



MCAS 2023 Results

Kathleen Foley
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MCAS Metrics

Measures of Achievement

- **Average Scaled Score**
 - Estimate of student ability
 - Comparable - the same scale is used in ELA, Math and Science and in grades 3-8 and 10 (except some HS science tests)
 - Can be hard to interpret – what is the difference between 498.7 and 502.1?
 - DESE cares a lot about declines in the average scaled score
- **% of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations “% ME”**
 - Cut scores are set based on students’ average scaled scores to bucket students into one of four categories, “Not Meeting”, “Partially Meeting”, “Meeting” or “Exceeding”
 - % ME is the percentage of students in the “Meeting” or “Exceeding” buckets. It is easy to interpret.
 - However, the cut scores have little inherent meaning; DESE doesn’t care about this metric

Measures of Growth

- **Average Student Growth Percentile (SGP)**
 - DESE creates a group of students with similar test score histories
 - Relative to that group of students, how good was your growth?
 - A simple version of “value add” – how did our students do relative to similar students?
 - Can be hard to calculate and very noisy, especially with the pandemic
 - DESE cares about average SGP
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Growth versus Achievement

Achievement This Year = Achievement Last Year + Growth This Year

- Our goal is to increase our students' Achievement
- We can't control where our students started the year
- We only control how much they Grow during the year

Growth versus Achievement - Achievement Caveats

Achievement This Year = Achievement Last Year + Growth This Year

When we see a decline in achievement, we need to ask:

To what extent was this due to students entering at a lower level, versus experiencing lower growth this year?

Elementary School: Evolving Academic Journey w/ Emerging Growth:

The Elementary School journey from 2019 to 2023 reflects an evolving academic landscape. While there were initial challenges in average scaled scores and % ME, the period culminated in a promising rise in scores. This period shows adaptation and resilience, setting the foundation for innovative instructional strategies to further enhance academic outcomes.

Middle School: Building Stability and Witnessing Growth:

Middle School's experience from 2019 to 2023 charts a path of steady academic stabilization poised for growth. After navigating through initial decreases in average scaled scores, the school has achieved relative stability in scores, complemented by noticeable improvements in % ME and Avg. SGP by 2023. This indicates a positive turnaround, spotlighting the attention to instructional practices at the middle school.

High School: Resilience Amidst Academic Challenges:

High School's narrative through these years is one of resilience and gradual progress amidst academic challenges. Despite the trends in average scaled scores and % ME, the slight improvement in % ME by 2023 demonstrates the potential for positive change. While navigating growth has been challenging, the high school is poised for targeted interventions and strategies aimed at improving student growth and learning outcomes.

Math by School

		Avg. Scaled Score	% ME	Avg. SGP	Students
Elementary	2019	496.0	41.0%	48.1	295
	2021	482.0	22.6%		296
	2022	487.4	26.9%	49.0	294
	2023	485.5	27.0%	43.1	282
Middle School	2019	493.6	34.9%	44.4	570
	2021	487.3	26.5%	31.2	578
	2022	487.9	23.3%	48.7	544
	2023	487.8	25.3%	49.5	454
High School	2019	510.0	66.7%	65.9	72
	2021	499.6	49.4%	39.5	85
	2022	493.0	33.0%	42.8	97
	2023	493.9	35.5%	36.1	93

ELA by School

Elementary School: Nurturing Foundations w/Focused Improvement Needed

- Progressive Adaptation: A gradual decrease in both average scaled scores and % ME from 2019 to 2023, indicating a need for focused interventions to reverse this trend and enhance foundational skills.
- Stable Engagement: Student numbers remain fairly consistent, reflecting stable engagement but also highlighting the need for targeted strategies to uplift academic outcomes.

Middle School: Identifying Opportunities for Growth Amidst Challenges

- Emerging Challenges: The decrease in average scaled scores and % ME from 2019 to 2023 underscores emerging academic challenges, necessitating a shift in educational strategies to address these areas.
- Recovery Potential: The slight improvement in Avg. SGP in 2023 compared to 2022 suggests the beginning of a recovery phase, offering a foundation to build upon for future success.

High School: Building on Strengths While Addressing Gaps

- Strong Start with Subsequent Decline: High School starts with notably high metrics in 2019 but experiences a decline in both average scaled scores and % ME, signaling areas for targeted support, especially to maintain high initial performance levels.
- Fluctuating Growth with Resilience: Despite the variations, a significant student growth percentile is maintained, indicating resilience among students and potential leverage points for enhancing educational outcomes.

		Avg. Scaled Score	% ME	Avg. SGP	Students
Elementary	2019	502.3	55.3%	47.3	295
	2021	499.0	49.2%		295
	2022	492.8	38.3%	46.4	295
	2023	489.8	31.8%	40.8	283
Middle School	2019	497.4	46.3%	49.3	568
	2021	493.4	40.4%	34.0	579
	2022	487.6	27.3%	40.3	545
	2023	486.4	28.6%	43.9	454
High School	2019	513.4	75.0%	53.9	72
	2021	510.5	68.6%	61.5	86
	2022	503.0	63.9%	63.1	97
	2023	502.7	50.5%	47.2	93

5-8 Science by Grade

Grade 5: Resilience and Growth Opportunities

Consistent Engagement: Despite minor fluctuations, Grade 5 maintains strong student participation, indicating a learning community ready for targeted learning interventions.

Tailored Support: The trend from 2019 to 2023 signals an opportunity for personalized educational strategies to meet specific needs, supporting growth and recovery.

Resilience Building: A rise in % ME in 2023 showcases the beginning of positive change, underscoring the resilience of the learning community and the potential for academic success.

Grade 8: Adaptability and Need for Instructional Focus

Adaptive Engagement: Grade 8 demonstrates adaptability and a commitment to improvement, emphasizing the need to sustain engagement and leverage it for academic gains.

Data Story: Analysis from 2019 to 2023 offers clear insights for next steps. A gradual % ME decrease and a stable scaled score provides the opportunity to dive deeper into curriculum resources and standard alignment.

		Avg. Scaled Score	% ME	Students
5	2019	500.1	47.90%	144
	2021	491.6	34.50%	148
	2022	489.3	30.70%	138
	2023	487	32.00%	120
8	2019	498.1	44.00%	145
	2021	493.5	39.00%	148
	2022	489.2	34.30%	140
	2023	487	28.00%	107

Summary

Throughout each grade, we're seeing a story of determination and resilience. Each class, with its own set of strengths and areas ready for growth. It's clear teachers are committed to helping students grow and learn and there is an ability and willingness to adapt in service of students. The data paints a hopeful picture of education at FRCS, one where ongoing improvement and brighter learning experiences are always on the horizon.