep Health Advisory Committee outlining their recommendation will be provided under separate cover.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

Sleep Health Advisory Committee members, including: Cynthia Murphy, Parent Toral Parikh, Parent Shane Quintard, Parent Sarah Anane, Student, SHS Class of 2024



ITEM NO:V.CurriculumMEETING DATE:01/18/23A.Shrewsbury High School Program of Studies Proposed Changes: Report

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each year, the high school leadership team makes recommendations for adjustments to the course offerings based on a variety of factors. Mr. Todd Bazydlo and Ms. Maureen Monopoli will highlight the proposed changes for 2023-2024, which are articulated in the enclosed memo. After hearing questions and feedback from the Committee, proposed changes will be incorporated into the complete draft of the proposed Program of Studies, which will be included in materials for the next meeting, when the Committee will be asked to vote to approve the document.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee hear the report, ask questions and provide feedback, and take whatever steps it deems necessary in the interests of the Shrewsbury Public Schools.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. Todd Bazydlo, Principal, Shrewsbury High School Ms. Maureen Monopoli, Assistant Principal, Shrewsbury High School Shrewsbury High School 64 Holden Street Shrewsbury, Massachusetts 01545 *Office of the Principal*

Memorandum

To: Dr. Joseph Sawyer
From: Todd Bazydlo
Date: January 9, 2023
Re: Proposed Changes to the 2023-2024 HS Program of Studies

I am pleased to present proposed changes and additions to the *Program of Studies* for the 2023-24 school year. The majority of the changes presented within this document are in response to the growing demands of our diverse school population and align with current educational research. I look forward to providing the School Committee with more detail regarding the revisions listed below at the January meeting.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Family and Consumer Sciences Department

1. *Mediterranean Cuisine* will be offered during the 2023-2024 school year; *Foods of the World* will not be offered during the 2023-2024 school year.

Instructional Technology and Media Services (ITAMS)

- 1. Adjust the name of the department from *Instructional Technology & Media Services* to *Technology, Media, & Business* in order to incorporate our Business offerings.
- 2. Change the course title of *Financial Literacy* to *Personal Finance* to clarify that the goal of the course is for students to gain an understanding of how to manage their own personal finances as they become adults.
- 3. Adjust the grade levels for *Introduction to Business* to 9-12 instead of 10-12 to open it up to freshmen.
- 4. Adjust the course description for *Student Innovation Team* to the following:

Student Innovation Team (7415)
Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8
Elective Grade: 12 Full Year
Prerequisite: Instructor Approval
Do you like to help people? Do you like to solve problems? Do you like technology? If so, the Student Innovation Team (SIT) is a course for you! SIT students gain real-world

experience working at our student-run help desk located in the IT department office. Members of the *Student Innovation Team* (SIT) serve as the first level of technology support for teachers and students, providing customer service to help assess problems and identify solutions. As part of the course, you will work closely with members of the IT department. In addition to learning to use a professional ticketing system, you will also research new technology and apps for the iPad and create training tutorials for the school community. You will be expected to demonstrate the ability to work independently and direct your own learning.

5. Move the *Accounting* course from *Special Programs* to *Technology, Media, & Business.* Adjust the course from a full-year course to a one-semester course. Open the course to students in grades 10-12. Adjust the course description as follows:

Accounting (2024)

Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,7,8 Elective Semester Grade(s): 10-12

Accounting is the language of business. Are you interested in learning how accounting is used to communicate financial information? Accounting provides information to investors and decision-makers and tells a story about the financial health of a business. In this course, you will learn principles that are necessary for understanding financial statements and records. As you learn these concepts, you will use spreadsheets and a computer application that will enable you to use automated accounting software to practice these skills; through organizing, recording, and analyzing financial information.

Performing Arts:

1. Add Course: Introduction to Piano

Introduction to Piano

Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 Elective Semester Grade(s): 10-12

Introduction to Piano is a semester course designed for students who have little or no prior piano instruction and would like to learn how to play basic piano. The course will include familiarization with the keyboard, music notation and reading, basic elements of music theory/major scales, single-hand melodies, and chord accompaniment. Students will be working individually to master the piano technique and perform basic solo pieces by the end of the semester.

2. Voice in Acting will be offered next year. Theater Arts II and Theatrical Design will not be offered next year. Theater Arts II will be offered in 2024-25 and Theatrical Design with be offered in 2025-26.

3. Techniques of Music Theory I will be offered next year. *Songwriting* will not be offered next year, but will alternate years with *Techniques of Music Theory I* and be offered in 2024-25

Science & Engineering

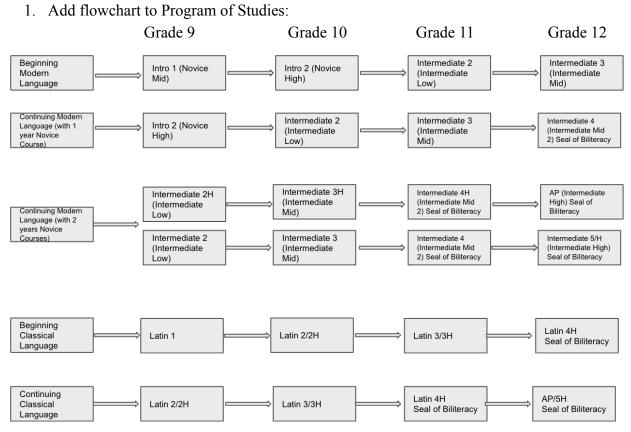
1. Remove *Bioethics* from the Program of Studies.

Interest and enrollment in this course have dwindled over the years mostly because of the increase in the number of other Biomedical electives such as *Principles of BioMed* and *Human Body Systems*. A number of concepts covered in the semester *Bioethics* course are now covered within these other new full-year Biomedical course options.

Visual Arts

Eliminate Art Appreciation as a result of a lack of student interest and enrollment.

World Languages



2. Change Course Title, Description, and Prerequisites of *Mandarin Chinese 1* (8050) to *Introductory Mandarin 1* (8050T)

Introductory Mandarin Chinese 1 (8050T)Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,7ElectiveFull yearGrades: 9-12A Level

This course is designed for students at the novice level of language proficiency. Focus will be on the acquisition of thematic vocabulary and the incorporation of appropriate grammatical structures essential for basic communicative skills at the novice level. Students will learn to speak, read, and write (through Pinyin and simple characters) at a beginning level on topics such as school, family, hobbies, etc. They will be able to produce and understand simple conversations. The target for this course is novice mid. The course will be taught 50-75% in the target language.

3. Change Course Prerequisite and the Description of *Heritage Portuguese 1* to the following:

Prerequisite: Director Approval Oral Proficiency Test Required.

This course is designed specifically for students whose home language is Portuguese but who need to develop literacy skills and grammatical knowledge of the Portuguese Language. The course will focus on contemporary issues in the US and Lusophone worlds and how one's language forms one's identity. Students will be assessed on points of view in spoken and written Portuguese.

- 4. Change Course Prerequisite of *Heritage Portuguese 2* to the following: Prerequisite: Successful completion of Heritage Portuguese I or demonstrated literacy and writing skills via Placement Exam.
- 5. Add course: Heritage Portuguese 3

Heritage Portuguese 3 (8074)

Meets Expectations for Student Learning: 1,2,3,4,7ElectiveFull YearGrades: 11-12A LevelThis course is a continuation of the Heritage Portuguese sequence.Students will explorethe different text types in literature from a cultural perspective.Emphasis will be placedon the interpretation and analysis of literary works.



ITEM NO: V. Curriculum B. State MCAS Testing: Annual Report

MEETING DATE: 01/18/23

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each year, the administration provides a report on the district's performance on state exams. Ms. Clouter will summarize the enclosed report on the results of the 2022 MCAS exams and be available to answer questions.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the School Committee accept the report and take whatever steps it deems necessary in the interests of the Shrewsbury Public Schools.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Amy B. Clouter, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Post-Pandemic Student Performance

An Overview of 2022 State Assessment Results

by Amy Clouter Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

I. Introduction

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System - the test we know as MCAS - came into being with the Education Reform Act in 1993¹. The passing of this legislation signaled an important moment for public schools and for the students and families they serve. Bipartisan support for a state assessment tied to curriculum standards was instrumental in raising academic expectations for all students. Moreover, the sustained attention on student growth as well as academic outcomes resulted in a renewed focus on achievement opportunity gaps. The effort to bring attention to the success of all students was particularly important for student groups that had been historically low performing and/or underserved. The continued use of common metrics across districts continues to guide our actions.

MCAS remains an important tool for school improvement. Our state leads the nation in educational excellence and Shrewsbury continues to be a leader in the state, in part because we use data to inform our decisions. As we contemplate the impact of the pandemic on the children in our community, an analysis of the performance of achievement scores is a helpful starting place. The analysis of student subgroup scores gives us a full picture of current strengths and future needs. This year this report has been configured differently to depict a more detailed look at low performing and/or underserved students in Shrewsbury.

The "next generation" MCAS was conceived to prepare students for the rigorous tasks they are likely to face in college and/or their careers. At this point, students at all levels have transitioned to this new version of the test. Unfortunately, the pandemic struck school districts at the beginning of this new assessment cycle.

II. Overview

As we review the latest MCAS results, it's important to note that, due to adjustments made by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) during the pandemic, 2022 results are best compared with 2019, not 2021. This is because in 2020 the exam was canceled altogether, and in 2021 students took a shortened version that was administered differently, with some students taking the exam remotely from home.

In consideration of recent changes to MCAS administration, DESE sought and received a <u>waiver of</u>

¹ Building on 20 Years of Massachusetts Education Reform Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Report M. D. Chester, Ed. D. Commissioner November 2014

<u>federal accountability</u> requirements from the United States Department of Education. Shortly thereafter, the Massachusetts State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education amended state regulations. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most districts did not receive an accountability determination in 2022. More information about what to expect in the coming year can be found in the <u>District and School Accountability</u> section of the DESE website.

In general, while a single assessment is but one data point, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has affirmed the use of MCAS results as an indicator of where additional student support may be warranted. The data can also serve as a useful snapshot of the district as a whole, akin to the way a check up helps us monitor our health.

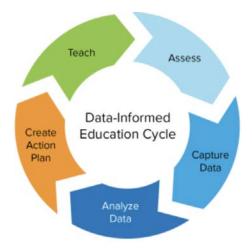
The section that follows will provide a snapshot of student achievement by grade and subject area. A link to Shrewsbury's district profile, including detailed information about student performance reports, can be found here: <u>MCAS Tests of Spring 2022 Percent of Students at Each Achievement Level - Shrewsbury</u>

What do Shrewsbury's results tell us? For one thing, we can expect that it will take time to fully regain the progress the district achieved in previous years. Moreover, progress may be uneven across subject areas and grade spans, because cohorts of students experienced the impact of the disruption differently.

III. Achievement Data Analysis

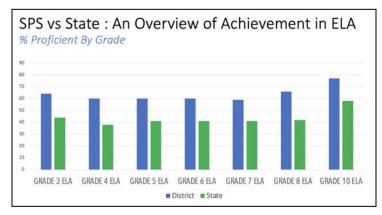
This part of the report details achievement scores by subject area for each grade span.

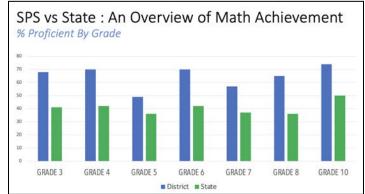
The graphs below provide a snapshot of 2022 student achievement scores by subject area compared to the state average. For most students in Grades 3-6, 2022 achievement scores were higher in Math than in English Language Arts. In the upper grades, however, English Language Arts achievement results were generally similar to Math scores.



2022 MCAS: District vs. State Comparison Data

A student is considered "Proficient" having earned a score of "Meeting" or "Exceeding".





Achievement scores for students in Grades 3-7 in English Language Arts (ELA) continue to reflect the impact of lost instructional time, with the most significant differences seen in Grades 3 and 4. The decline in ELA scores is likely linked to limited in-person opportunities for foundational literacy learning. Additionally, lower writing scores contributed to lower scores overall. While concerning, this finding makes sense. The impact of the pandemic on instructional time in school, taken together with the unusual administration of MCAS in 2021 had an outsized impact on elementary students in the district and across the state.

The table below, shared by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) depicts the difficulties Massachusetts students in Grades 3-8 had in meeting grade level benchmarks.

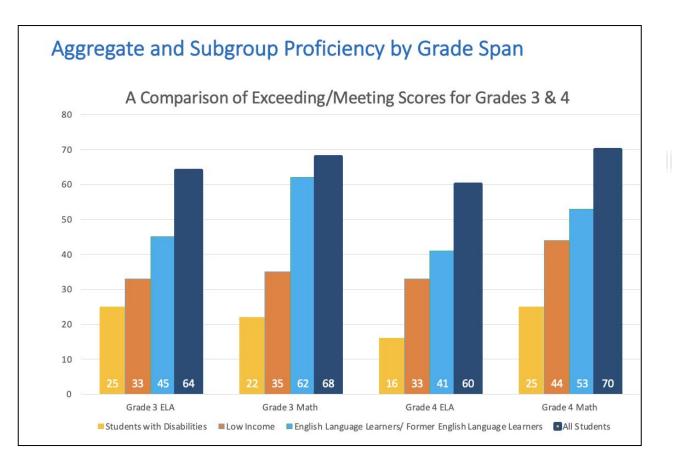
Grade	2019 % M/E	2021 % M/E	2022 % M/E	Change M/E 19-21	Change M/E 21-22	Change M/E 19-2
03	56	51	44	-5	-7	-12
04	52	49	38	-3	-11	-14
05	52	47	41	-5	-6	-11
06	53	47	41	-6	-6	-12
07	48	43	41	-5	-2	-7
08	52	41	42	-11	1	-10
3-8	52	46	41	-6	-5	-11
10	61	64	58	+3	-6	-3

Massachusetts State Data: Overall Trends

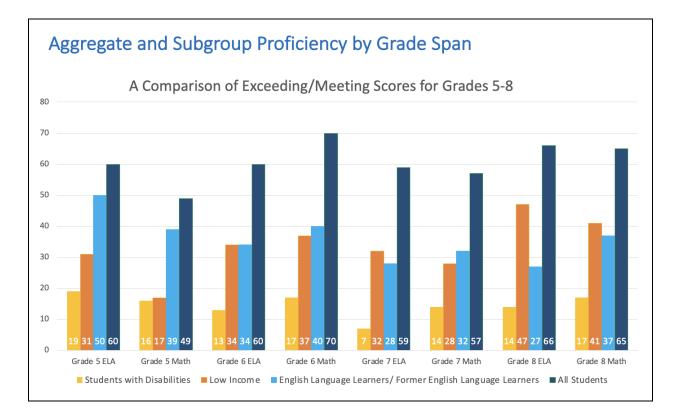
In the sections to follow, we see that Shrewsbury's results reflect greater gains since 2021, suggesting that most students in the district are beginning to recover lost ground.

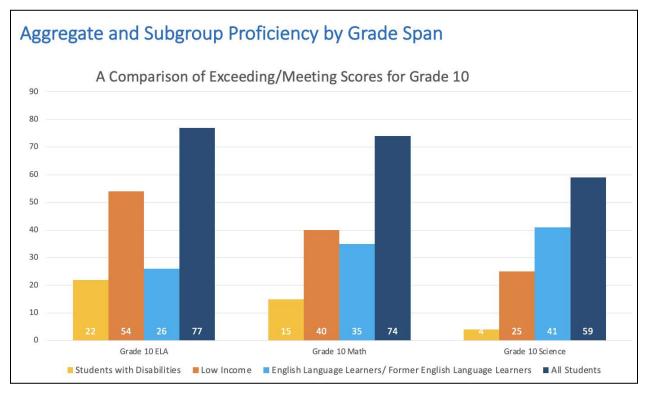
Looking at student needs across grade levels certainly helps curriculum leaders to adjust instruction in English Language Arts, Math, and Science and Engineering. However our primary focus this year has been to use MCAS results, together with district assessment data, to align instruction to meet individual student needs.

Just as achievement results vary across grade spans, it's evident that there are differences in student scores within grade spans as well. Another important way we can understand assessment data is by monitoring groups of children. These cohorts are called "subgroups." These results make plain that the disruption caused by COVID-19 had a disproportionate impact on students in need. Looking at trends for student subgroups suggests that achievement opportunity gaps that existed before the pandemic were exacerbated by school closure and other losses.



Student Subgroup Analysis





Finally, as we review Shrewsbury's MCAS scores, it's important to consider the data in context. and helpful to compare local trends to patterns across the state. For this reason, information about how our results compare with area districts is included for each grade span.

SPS English Language Arts Scores By Grade Level

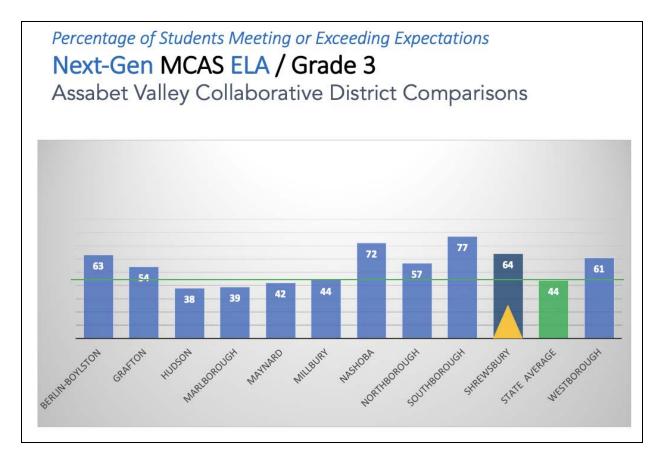
Grade 3 Student Achievement Scores in English Language Arts

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	74	80	74	64
Exceeding	23	28	19	19
Meeting	51	52	55	45
Partially Meeting	21	16	22	31
Not Meeting	5	3	4	5



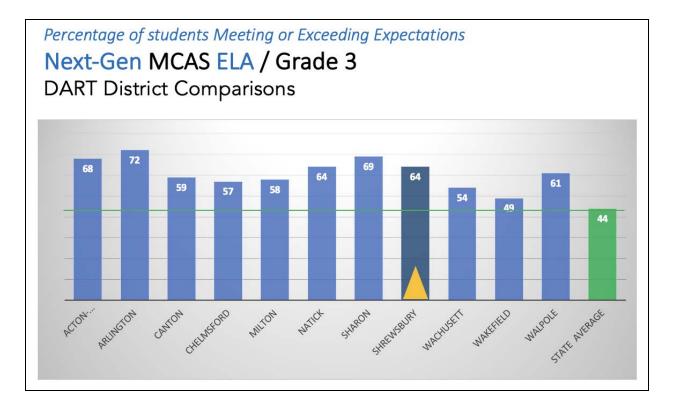
As shown in the table above, compared with 2019, English Language Arts scores for third graders dropped by approximately 10% post pandemic, with fewer students scoring in the Exceeding range. In 2022, only 64% of Grade 3 students met the state benchmark for proficiency in English Language Arts. Clearly, the loss of instructional time in the early grades for students in this cohort continues to impact achievement.

Comparisons with other districts in our area provide perspective on how our data compares within the region. The chart below depicts results for Grade 3 as compared with area districts.



The Department of Secondary and Elementary education (DESE) also provides a wealth of comparative statistics. One helpful resource is DART, a district analysis and review tool that identifies districts most similar in terms of grade spans, total enrollment and special populations. The chart below shows that Shrewsbury's scores for Grade 3 are among the highest within our DART comparison districts.





SPS ELA Grade 3 Subgroup Achievement Scores

A closer look at scores for third graders in various subgroups illustrates differences in rates of achievement. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education calculates achievement level percentages for subgroups with ten or more students. For this reason, only subgroups that have available information are included.

Accountability Subgroups		% Proficient by Category				
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	25	3	22	48	28	
EL and Former EL	45	7	38	51	4	
Low Income	33	2	31	53	14	
High Needs	41	4	37	46	13	

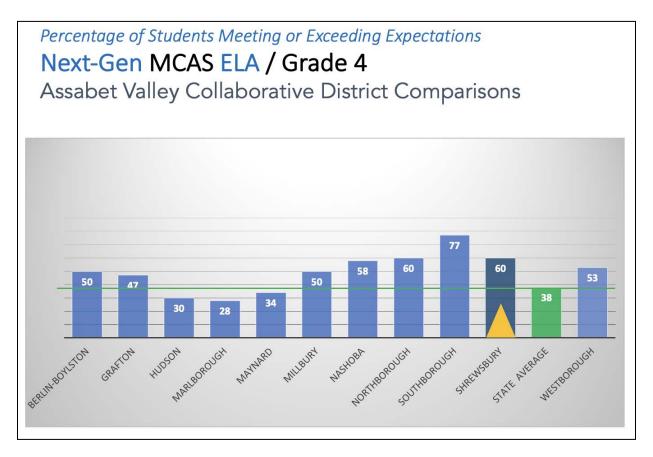
Race & Ethnicity Subgroups	% Proficient by Category					
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting	
African American / Black	38	13	25	50	13	
Asian	77	32	45	19	3	
Hispanic / Latinx	51	4	47	42	7	
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic / Latinx	67	26	41	22	11	
White	58	12	46	38	5	

Grade 4 Student Achievement Scores in English Language Arts

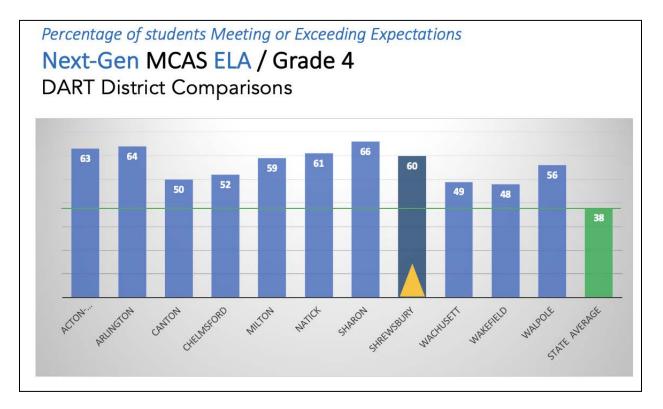
Results for Grade 4 are similar to the data for Grade 3, with 60% of students scoring in the proficient range or better.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	78	75	72	60
Exceeding	23	21	11	11
Meeting	55	54	61	49
Partially Meeting	18	20	25	34
Not Meeting	4	4	4	6





Grade 4 student scores in English Language Arts compare well with DART districts as well.



SPS ELA Grade 4 Subgroup Achievement Scores

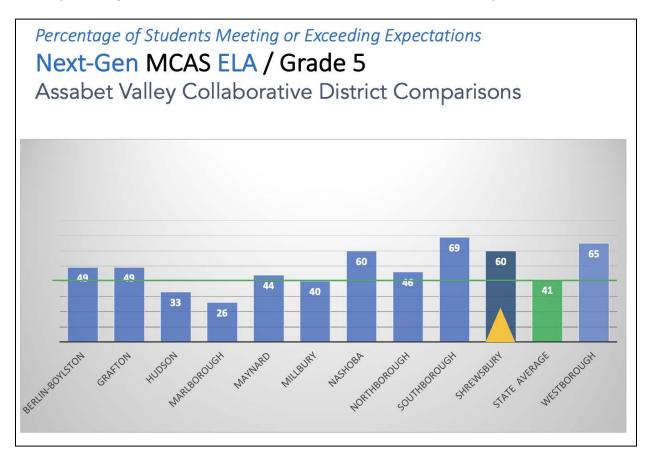
Accountability Subgroups	% Proficient by Category				
				Partially	
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting
Students w/ Disabilities	16	0	16	53	31
EL and Former EL	41	4	37	49	10
Low Income	33	4	29	55	12
High Needs	33	3	30	51	15

Race & Ethnicity Subgroups	% Proficient by Category						
		Exceedin Partially					
	E/M	g	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
African American / Black	47	7	40	53	0		
Asian	68	16	52	29	3		
Hispanic / Latinx	38	0	38	41	22		
Multi-Race,	81	19	62	15	4		
Non-Hispanic / Latinx							
White	57	9	48	38	6		

Grade 5 Student Achievement Scores in English Language Arts

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	74	70	62	59
Exceeding	15	13	13	7
Meeting	59	57	49	52
Partially Meeting	22	27	34	35
Not Meeting	3	3	5	5

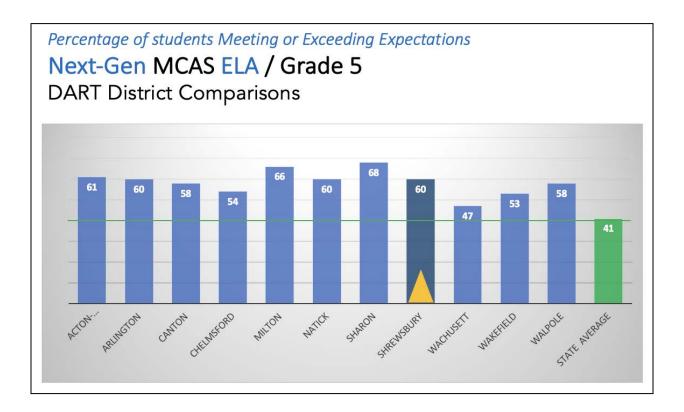
In Grade 5, 59 % of students reached proficiency benchmarks in 2022, with significantly fewer students scoring in the Exceeding range as compared to 2019. Overall the percentage of students in Shrewsbury scoring at or above the state benchmark remained relatively flat.



Please Note: Achievement score percentiles are rounded up, so for some grade spans there is a difference in the number of students reported for each scoring category and the total number of students earning "Exceeding / Meeting". For example, if 7.4% of students earned a score in the "Exceeding" range and 52.4% of students earned a "Meeting" score, those numbers would be rounded to 7 and 52 respectively. However the total number of students scoring "Meeting" or better will total 60 to reflect the additional .8% adjustment by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This is the case for both Grade 5 and Grade 6.



While Shrewsbury students continued to outperform the state average, the percentage of students in Shrewsbury that met or exceeded achievement goals in English Language Arts in fifth grade remained 10-15% lower than pre-pandemic scores.



SPS ELA Grade 5 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Accountability Subgroups	% Proficient by Category					
				Partially		
	E / M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	19	0	19	55	27	
EL and Former EL	50	4	46	46	4	
Low Income	31	4	27	55	13	
High Needs	37	4	33	50	13	

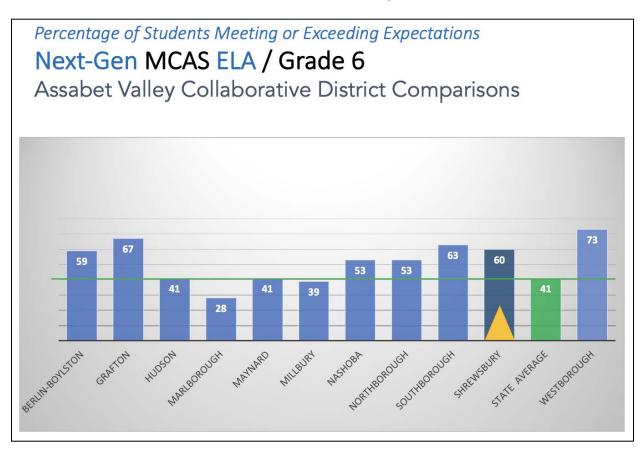
Race & Ethnicity							
Subgroups	% Proficient by Category						
		Partially					
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
African American / Black	26	0	26	68	5		
Asian	75	11	64	24	2		
Hispanic / Latinx	37	4	33	55	8		
Multi-Race,	62	10	52	29	10		
Non-Hispanic / Latinx							
White	56	6	50	38	6		

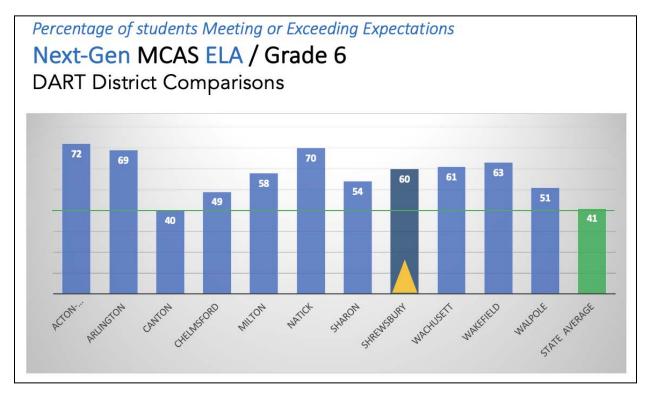
Grade 6 Student Achievement Scores in English Language Arts

61% of students in Grade 6 met or exceeded state benchmarks in English Language Arts in 2022, down 6% from last year and 10% from 2019.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	73	73	67	61
Exceeding	22	27	22	17
Meeting	51	46	45	44
Partially Meeting	23	20	22	32
Not Meeting	4	7	11	8







SPS Grade 6 ELA Subgroup Achievement Scores

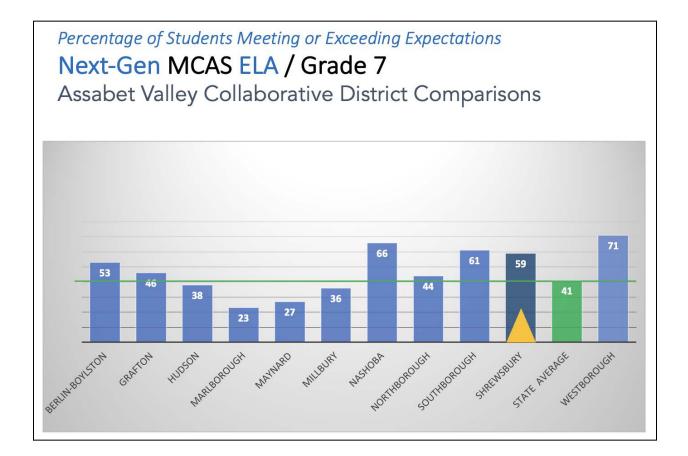
Accountability Subgroups	% Proficient by Category				
		Partially Not			
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
Students w/ Disabilities	13	1	12	49	38
EL and Former EL	34	2	32	39	27
Low Income	34	3	31	48	17
High Needs	32	3	29	45	24

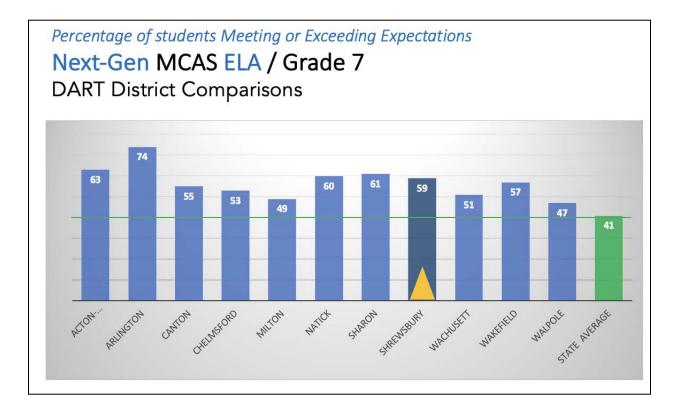
Race & Ethnicity Subgroups	% Proficient by Category				
				Partially	Not
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting
African American/Black	44	13	31	50	6
Asian	75	29	46	19	6
Hispanic/Latinx	33	9	24	48	20
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	67	17	50	33	0
White	55	9	46	37	8

Grade 7 Student Achievement Scores in English Language Arts

58% of students in Grade 7 met the state benchmark in Reading in 2022, the fourth year in a row where scores in English Language Arts declined for this grade.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	68	62	59	58
Exceeding	20	14	8	6
Meeting	48	48	51	52
Partially Meeting	23	31	32	32
Not Meeting	9	7	9	9





SPS ELA Grade 7 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Accountability Subgroups	% Proficient by Category				
				Partially	
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting
Students w/ Disabilities	7	0	7	46	47
EL and Former EL	28	0	28	53	19
Low Income	32	1	31	49	19
High Needs	28	1	27	47	25

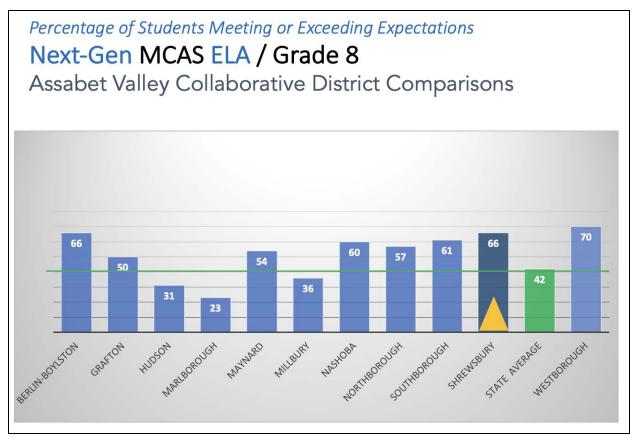
Race & Ethnicity					
Subgroups		% Pro	oficient by Cate	egory	
				Partially	
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting
African American/Black	40	0	40	33	27
Asian	78	16	62	15	7
Hispanic/Latinx	27	2	25	57	16
Multi-Race,	58	8	50	31	12
Non-Hispanic/Latinx					
White	54	1	53	38	8

Grade 8 Student Achievement Scores in English Language Arts

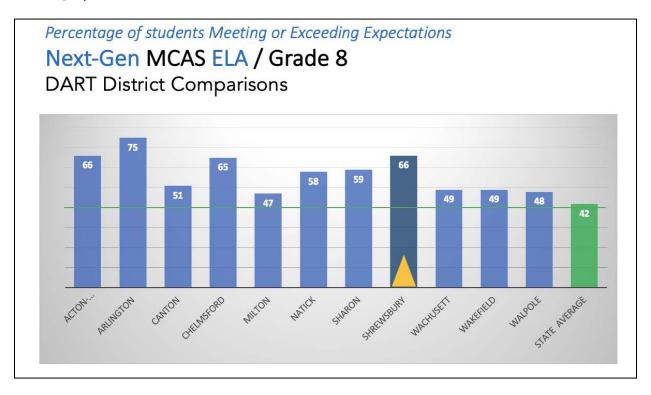
66% of Shrewsbury students in Grade 8 scored in the "Meeting" or "Exceeding" range last spring. Although this result is relatively low when compared to pre-pandemic scores, this is an increase over 2021 and Shrewsbury's scores continue to align with results seen in comparison districts for this grade span.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	70	72	62	66
Exceeding	18	26	16	19
Meeting	52	46	46	47
Partially Meeting	24	20	30	27
Not Meeting	6	7	8	7





The graph above shows how Shrewsbury's eighth graders compare with students from districts with similar demographics.



SPS ELA Grade 8 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Accountability Subgroups	% Proficient by Category					
		Partially				
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	14	1	13	49	38	
EL and Former EL	27	7	20	53	20	
Low Income	47	10	37	33	20	
High Needs	36	7	29	41	23	

Race & Ethnicity					
Subgroups	% Proficient by Category				
				Partially	
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting
African American/Black	73	18	55	27	0
Asian	82	31	51	14	4
Hispanic/Latinx	44	7	37	35	21
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	46	14	32	43	11
White	61	14	47	33	6

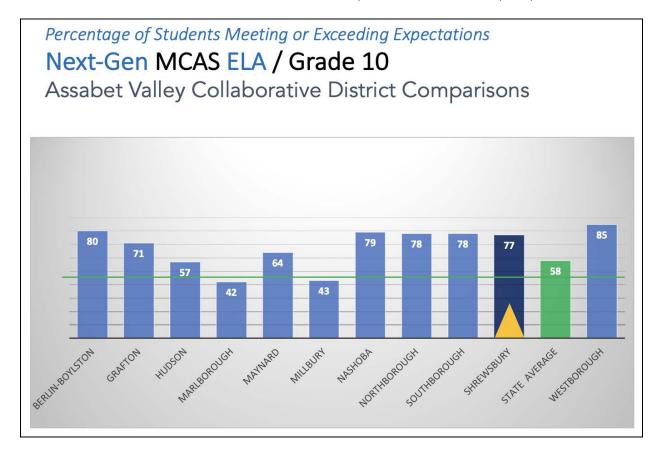


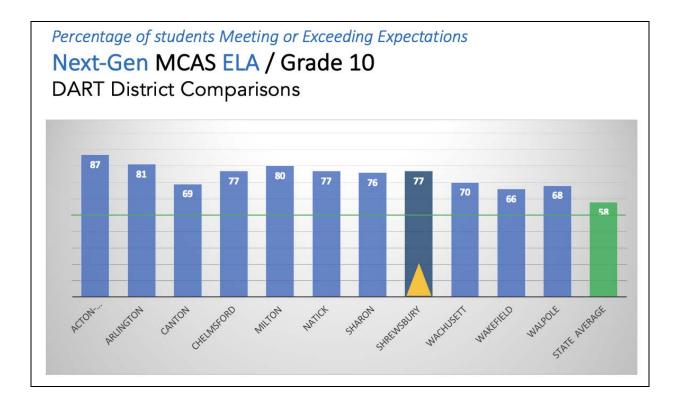
Grade 10 Student Achievement Scores in English Language Arts

78% of students in Grade 10 earned a score of "Meeting" or "Exceeding" last spring. While the number of students considered proficient is similar to 2019, the difference in the number of students scoring in the "Exceeding" range is notable.

% by level	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	79	83	78
Exceeding	25	35	14
Meeting	54	48	64
Partially Meeting	18	12	19
Not Meeting	3	4	3

Looking at assessment information from area districts provides additional perspective on our results.





SPS ELA Grade 10 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Accountability Subgroups	% Proficient by Category					
		Partially				
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	22	0	22	54	24	
EL and Former EL	26	0	26	57	17	
Low Income	54	3	51	35	12	
High Needs	46	2	44	42	13	

Race & Ethnicity					
Subgroups		% Pro	oficient by Cate	egory	
				Partially	
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting
African American./Black	75	15	60	15	10
Asian	93	24	69	7	1
Hispanic/Latinx	45	3	42	42	13
Multi-Race,	71	18	53	29	0
Non-Hisp./Latinx					
White	75	10	65	22	3

Trends in English Language Arts

As shown below, it's clear that the disruption caused by the pandemic impacted achievement scores, especially for students in key transition years. At the same time, assessment results must be considered in context. Shrewsbury's scores have been consistently higher than state averages, and that trend held true in English Language Arts for 2022. Finally, aggregate scores for our district compared well with other districts that have similar demographics.

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations

Grade and Subject	Gr 3	Gr 4	Gr 5	Gr 6	Gr 7	Gr 8	Gr. 10
Shrewsbury % E / M 2019	81%	76%	71%	73%	62%	72%	79%
State Results 2019	56%	52%	52%	53%	48%	52%	61%
Shrewsbury % E / M 2021	74%	72%	61%	67%	59%	62%	84%
State Results 2021	51%	49%	47%	47%	43%	41%	64%
Shrewsbury % E / M 2022	64%	60%	59%	61%	58%	66%	78%
State Results 2022	44%	38%	41%	41%	41%	42%	58%

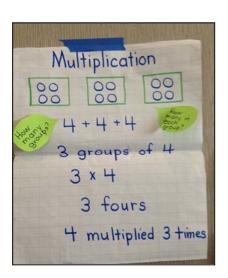


Mathematics Scores By Grade Level

Grade 3 Student Achievement Scores in Mathematics

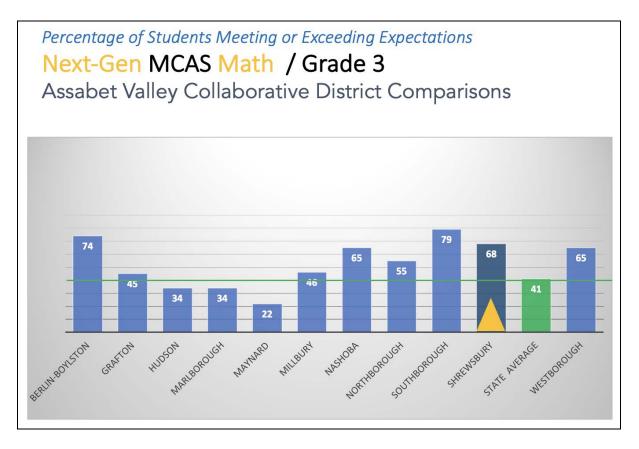
Prior to the pandemic, Shrewsbury's students were making steady gains in Math – especially in the younger grades. In 2022, 68% of students met or exceeded state benchmarks, which reflects an increase of 6% from last year. At the same time, Shrewsbury's scores for this grade span compare well with scores from other districts.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	73	75	62	68
Exceeding	23	22	14	16
Meeting	50	53	48	52
Partially Meeting	20	19	31	24
Not Meeting	8	5	7	8

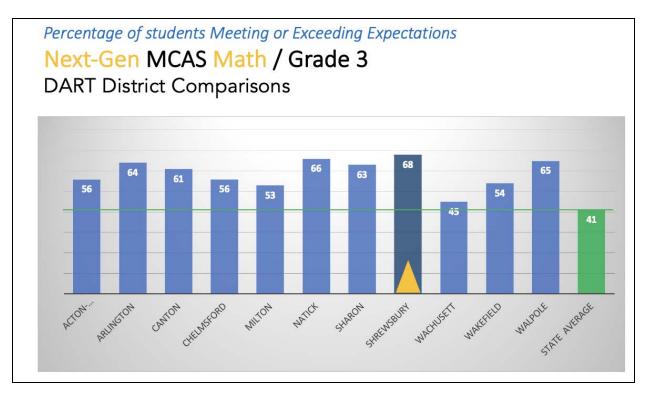


The graphs that follow illustrate how Shrewsbury's student scores in Grade 3 compare to student achievement scores in nearby districts.





Across the Commonwealth, Math achievement scores are recovering faster than English Language Arts. This is true for Shrewsbury's students as well. Last spring Grade 3 student scores were the highest when compared to districts with similar enrollment.

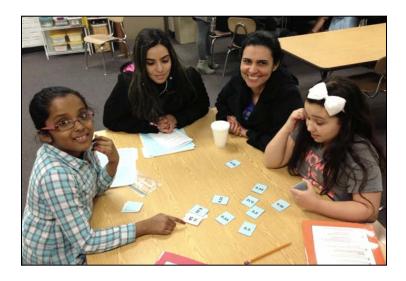


SPS Math Grade 3 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Looking at subgroup trends provides another perspective on Math achievement scores.

	% Proficient by Category				
Accountability				Partially	
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting
Students w/ Disabilities	22	8	14	45	34
EL and Former EL	62	6	56	33	6
Low Income	35	1	34	41	24
High Needs	43	5	38	36	21

	% Proficient by Category					
Race & Ethnicity				Partially		
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
African American/Black	47	7	40	33	20	
Asian	82	27	55	14	5	
Hispanic/Latinx	47	7	40	36	18	
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	59	15	44	33	7	
White	64	10	54	29	7	



Grade 4 Student Achievement Scores in Mathematics

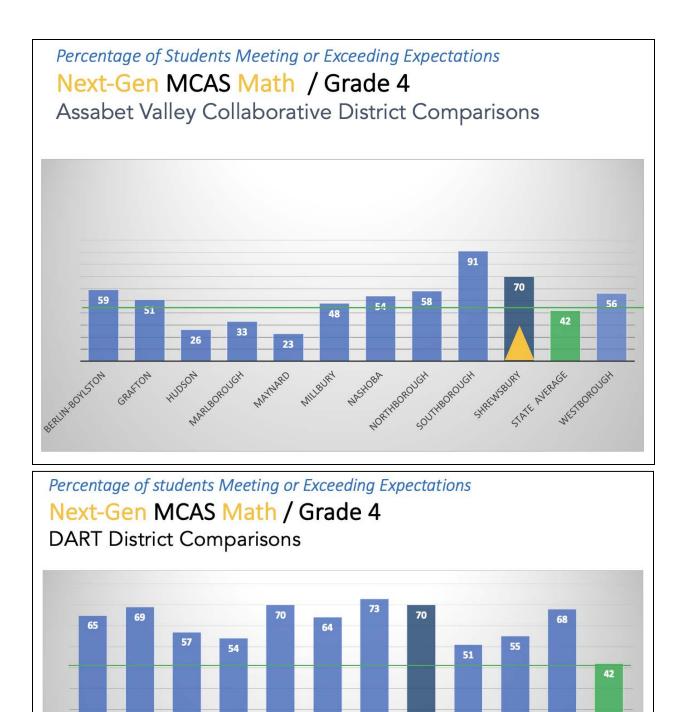
The number of Grade 4 students scoring in the "Meeting" category remained flat in Math. However the amount of students scoring in the "Exceeding" range increased in 2022. In the aggregate, 70% of students earned a score of "Meeting" or better.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	72	79	64	70
Exceeding	21	28	14	21
Meeting	51	51	50	49
Partially Meeting	25	16	29	25
Not Meeting	3	5	7	4



Shrewsbury's Grade 4 Math scores are among the highest in the Assabet Valley Collaborative, and compare well with DART district results as well.





SHREWSBURY

SHARON

WACHUSET

WAYEFELD

ACTON

ARINGTON

CANTON

CHEINSFORD

MITON

NATICK

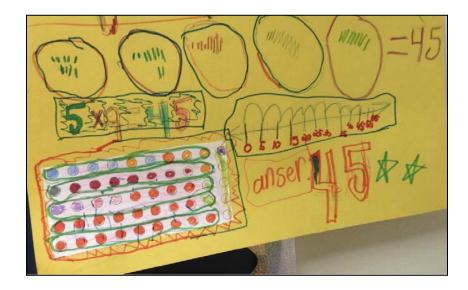
5TATE AVERAGE

WAROLE

SPS Math Grade 4 Subgroup Achievement Scores

	% Proficient by Category					
Accountability				Partially		
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	25	6	19	49	26	
EL and Former EL	53	10	43	43	4	
Low Income	44	5	39	46	10	
High Needs	46	8	38	43	11	

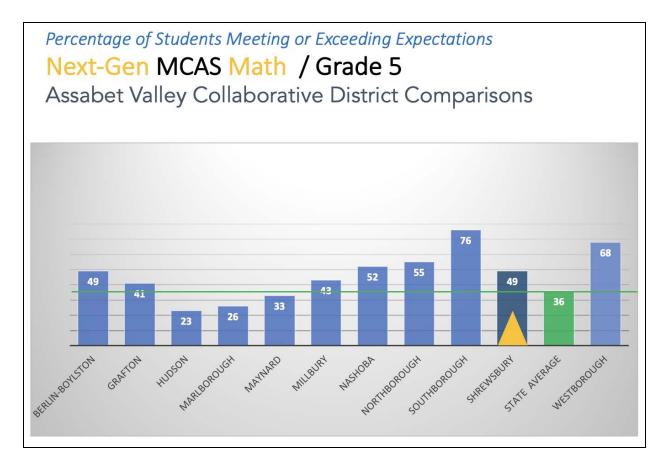
	% Proficient by Category					
Race & Ethnic				Partially		
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
African American/Black	57	7	50	43	0	
Asian	81	32	49	16	3	
Hispanic/Latinx	51	5	46	35	14	
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	69	27	42	27	4	
White	66	15	51	30	5	



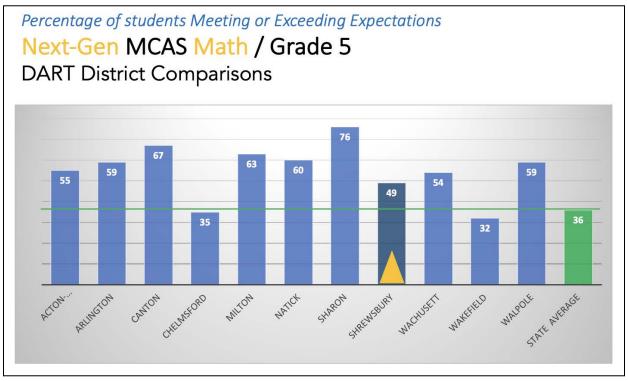
Grade 5 Student Achievement Scores in Mathematics

If MCAS is a checkup, scores for Grade 5 continue to merit extra attention. This year only 50% of students met that threshold. In contrast, 72% of Grade 5 students met or exceeded the state grade level benchmark in Math in 2019. The decrease is notable and important to monitor, particularly because Grade 5 students in several comparative districts fared better.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	70	72	54	50
Exceeding	15	14	10	8
Meeting	55	58	44	42
Partially Meeting	24	25	38	43
Not Meeting	6	2	7	8



Shrewsbury's scores are much lower than Grade 5 scores for students in DART districts.



Lower Math scores in the aggregate for Grade 5 students are also reflected in the differences seen between the average achievement scores and subgroup scores for the grade.

SPS Math Grade 5 Subgroup Achievement Scores

	% Proficient by Category				
Accountability				Partially	
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting
Students w/ Disabilities	16	2	14	42	42
EL and Former EL	39	4	35	48	13
Low Income	17	1	16	59	23
High Needs	26	2	24	52	22

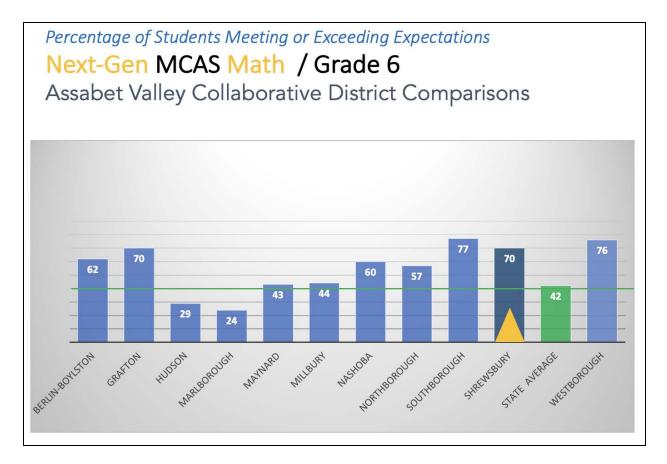
	% Proficient by Category					
Race & Ethnicity				Partially		
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
African American/Black	10	5	5	68	21	
Asian	74	16	58	24	2	
Hispanic/Latinx	20	2	18	61	18	
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	38	5	33	57	5	
White	37	1	36	53	10	

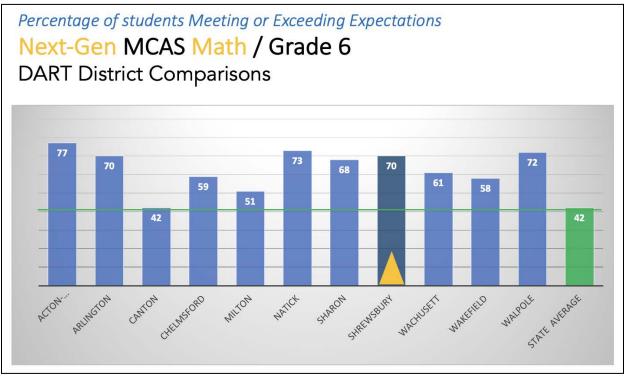
Grade 6 Student Achievement Scores in Mathematics

At the middle level, most districts saw Math scores rebound in 2022. Last spring 70% of students at this level scored in the "Meeting" or "Exceeding" range, a significant increase from last year. This result aligns with pre-pandemic scores.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	70	69	57	70
Exceeding	14	22	12	17
Meeting	56	47	45	53
Partially Meeting	25	24	32	23
Not Meeting	5	7	11	7







SPS Math Grade 6 Subgroup Achievement Scores

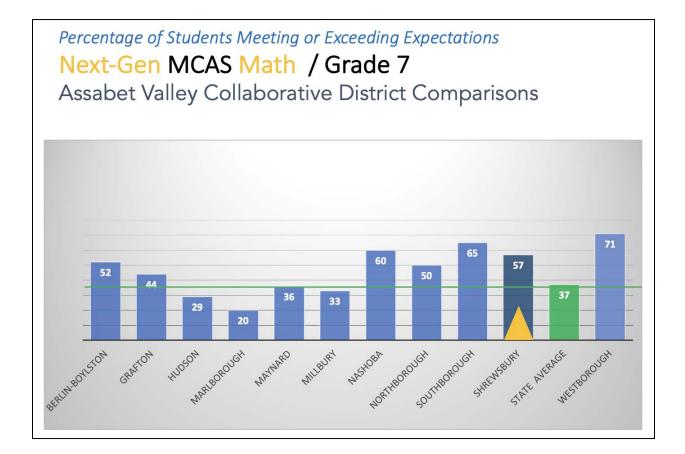
	% Proficient by Category					
Accountability				Partially		
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	17	1	16	41	42	
EL and Former EL	40	5	35	45	15	
Low Income	37	1	36	44	19	
High Needs	38	3	35	40	22	

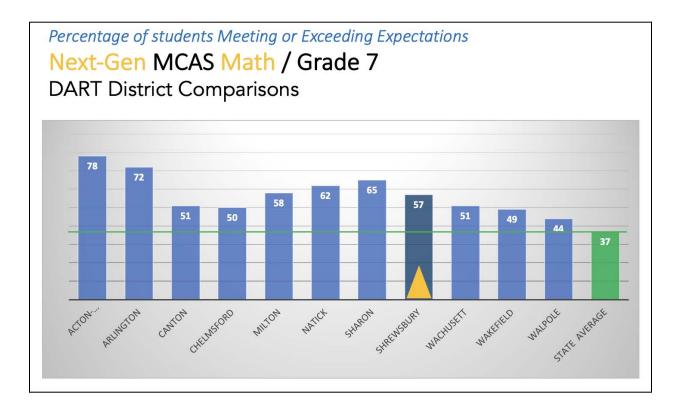
	% Proficient by Category						
Race & Ethnicity				Partially			
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
African American/Black	57	13	44	38	6		
Asian	84	35	49	12	3		
Hispanic/Latinx	41	4	37	37	22		
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	67	11	56	33	0		
White	67	7	60	26	8		

Grade 7 Student Achievement Scores in Mathematics

56% of students at this grade span scored in the "Meeting" range or better in 2022, compared to 62% in 2019. Although results for this grade span are lower overall, Shrewsbury's scores remain significantly higher than the state average.

% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	65	62	59	56
Exceeding	14	17	17	14
Meeting	51	45	42	42
Partially Meeting	27	32	35	33
Not Meeting	8	6	7	10





SPS Math Grade 7 Subgroup Achievement Scores

	% Proficient by Category						
Accountability				Partially			
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
Students w/ Disabilities	14	1	13	36	50		
EL and Former EL	32	4	28	53	15		
Low Income	28	4	24	47	24		
High Needs	28	4	24	43	28		

	% Proficient by Category						
Race & Ethnicity				Partially			
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
African American/Black	27	0	27	53	20		
Asian	81	34	47	13	6		
Hispanic/Latinx	25	4	21	56	19		
Multi-Race,	77	8	69	15	8		
Non-Hispanic/Latinx							
White	47	5	42	42	11		

Grade 8 Student Achievement Scores in Mathematics

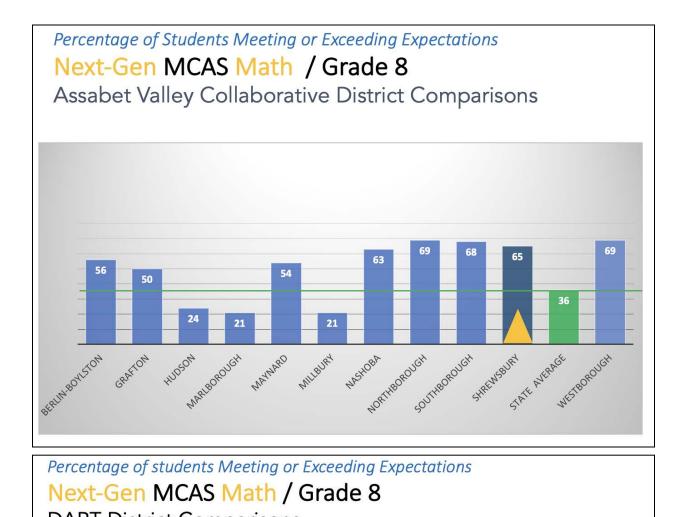
Math scores for students in Grade 8 increased slightly over last year. 65% of students met state benchmarks as compared to 68% in 2019.

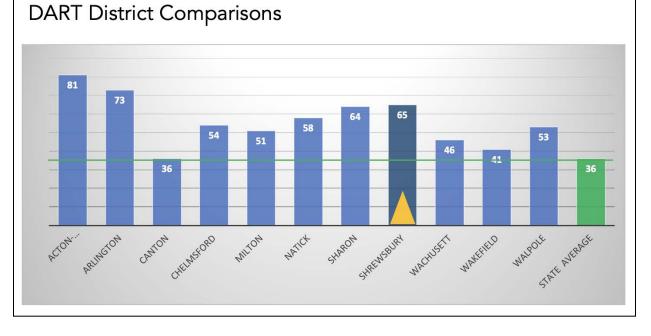
% by level	2018	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	71	68	61	65
Exceeding	17	26	14	21
Meeting	54	42	47	44
Partially Meeting	25	27	29	28
Not Meeting	4	5	9	7



Shrewsbury's scores for this grade span are among the highest in the area.







SPS Math Grade 8 Subgroup Achievement Scores

	% Proficient by Category						
Accountability				Partially			
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
Students w/ Disabilities	17	1	16	49	34		
EL and Former EL	37	7	30	50	13		
Low Income	41	4	37	44	15		
High Needs	34	4	30	47	20		

	% Proficient by Category						
Race & Ethnicity				Partially			
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
African American/Black	59	17	42	25	17		
Asian	89	45	44	9	2		
Hispanic/Latinx	38	2	36	48	14		
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	55	14	41	31	14		
White	56	9	47	37	7		

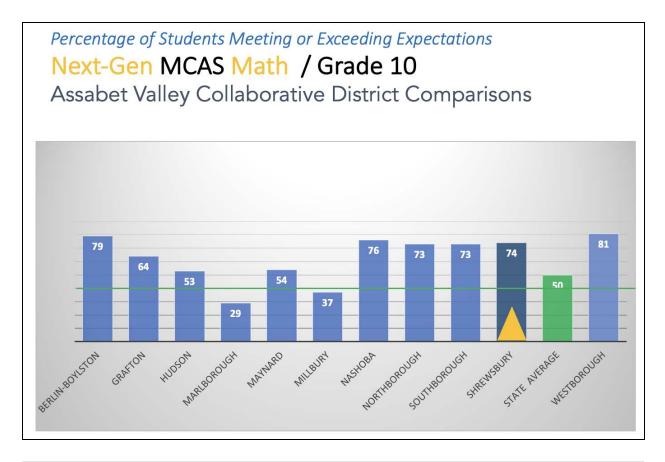
Grade 10 Student Achievement Scores in Mathematics

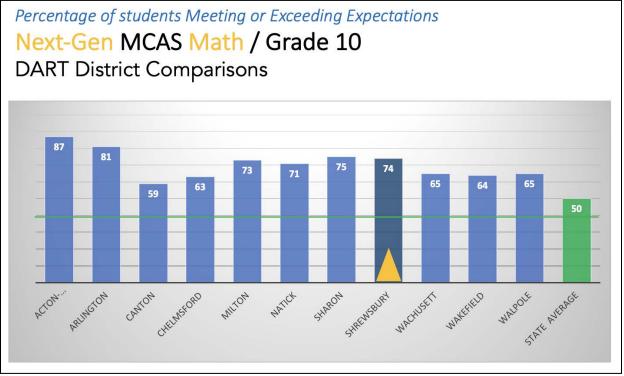
In 2019, high school students across the state took the "next generation" test in Mathematics for the first time. Scores for the old "legacy" test cannot be compared with scores on this exam, so comparisons for this grade span are limited. Seventy-four percent (74%) of students in Grade 10 met or exceeded state benchmarks in 2022.

% by level	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	80	77	74
Exceeding	29	32	27
Meeting	51	45	47
Partially Meeting	17	19	22
Not Meeting	3	4	4









SPS Math Grade 10 Subgroup Achievement Scores

	% Proficient by Category					
Accountability				Partially		
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	15	0	15	57	28	
EL and Former EL	35	22	13	52	13	
Low Income	40	7	33	51	9	
High Needs	36	8	28	50	15	

	% Proficient by Category						
Race & Ethnicity				Partially			
Subgroups	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Meeting	Not Meeting		
African American/Black	60	15	45	30	10		
Asian	91	55	36	8	1		
Hispanic/Latinx	29	5	24	55	16		
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic/Latinx	83	18	65	18	0		
White	72	16	56	24	3		



Trends in Mathematics

Math scores rebounded at some grade levels this year, but we did not see gains across the board. In Shrewsbury and comparison districts, signs of recovery are best seen in the scores of our youngest students. These results suggest that the use of Math practice tools are good investments, and that a systemic approach to monitoring student progress is important.

Grade and Subject	Gr 3	Gr 4	Gr 5	Gr 6	Gr 7	Gr 8	Gr. 10
Shrewsbury % E / M 2019	75%	79%	73%	69%	63%	68%	80%
State Results 2019	49%	50%	48%	52%	48%	46%	59%
Shrewsbury % E / M 2021	62%	64%	54%	57%	59%	62%	77%
State Results 2021	33%	33%	33%	33%	35%	32%	52%
Shrewsbury % E / M 2022	68%	70%	50%	70%	56%	65%	74%
State Results 2022	41%	42%	36%	42%	38%	36%	49%

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations

All students should have the opportunity and the support necessary to learn significant mathematics with depth and understanding. There is no conflict between equity and excellence.

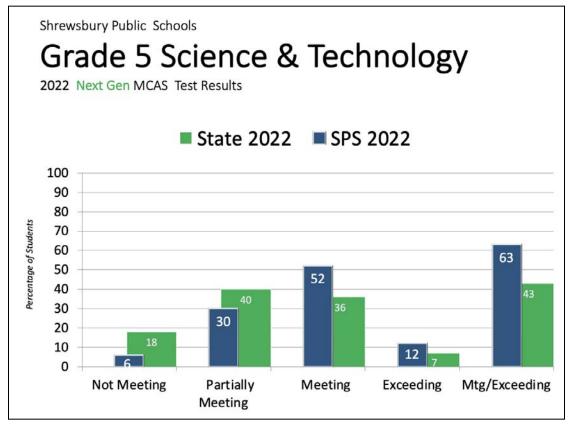
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

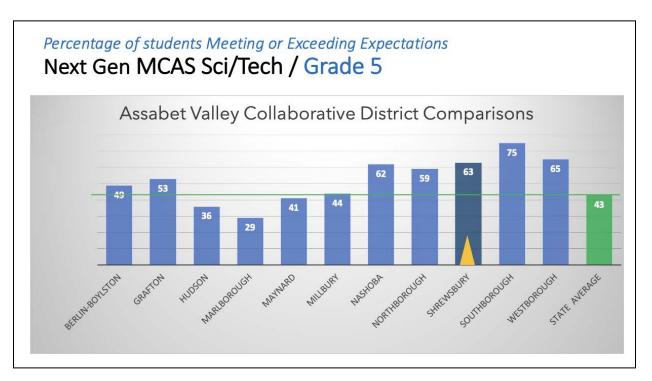
Science & Technology Scores by Grade Level

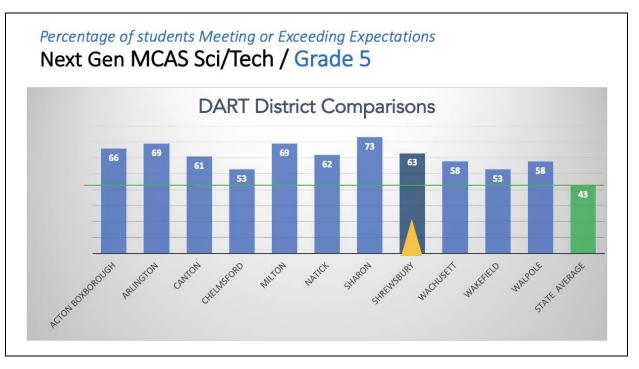
Grade 5 Student Achievement Scores in Science

Students at this level took a new exam in 2019, thereby establishing a new baseline for the grade span. In 2022, 64% of students in Grade 5 met or exceeded state benchmarks in Science, an increase of 1% from 2019.

% by level	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	63	59	64
Exceeding	12	13	12
Meeting	51	46	52
Partially Meeting	31	34	30
Not Meeting	5	6	6







As mentioned in prior reports, the timing of curriculum units in Shrewsbury has an impact on student performance. For example, our Grade 5 students are tested cumulatively on content that is taught in earlier grades, especially fourth grade. Further, during remote learning, much of the Science content was adjusted for safety and in consideration of curriculum priorities, which means students may need additional time to build prerequisite knowledge in some Science subjects. It's likely that both factors continue to impact student achievement.

SPS Science Grade 5 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Accountability Subgroups		% Proficient by Category					
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting		
Students w/ Disabilities	24	2	22	46	30		
EL and Former EL	48	9	39	43	9		
Low Income	36	3	33	47	17		
High Needs	40	5	35	43	17		

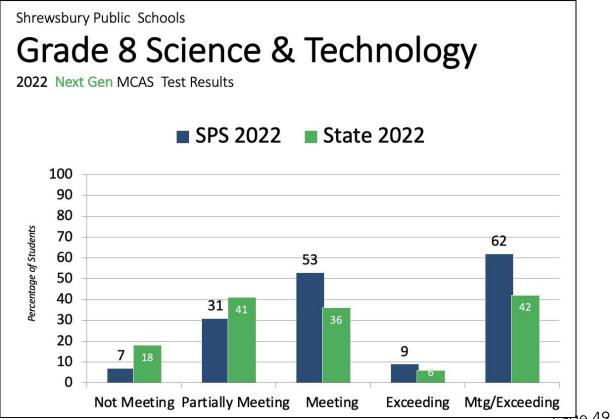
Race & Ethnicity Subgroups	% Proficient by Category						
	E / M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting		
Asian	77	17	60	21	2		
Hispanic / Latinx	41	6	35	45	14		
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic / Latinx	62	10	52	33	5		
White	60	9	51	32	8		

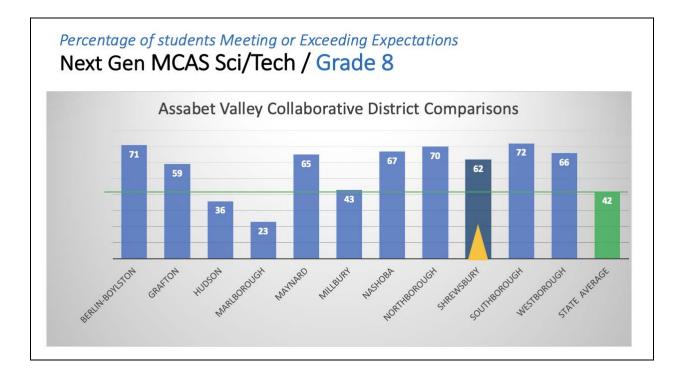
Grade 8 Student Achievement Scores in Science

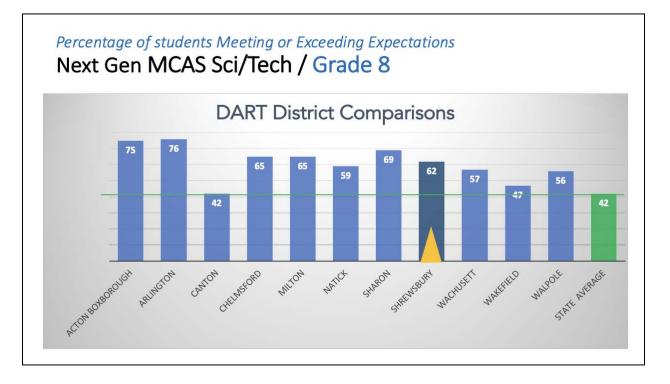
In 2019, students in Grade 8 took the "next generation" Science test for the first time as well. In 2022, 62% of students scored in the "Meeting" range or better, a result that reflects a 1% increase over 2021. While it is appropriate to compare performance of eighth graders over time, with such limited information it's difficult to see trends at this point.

% by level	2019	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	62	61	62
Exceeding	16	17	9
Meeting	46	44	53
Partially Meeting	33	33	31
Not Meeting	5	7	7

As shown below scores in Science for this grade band don't compare as favorably as scores in Grade 5.







SPS Science Grade 8 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Accountability Subgroups		% Proficient by Category					
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting		
Students w/ Disabilities	19	1	18	50	31		
EL and Former EL	27	0	27	60	13		
Low Income	42	4	38	43	15		
High Needs	33	3	30	48	19		

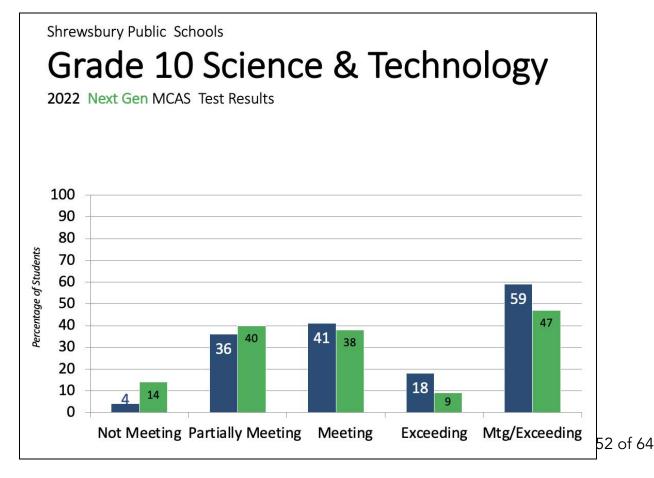
Race & Ethnicity					
Subgroups		% Pro	oficient by Cate	egory	
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
African American / Black	67	17	50	25	8
Asian	80	14	66	18	2
Hispanic / Latinx	34	5	29	50	17
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic / Latinx	58	3	55	31	10
White	56	7	49	37	7



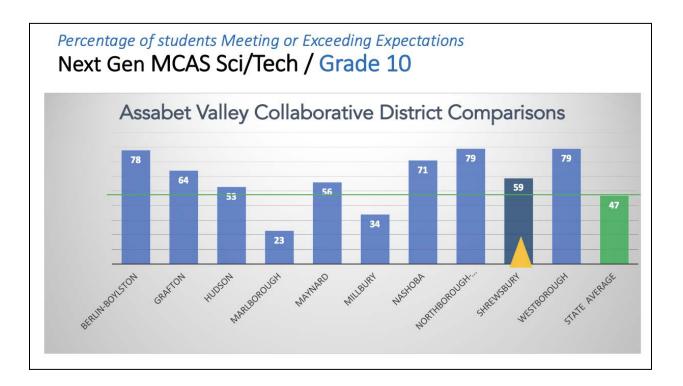
Grade 10 Science

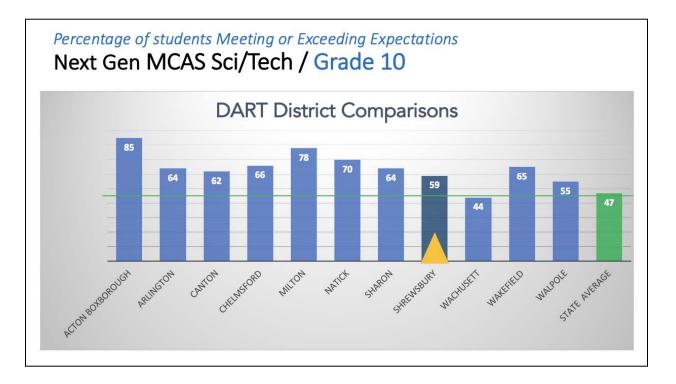
2019 was the last year that students in this grade span took the older ("legacy") version of MCAS Science and Technology exam. As you know, the MCAS test was canceled in 2020. High school students were not required to take the Science exam in 2021. In 2022, 59% of Grade 10 students scored proficient or higher on the "next generation" version of the exam, completing the transition from the "legacy" version for all grade spans and subjects.

% by level	2021	2022
Proficient (Exceeding + Meeting)	NA	59
Exceeding	NA	18
Meeting	NA	41
Partially Meeting	NA	36
Not Meeting	NA	4



The chart below illustrates how comparison districts have transitioned to the latest version of the Science, Technology and Engineering (STE) exam.





SPS Science Grade 10 Subgroup Achievement Scores

Accountability Subgroups		% Proficient by Category				
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting	
Students w/ Disabilities	4	0	4	63	33	
EL and Former EL	41	0	41	41	18	
Low Income	25	3	22	62	13	
High Needs	23	2	21	61	17	

Race & Ethnicity								
Subgroups		% Pro	oficient by Cate	egory				
	E/M	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting			
African American / Black	53	16	37	37	11			
Asian	80	40	40	18	1			
Hispanic / Latinx	22	3	19	63	16			
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic / Latinx	65	12	53	29	6			
White	53	45	8	43	4			

Trends in Science

Science achievement scores for Grades 5 and 8 show signs of recovery for most students. Scores for students in Grade 10 remain well below pre-pandemic achievement scores.

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations

Grade and Subject	Shrewsbury % Level M/E 2019	State Results 2019	Shrewsbury % Level M/E 2021	State Results 2021	Shrewsbury % Level M/E 2022	State Results 2022
Gr 5	63	49	60	42	63	43
Gr 8	62	46	60	41	62	42
Gr 10	88	74	N/A*	N/A	59	47

Note: Grade 10 results for spring 2021 STE are not provided because students in the class of 2023 were not required to take the STE test. Information about CD requirements is available at https://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/graduation.html.

II. Student Growth Percentile Scores (SGPs)

Assessment levels indicate how each student is achieving, relative to the state standards for that grade level and content area. Growth scores represent change in an individual student's MCAS performance from one exam to the next. By utilizing a growth measure, the state is attempting to answer the question, "How much academic progress did a student or group of students make in one year, as measured by MCAS?"

Massachusetts measures growth for individual students by comparing the change in their achievement on statewide assessments to that of their "academic peers" (all other students in the state who previously had similar historical assessment results). The comparison is expressed as a percentile, and represents how many students showed greater or lesser improvement on this year's test as compared to the performance of the cohort of students with the same achievement score history.

Student Growth Percentiles (SGP)



- Massachusetts measures growth by comparing the change in a student's achievement scores on statewide assessments with all other students with similar test score histories.
- The rate of change is expressed as a percentile.
 - How much did Rishi improve in mathematics from 4th and 5th grade to 6th grade, relative to her academic peers?
 - If Rishi improved more than 65 percent of her academic peers, then her Student Growth Percentile (SGP) would be 65.

The state defines *moderate* (or expected) growth to be between the 40-60th percentile, with *low* growth below the 40th percentile and *high growth* above the 60th percentile. In reviewing an individual student's result, teachers and parents might wonder, "*How much did Rishi improve her math score on MCAS in 6th grade, relative to students who had the same math scores on the 4th and* 5th grade math tests?" SGP scores help to answer that question: if Rishi had a higher score than 65 percent of her academic peers with the same score history, then her Student Growth Percentile (SGP) would be 65.

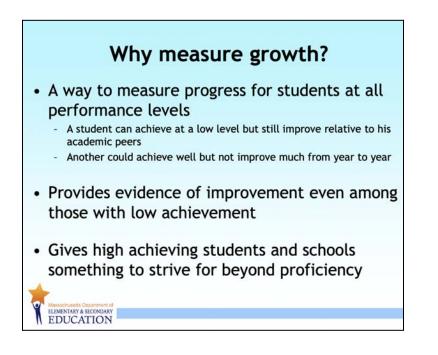
The growth model method operates independently of MCAS performance levels. As a result, all students may demonstrate growth. Growth percentiles are typically calculated in ELA and Mathematics for students in Grades 4 through 8 and 10, because the model requires at least two years of MCAS results to calculate growth percentiles. Therefore, no growth scores are available for Grade 3. This year The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education emphasized that districts should return to a pre-pandemic approach to calibrating student growth percentiles . For this reason SGP results for 2022 are best compared with statistics from 2019. Finally, because the Science and Technology test is only administered in grades five, eight, and nine/ten, there is no growth data produced for this test.

Analyzing student test scores over time provides us with additional information; this data helps us Page 55 of 64 monitor individual students and subgroups within the district. Importantly, it may also help us identify "bright spots," instructional models, or grade level practices that yield exceptional outcomes for students.

Aggregate Growth Percentiles

While student growth percentiles enable educators to chart the growth of an individual student compared to that of academic peers, student growth percentiles may also be aggregated to understand growth at the subgroup, school, or district level.

Initially the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education reported growth as a median percentile (the middle score if one ranks the individual student growth percentiles from highest to lowest). A typical school or district in the Commonwealth would have a median student growth percentile of 50. Beginning in 2018, the DESE moved to a growth model where the average student growth percentile replaces median SGP for school and district aggregations. Although there are areas to target for improvement that will take more time to achieve, given the scope of the impact of the pandemic our collective goal should be to accelerate student growth.



Shrewsbury Public Schools Average SGP by Grade Span

Results for the English Language Arts Assessment 2017-2022

Again, growth percentile scores are expected to fall within the 40-60 range. In 2022, students in all grade spans met or surpassed the state's benchmark for "moderate growth".

Given the modification of the MCAS test in 2021, student growth scores for 2022 are best compared with scores in 2019.

ELA	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
Gr 4	58	58	56	N/A	54
Gr 5	49	52	47	30	52
Gr 6	51	53	52	39	53
Gr 7	39	55	43	34	47
Gr 8	52	54	55	38	62
Gr 10	48	58	56	52	55

Shrewsbury Public Schools Average SGP by Grade:

Results for the Mathematics Assessment 2017-2022

Here again we see lower growth than is typical. Overall these statistics represent "low" growth overall, and "moderate" growth for Grade 8. Note the higher rates of growth for students in Grade 10.

Math	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022
Gr 4	58	58	64	N/A	58
Gr 5	47	48	51	34	37
Gr 6	44	45	42	28	61
Gr 7	40	52	43	37	42
Gr 8	54	61	61	40	57
Gr 10	57	59	63	53	68

V. District Subgroup Performance Trends

As mentioned previously, comparing subgroup results to aggregate data helps educators to identify and close achievement opportunity gaps. In conducting this review it's important to keep in mind that students may belong to multiple subgroups and therefore are counted more than once in terms of total numbers. Finally, it should be mentioned that the data we have relies on how families self-report when they register.

The table below was prepared with support from Focused Schools, a consultant group currently assisting the district with strategic planning. It serves as a helpful summary of "the big picture" because it shows how Shrewsbury's results for most students compare to students with disabilities, students that are considered low income and students that are English learners. Why focus on these specific subgroups? Briefly, while we are resolved to monitor progress for all student subgroups, we see persistent gaps between achievement scores for students in these subgroups and aggregate scores across grade spans and administration years. Moreover, for some subgroups we see lower

rates of growth which are shaded in red in the chart below.

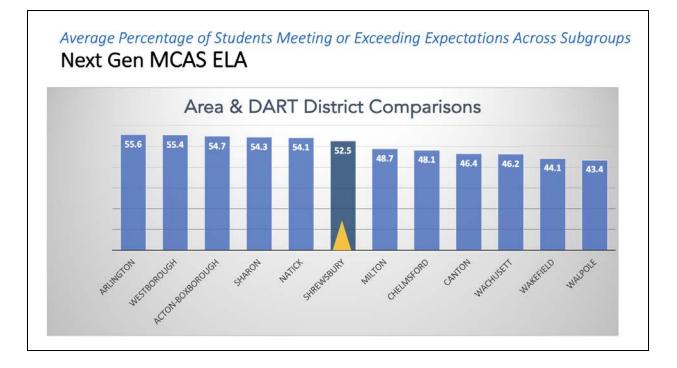
Grade Level & Subject	SPS All Students		SPS Students with Disabilities		SPS Low Income		SPS English Learners and Former English Learners	
	% E/M	SGP	% E/M	SGP	% E/M	SGP	% E/M	SGP
Gr 3 ELA	64	N/A	25	NA	33	NA	45	NA
Gr 3 Math	68	N/A	23	NA	35	NA	62	NA
Gr 4 ELA	60	54	16	41	33	49	41	46
Gr 4 Math	70	58	25	46	44	53	53	53
Gr 5 ELA	60	52	19	37	31	45	50	55
Gr 5 Math	49	37	16	27	17	31	39	37
Gr 5 Sci	63	N/A	24	NA	36	NA	48	NA
Gr 6 ELA	60	53	13	44	34	51	34	56
Gr 6 Math	70	61	17	41	37	56	40	62
Gr 7 ELA	59	47	7	36	32	50	28	48
Gr 7 Math	57	42	14	40	28	40	32	45
Gr 8 ELA	66	62	14	43	47	56	27	59
Gr 8 Math	65	57	17	47	41	47	37	56
Gr 8 Sci	62	N/A	19	NA	42	NA	27	NA
Gr 10 ELA	77	55	22	51	54	56	26	**
Gr 10 Math	74	68	15	59	40	65	35	**
Gr 10 STE	59	N/A	4	NA	25	NA	41	NA

*Red cells denote growth rates below 50, the expected / moderate range per DESE guidelines.

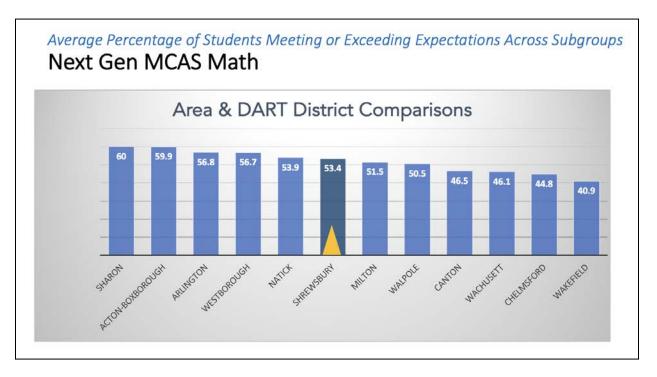
Internally, Geoffrey Thayer, a district Data Specialist, conducted a more detailed analysis for all subgroups with the goal of identifying how student results in Shrewsbury compare with those of other districts. His findings show that Shrewsbury is on par with neighboring districts with regards to closing educational opportunity gaps. For example, students that identify as African American/Black in Shrewsbury generally perform better than students in the same subgroup in other districts. However, in some cases the performance of subgroups only compares well because results went down in the aggregate, so it's important to look at trends over time.

Looking across a comparison with DART districts, we can also see opportunities to improve our outcomes by learning from districts with similar enrollments. Scores for English Learners in Shrewsbury drop from Grade 3 to Grade 10, with fewer students receiving passing grades on the MCAS in the upper grades. There are some districts that do not experience this, including Acton-Boxborough and Westborough.

In 2022, 16% of Students with Disabilities in Shrewsbury (a portion of our "High Needs" group) met or exceeded expectations for the Grade 4 MCAS test in ELA, as compared to 33% of students in the "High Needs" subgroup and 60% of Grade 4 students overall. In contrast, 26% of Grade 4 Students with Disabilities in Westborough met the state benchmark in English Language Arts in 2022. The comparison data is illustrated in the charts below.



As mentioned previously, English Language Arts achievement scores were lower in 2022 than scores in Math. Additionally, scores for students in most groups were lower than the average score for the grade span. Here we see Shrewsbury as compared to districts with similar demographics. Many districts in the Assabet Valley Collaborative did not have subgroup achievement scores strong



Student data is useful only to the extent that it helps educators reflect on our practice. With the purchase of the Star screener tools we are better able to triangulate assessment information. Most importantly we are able to monitor students in Grades K-8 between MCAS administrations.

Staff look closely at the achievement gap between student subgroups as compared to the "All Students" group in various ways. As children address the content standards, students that struggle to achieve proficiency may still demonstrate high growth. For example, the growth percentiles for students with "High Needs" in English Language Arts is similar to those for most Grade 4 students. This suggests that students in both groups are growing at a similar rate.

Significantly, if students within our subgroups don't exceed typical growth, achievement gaps between students with disabilities and typical students will widen over time. When we consider the performance of students in subgroups, there is a wide range of performance scores. It's important to look at both achievement, which signals content mastery and growth. In Shrewsbury the rate of achievement among students in this group has increased gradually over time. Higher rates of growth will be needed to close achievement opportunity gaps, however.

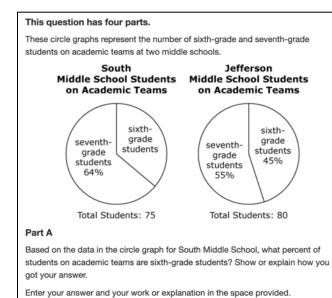
VI. Data-Informed Decision Making

Staff analyze MCAS data from the DESE portal to review student performance, identify strengths and weaknesses in specific standards, and also to examine released questions to determine how instructional planning might shift. The DESE district profile portal allows anyone to access data about standards, question types, and even to compare item scores across districts. Click <u>here</u> to see how it works.

Scrutinizing student results by question helps educators to align their practice with the expectations inherent in the assessment. Educators look at student work related to questions like the one depicted above/right to see which concepts they should revisit in class. Looking at the results in this way allows teacher teams to refine instructional plans together.



Using Data to Adjust Instruction



The achievement our students experience is the result of a number of systems working together. In a typical year, partnerships between home and school, coupled with an engaging and rigorous curriculum, help students to meet rising expectations over time. Yet the past three years have been anything but typical. While data helped educators at all levels to make decisions, MCAS results took a back seat to managing absenteeism and addressing student behavioral and mental-health needs. Our educators continue to work hard to meet a variety of student needs. Increasingly, we are using data to focus specifically on academic goals.

Monitoring Student Progress

The adoption of a universal screening tool for students in Grades K-8 has made it easier to monitor student progress in both English Language Arts and Mathematics in real time. Moreover, in addition to common assessment opportunities, the Star platform provides reports that empower educators to make decisions informed by recent assessment results. For example, classroom teachers can see which skills are most important for mastery, and adjust instruction accordingly. Forecasting reports enable district leaders and teacher teams alike to see which students are at the highest risk for not meeting state benchmarks. In this way we can identify individual students in need of extra support early and intervene accordingly.

For the second year in a row we noted that actual MCAS scores were within 5-10% of the scores predicted by the Star assessment. As depicted in the charts below, overall projections from last year aligned well with 2022 achievement results in each subject for most grade spans.

Grade	% Predicted to be Proficient in 2022 in Reading	Actual % Met / Exceeding in 2022 in ELA	% Difference		
3	65	64	1		
4	65	60	5		
5	63	60	3		
6	56	60	4		
7	64	59	5		
8	56	66	10		

Grade	% Predicted to be Proficient in 2022 in Math	Actual % Met / Exceeding in 2022 in Math	% Difference
3	66	68	2
4	66	70	4
5	68*	50	18
6	36*	70	34
7	49	57	8
8	56*	66	56

* <u>Please note</u>: Growth is calculated based on assessments given within the screening window. Students tested before or after that time are not included in growth statistics. Last year we adjusted test administration for some grade spans in the second trimester due to high rates of absenteeism, and results for some grades were affected.

Results from the first Star assessment given in late September of 2022 enabled us to address student needs in advance of this year's MCAS administration window. Looking at student data compels us to action. With assessment information in hand we can anticipate and respond to students in need sooner than we used to – and we should.

Triangulating Student Data

The next administration of the Star assessment is scheduled to conclude on December 16, 2022. In the interim, students that scored below benchmark in September are being monitored individually. At all levels, educators are using the information they gain from common assessments to adjust instruction and to provide tiered support.

The table below reflects growth rates for current students between Star test administration windows this year. This assessment is nationally normed, so students are compared to their academic peers nationwide.

Grades	Star Early Literacy	Star Reading	Star Math			
Kindergarten	62	91	N/A			
Grade 1	48	61	68			
Grade 2	53	60	65			
Grade 3	64	61	63			
Grade 4	N/A	51	71			
Grade 5	N/A	50	45			
Grade 6	N/A	47	59			
Grade 7	N/A	44	47			
Grade 8	N/A	51	64			

Fall to Winter Student Growth Percentiles: Star Assessment Data

VIII. Conclusion

While there is still a lot of work to do, the district's commitment to using universal screening software means we need not wait to know how our students are faring. We have within our assessment tools the means to measure individual student growth and the performance of accountability subgroups in between MCAS administration. Responding effectively to data is the key to realizing the aspirations manifested within the Education Reform Act. With the pandemic behind us, I'm confident our educators will continue to see assessment data as a call to close opportunity gaps, and related tools as resources to ensure that we empower all our children.



ITEM NO: VI. Policy

MEETING DATE: 01/18/23

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



ITEM NO:VII. Finance & OperationsMEETING DATE:01/18/23A. ESSER-3 Grant Recommended Amendment: Vote

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In September 2021, stakeholder feedback solicited online and in meetings with various groups informed the planning process and the School Committee's vote of approval for Shrewsbury's planned use of American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER or ESSER III) Funds that was submitted in a formal application to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (MA DESE) in October 2021. Some of the originally projected costs have been lower than anticipated, so the Committee is being asked to review and approve a proposed amendment to the spending plan prior to administration submitting it to MA DESE for their approval.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the Committee vote to approve amending the existing American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) III Grant Fund spending plan per the enclosed memorandum.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Amy B. Clouter, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment Mr. Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations



Shrewsbury Public Schools

Amy Clouter Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

To: School Committee

Re: ESSER-3 Federal Grant Application: Recommended Amendment Date: January 13, 2023

As shared previously in a memo dated September 22, 2021, The American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund provided an additional \$1,229,980 of funding for our school district for use to address various needs related to educating students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This latest federal grant, known as ESSER-3, came with an extensive list of requirements for approved use, as outlined <u>here</u> in a resource shared by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education [MA DESE]. Additionally, the application process required outreach to stakeholders and engagement with the community to develop a district plan. As noted by Dr. Sawyer at the time, the district used ThoughtExchange, an online forum, to survey families, staff, collective bargaining unions and community groups. Stakeholder feedback solicited online and during subsequent meetings with various groups informed the planning process and ultimately your vote of approval for Shrewsbury's plan. Ultimately, a formal application was submitted to DESE on October 4, 2021. Importantly, the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Funds may be expended through September 30, 2024, and we've learned a lot about how best to align supports to effectively meet district needs in the interim. This memo will describe a proposal to amend the grant as we approach the deadline for expending ESSER funds.

As you may recall, Shrewsbury's plans for using ESSER funds reflected the priorities shared by stakeholder groups, namely that the district provide support for mental

health, behavioral and academic needs. The specific recommendations shared by Dr. Sawyer at that time can be found in <u>this memo</u>.

These investments targeted key priorities faced by the district during the pandemic. However, in some cases projected costs were less than anticipated. The Summer Academy program saw lower enrollment than anticipated, for example, which resulted in lower staffing costs. Further, at the Middle level we have been unable to fill the proposed tutor positions. As a result we underspent planned ESSER-3 grant expenditures in FY2021 and FY2022. [See attached spreadsheet detailing expenditures to date and those planned for current and future fiscal years.] More recently, district leaders have realized the value of allocating resources to services that can be accessed during or directly after the conclusion of the academic day.

The bullets below detail four specific adjustments we hope to make with your approval to amend our spending plan and leverage these funds into FY24.

Briefly, we seek to:

- allocate funding for high quality curriculum materials to support literacy
- extend the funding of HS counselor
- continue to fund a late bus for students in grades 5-12, and
- increase funds for academic tutoring at the Elementary level

It should be noted that 20% of the funds must be used "to address lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and ensure that those interventions respond to students' social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups:

- low-income children or students
- children with disabilities,
- English learners,
- racial and ethnic minorities,
- students experiencing homelessness, and
- children and youth in foster care"

Even with adjustments, this plan continues to meet this funding threshold for providing support for "lost learning time," and is designed to provide mental and emotional health support for students, per the grant's suggested areas of focus.

Because the original ESSER-3 grant application and associated multi-year budget required a vote of the School Committee prior to submitting to MA DESE, we are recommending you vote to approve this amendment prior to the administration submitting it to them for their approval.

I look forward to discussing this plan with you at your next meeting on January 18.

Grant 119: ESSER III Approved Grant				REVISED PLAN										
				Actual	F	Planned	F	Planned	F	Planned	Amei	ndment Amt.		
		Original											Cha	nge from
Category	Description	Award		FY22		FY23		FY24		FY25	3-`	Year Total	C	Priginal
Instructional/Prof Staff Salaries	Counselors	222,270.00	\$	88,302	\$	49,523	\$	76,229	\$	-	\$	214,054	\$	(8,216)
Support Staff Wages	Tutors	232,576.00	\$	50,840	\$	53,820	\$	55,000	\$	-	\$	159,660	\$	(72,916)
Stipends	Summer Academy	430,130.00	\$	91,046	\$	106,187	\$	108,000	\$	110,000	\$	415,233	\$	(14,897)
Fringe Benefits-MTRS Cont	Pension Rqmnt	20,004.00	9	-	\$	9,301	\$	11,811	\$	-	\$	21,111	\$	1,107
Contractual Services		\$0.00	9	; -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Supplies and Materials	Literacy & Curr. Materials	\$0.00	9	; -	\$	75,000	\$	28,472	\$	-	\$	103,472	\$	103,472
Travel		\$0.00	9	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -		\$ -	
Other	Late Bus Service	\$325,000.00	9	; -	\$	142,026	\$	174,424	\$	-	\$	316,450	\$	(8,550)
Equipment	=	\$0.00									\$ -			
Totals		\$1,229,980		3 230,188	\$	435,857	\$	453,936	\$	110,000	\$	1,229,980	\$	-



ITEM NO: VIII. Old Business

MEETING DATE: 01/18/23

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



ITEM NO: IX. New Business

MEETING DATE: 01/18/23

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:



ITEM NO: X. Approval of Minutes

MEETING DATE: 01/18/23

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The minutes from the School Committee Meeting held on January 4, 2023, and the School Committee Workshop held on January 11, 2023, will be provided under separate cover.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the Committee accept the minutes from the School Committee Meeting held on January 4, 2023, and the School Committee Workshop held on January 11, 2023.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Lynsey Heffernan, Chairperson Mr. Jon Wensky, Secretary



ITEM NO: XI. Executive Session

MEETING DATE: 01/18/23

- A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) "[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements" ("Purpose 7"), Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes.
- B. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) "to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares" ("Purpose 3") the Shrewsbury Education Association Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association
- C. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) "to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel" non-union administrators. ("Purpose 2")

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Executive Session is warranted for these purposes.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

Request a motion to adjourn to Executive Session:

A. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) "[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements" ("Purpose 7"), Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 22(f), (g) – for the purpose of reviewing, approving, and/or releasing executive session minutes;

B. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) "to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares" ("Purpose 3") - the Shrewsbury Education Association Units A and/or B, the Shrewsbury Paraprofessional Association, and/or the Cafeteria Workers Association; and

C. For the purpose of addressing G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) "to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel" – non-union administrators. ("Purpose 2") where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body; and return to Open Session only for the purpose of adjourning for the evening.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations



ITEM NO: XII. Adjournment