2010 CMT & CAPT Standardized Test Results

Region 15's results of the 2010 Connecticut Mastery Test ("CMT") and Connecticut Academic Performance Test ("CAPT") show the percentage of students scoring above proficient is very high and the goal and advanced bands remain strong.

Performance levels in mathematics, reading and writing are reported as: Advanced, Goal, Proficient, Basic and Below Basic.

The CMT assesses students in Connecticut in grades 3 - 8 on their application of skills and knowledge in the areas of mathematics, reading, and writing. The science subtest is given to students in grades 5 and 8.

At an October Board of Education meeting, the elementary and middle school principals summarized their results.

"We use our data to target need and drive instruction," said Long Meadow Elementary School Principal, Mr. Christopher Moretti.

In 2010, students in grades 4, 5, 6, and 8 showed no significant change in reading and writing performance over time, yet the grade 3 results were unusually depressed. School administrators are drilling down into each of the content strands in this grade level to understand how to strengthen the students' reading and writing skills.

"Instructional improvement does not occur by chance. It is the result of an investment in professional development for staff, a dedicated corps of administrators who are leading district initiatives, enthusiastic teachers, and the support of the Board of Education. These results are where you see the fruits of that labor."

Dr. Frank Sippy, Region 15 Superintendent of Schools

"Region 15's results remain strong," said Dr. Lois Lanning, Assistant Superintendent of Schools. "In fact over half of the CMT grade level tests showed improvement, some very significant, over a four-year period. The number of students who are scoring in mathematics at the highest stage of understanding remains strong."

CMT Performance by Year & Grade

Percent At & Above State Goal Standard

Grade Level	2006 % Goal	2007 % Goal	2008 % Goal	2009 % Goal	2010 % Goal
Grade 3 Reading	78.6	74	76	78.8	71.4
Grade 3 Writing	83.1	80.5	83.4	80.2	70.9
Grade 3 Math	78	75.7	79.9	85.3	79.0
Grade 4 Reading	77.5	83.2	80.2	79.3	**84.9**
Grade 4 Writing	78.3	82.5	84.4	84.3	82.4
Grade 4 Math	73.7	79.9	76.6	81	**84.5**
Grade 5 Reading	81.9	84.3	83.9	85.2	85.2
Grade 5 Writing	83.6	85.1	84.8	86.5	**88.6**
Grade 5 Math	81	88.9	89.2	84.7	**88.8**
Grade 5 Science	--	--	87.2	84.8	82.6
Grade 6 Reading	80.7	79.0	85.2	84.5	**87.1**
Grade 6 Writing	79.2	79.3	81.5	79.7	**83.0**
Grade 6 Math	81	82.7	89.3	91	86.6
Grade 7 Reading	80.4	83.1	84	88.3	**93.9**
Grade 7 Writing	74.2	74.2	76.1	80.6	78.9
Grade 7 Math	73.6	80.3	79.8	83.3	**88.3**
Grade 8 Reading	84.7	83.2	84	83.3	**87.4**
Grade 8 Writing	78.6	78.8	79.9	79.1	78.6
Grade 8 Math	80.5	79.1	84.6	81.4	**88.6**
Grade 8 Science	--	--	84.1	80	**81.1**

*TABLE 1: This table shows the percentage of students scoring at and above the goal level for each content area tested from 2006 through 2010. The first administration of the science assessment was in March 2008. The 2010 score in **bold** reflects an increase from the previous year.*

Pomperaug High School Principal, Ms. Lorrie Rodrigue, joined with Ms. Ellen Spark, Director of Guidance, to explain how the District measures student growth and performance data at the high school.

“This year, Pomperaug High School developed a new model for student learning expectations to be ethical and global citizens, critical thinkers, effective communicators, and innovators. These expectations will help develop a better-rounded student at PHS,” said Ms. Rodrigue.

One of many assessments, observations, and activities designed to measure student performance, explained Ms. Rodrigue, is the Connecticut Academic Performance Test which assesses cumulative knowledge in math, reading, writing, and science.

“PHS students exceed state averages for the percentage at and above Proficiency, and at more ambitious Goal level, we far exceed the state average,” said Ms. Rodrigue. “I’m extremely proud that in science, our sophomores ranked fourth in our district reference group and ranked a remarkable second in the DRG in reading.”

CAPT Performance by Year & Grade

Percent At & Above State Goal Standard

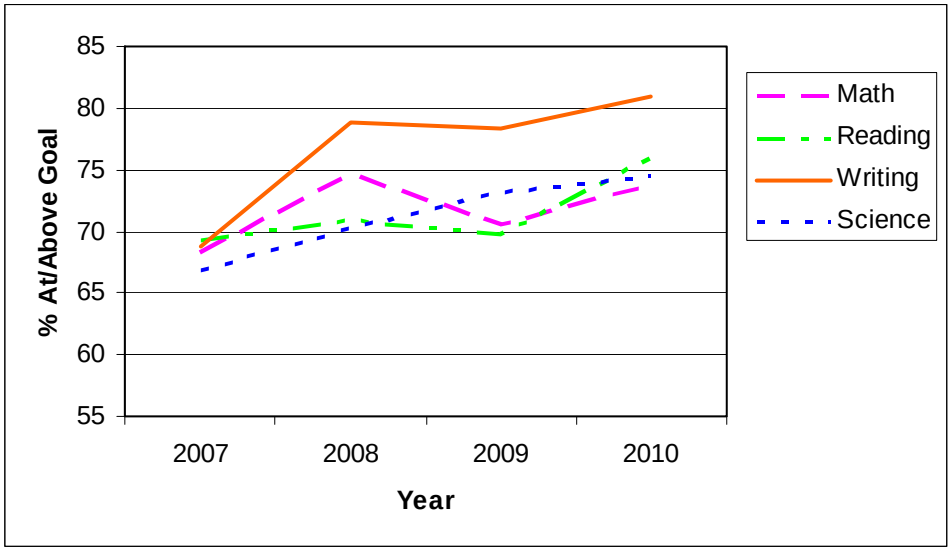

TABLE 2: This table shows the percentage of students scoring at and above the goal level for each content area tested from 2007 through 2010. Administrators look at trends over several years to study the strength of curriculum and instruction.

While no single standardized test can effectively measure student learning, the CMT and CAPT are two ways to measure academic performance. In addition, Region 15 teachers use class work, in-classroom observations, verbal questioning, projects, and other tests throughout the year to assess student growth over time.

Administrators, Principals, and curriculum leadership teams will spend analyze the data with staff who will then adjust their goals, action plans, and intervention plans to help those students who need additional support.

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