

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2019
6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

Mission Statement

Our mission is teaching and learning.

Board Goals

1. Provide Dynamic Rigorous Curriculum.
2. Ensure Effective and Engaging Instruction.
3. Embrace Excellent Learning Environment.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. BoE Regular Business
 - a. Approval of the COW minutes of July 15, 2019 (Attachment #1)
3. Update regarding the new high school graduation requirements effective for the class of 2023
4. Curriculums for FY 2021
 - a. Ab initio French II
 - b. Advanced Painting
 - c. Safety and Wellness
 - d. IB Design Technology
 - e. IB Economics
 - f. IB Computer Science
 - g. IB CP Core (Career-Related Programme)
 - h. IB Music
 - i. IB Global Politics
 - j. IB Language and Literature
5. Update regarding Transition K
6. School Climate Report
7. Suggested Future Topics
8. Adjournment

NEXT C.O.W. MEETING: August 19, 2019

**GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

(*Attachments are available upon request from the Superintendent's Office.)

Committee of the Whole

July 15, 2019

A Committee of the Whole of the Groton Board of Education was held on July 15, 2019 in Room 11 of the School Administration Building.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kim Watson, Chairperson, at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENT

Mrs. Kim Shepardson Watson, Chairperson
Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Vice Chairperson
Mrs. Jane Giulini
Mrs. Katrina Fitzgerald
Mrs. Gretchen Newsome
Mrs. Rita Volkmann
Mr. Jay Weitlauf

Dr. Michael Graner, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Susan Austin, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Sam Kilpatrick, Director of Buildings and Grounds

ABSENT

Mrs. Rosemary Robertson
Mrs. Lee White

1. Approval of Minutes of June 17, 2019

MOTION: Fitzgerald, Ackerman: To approve the minutes of June 17, 2019.
PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

2. Update re: Community Eligibility Program

Dr. Graner noted that we have applied to participate in the Community Eligibility Program, have received notification from the State that they are verifying the names of the students to participate in the program, and that we should hear if we qualify for the program by the end of next month.

3. Discussion of advertisement on the Baseball Field

Dr. Graner stated that he has spoken with the Athletic Director who noted that there was no advertisements on the baseball field. However, Mr. Kilpatrick stated that he saw advertisements on the field during the Schooner games.

Dr. Graner and Mr. Kilpatrick will investigate whether there is or is not advertisements on the baseball field as well as where the funds for the advertisements is going. They will also check the language of the Schooner Contract.

4. Update regarding the Connecticut Report Card [ATTACHMENT #1, 2]

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the timeline for State testing. Ms. Austin gave an extensive review of the Connecticut Report Card. Ms. Austin explained that Henry Martinez has been hired through the DoDEA Grant to support the district's data analysis.

Mrs. Volkmann stated that she feels there should be a Community Forum in each school to explain the data.

5. Student Attendance Update (Attachment #3)

Ms. Austin gave an overview of the Student Attendance Data.

6. Update regarding the turnover of Pleasant Valley School to the Town (Attachments #4, 5)

Dr. Graner gave an overview of the flow chart for turning Pleasant Valley School over to the Town. Dr. Graner shared his thoughts regarding the status of Pleasant Valley School and the use of the building when closed.

7. Suggested Future Topics

Dr. Ackerman suggested a discussion on how the College prep courses are doing.

Ms. Austin suggested an update report on Transition K.

Dr. Ackerman asked the status of plans for a Retreat.

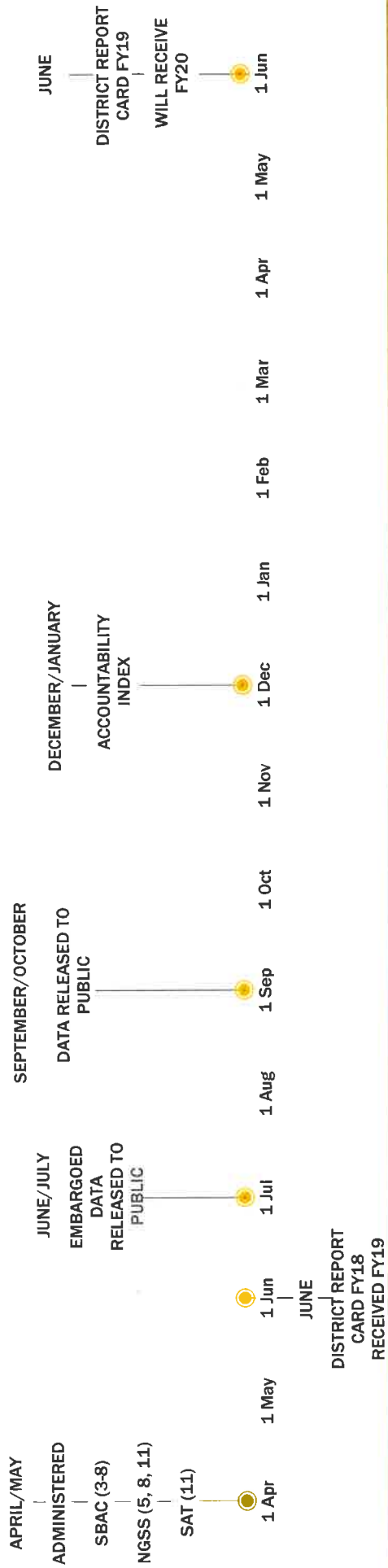
8. Adjournment

MOTION: Ackerman, Weitlauf:

To adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

PASSED – UNANIMOUSLY

Timeline for State Testing Data



Connecticut Report Cards

Groton School District

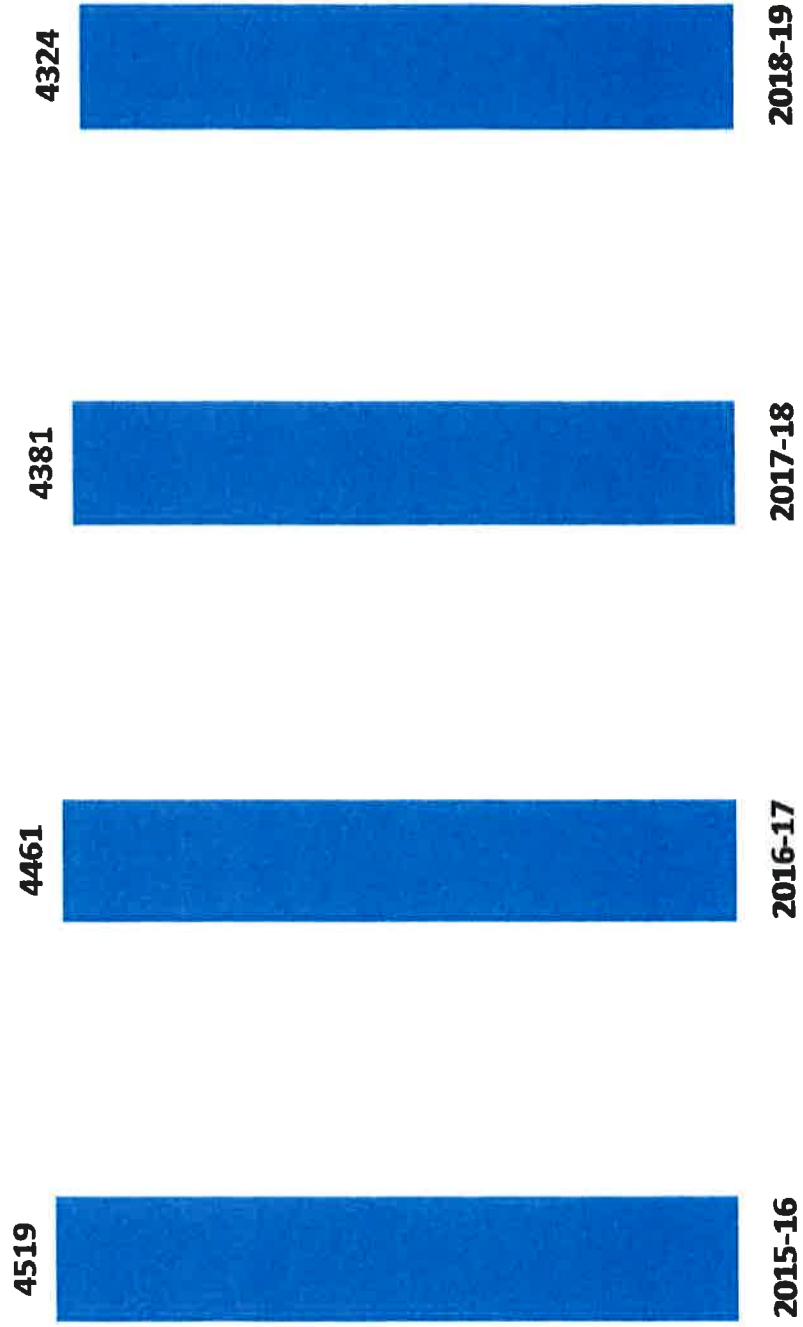
- 4324 students
- 12 schools/programs
- \$16,454 per pupil
- 453.1 certified staff FTE

Report Content:

1. Students
2. Educators
3. Instruction/Resources
4. Performance

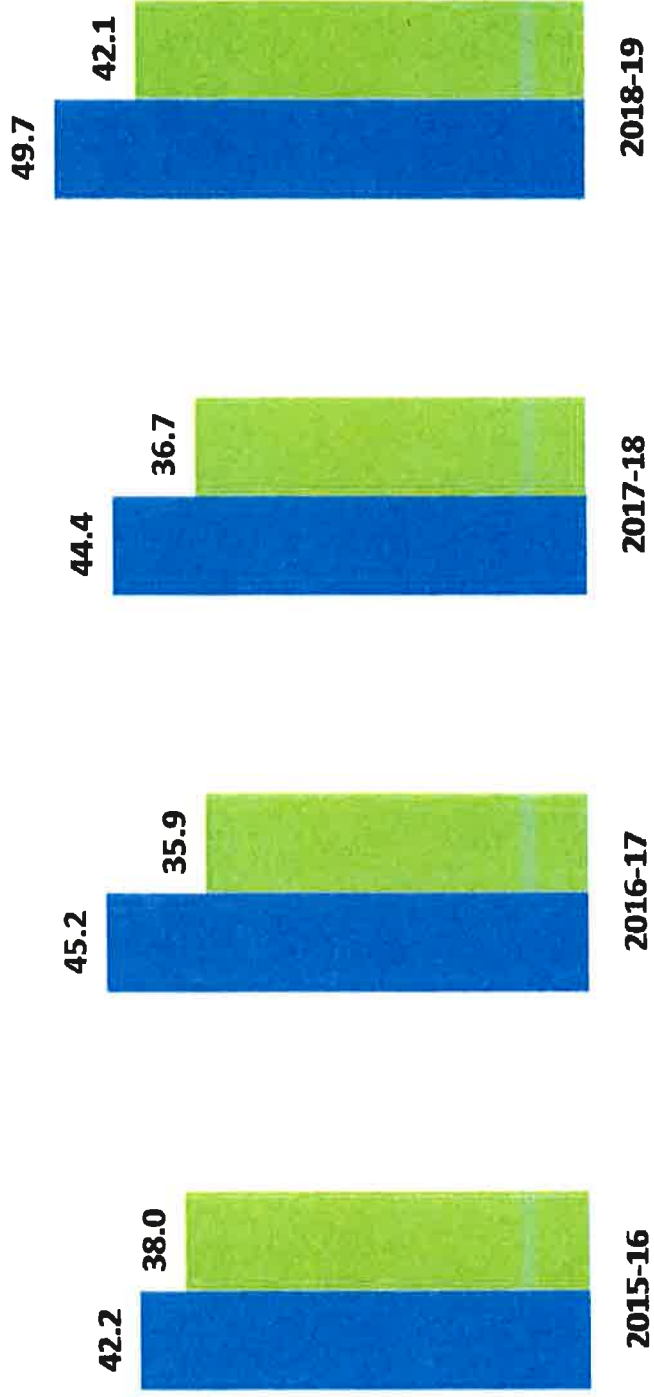
Students

District Enrollment

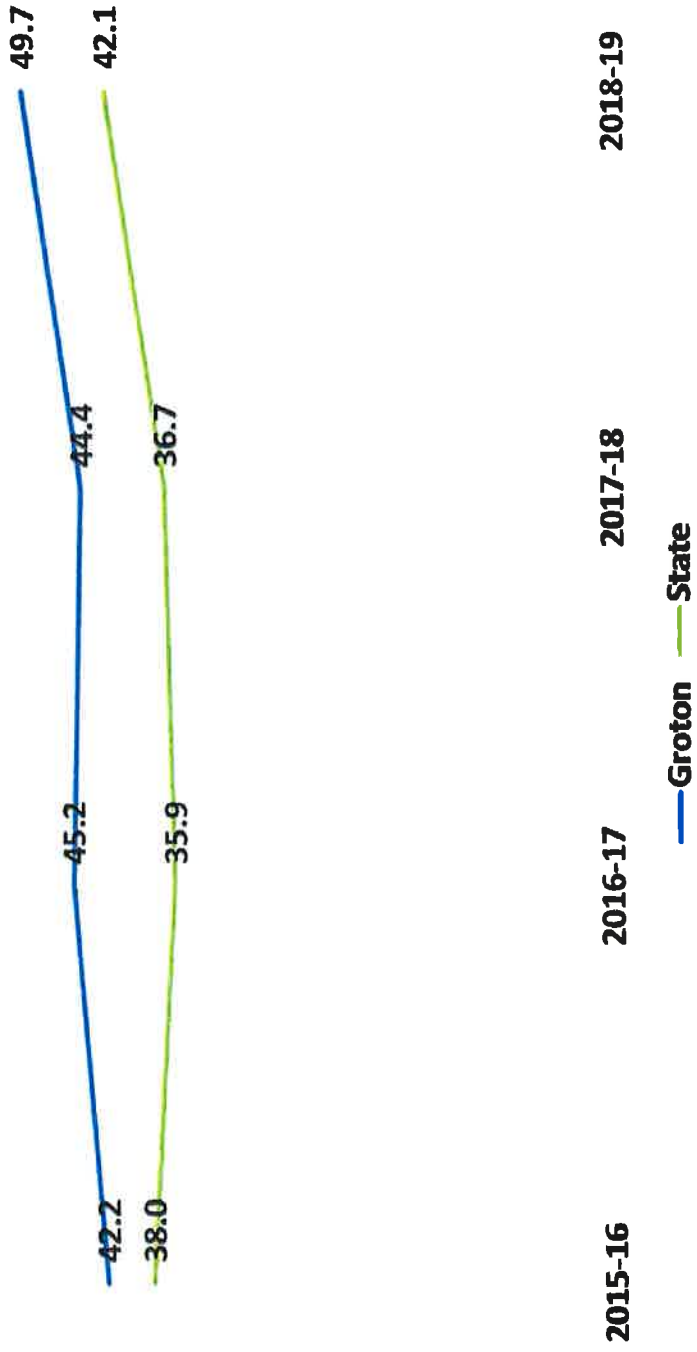


Percentage Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals

■ Groton ■ State

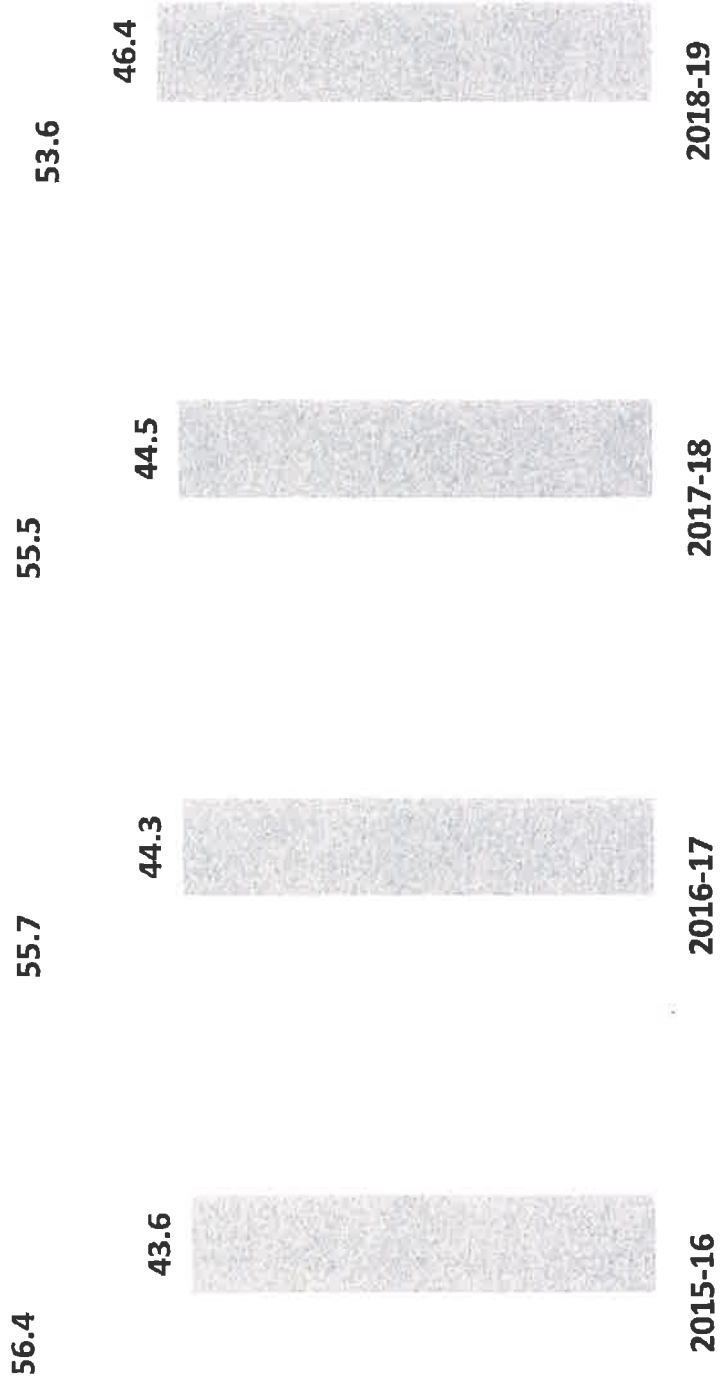


Percentage Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals



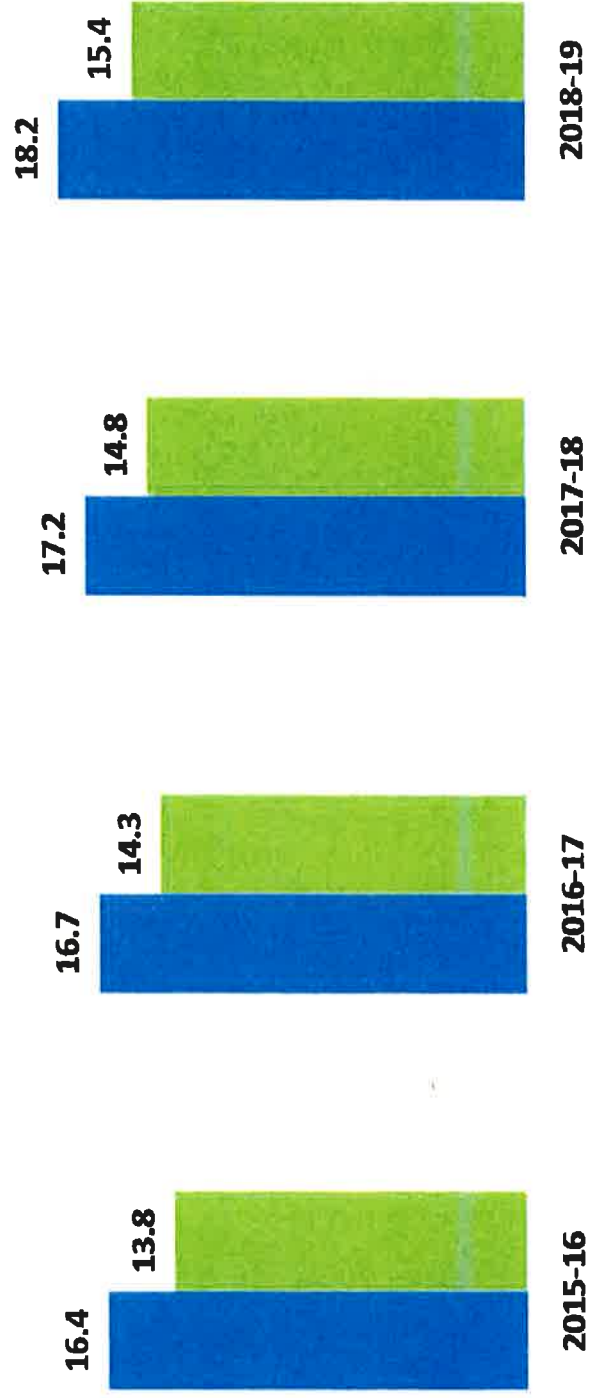
Racial Balance Report

White ■ Minority



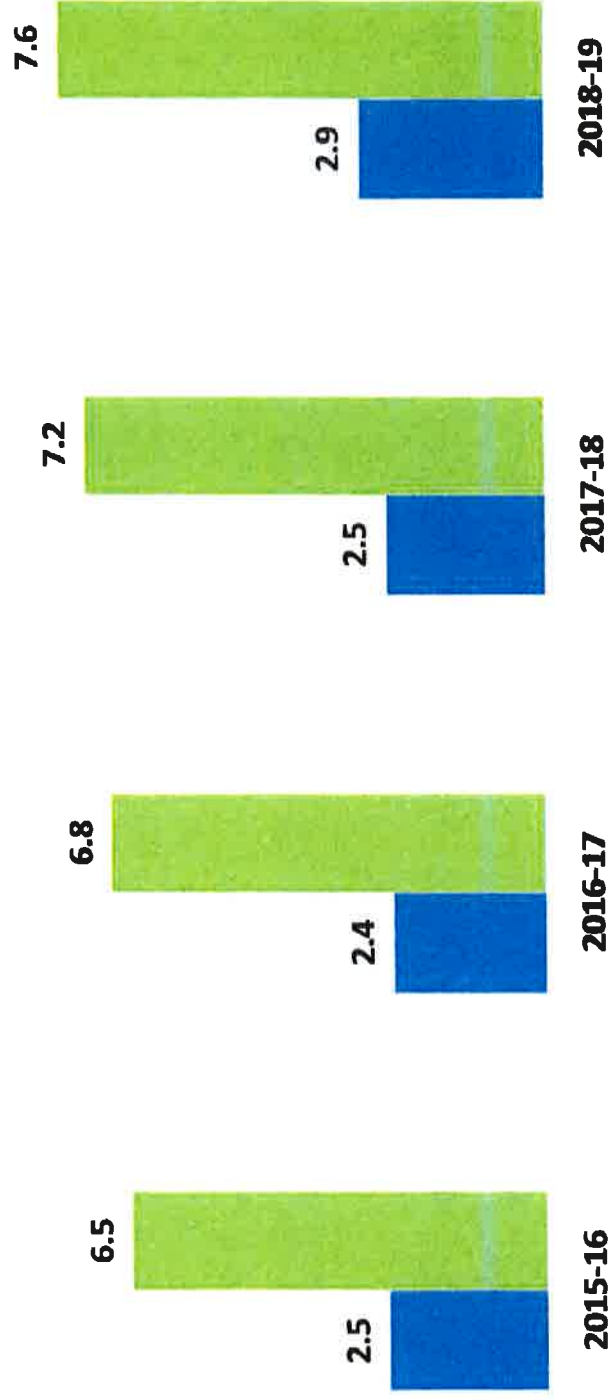
Percentage Students with Disabilities

■ Groton ■ State

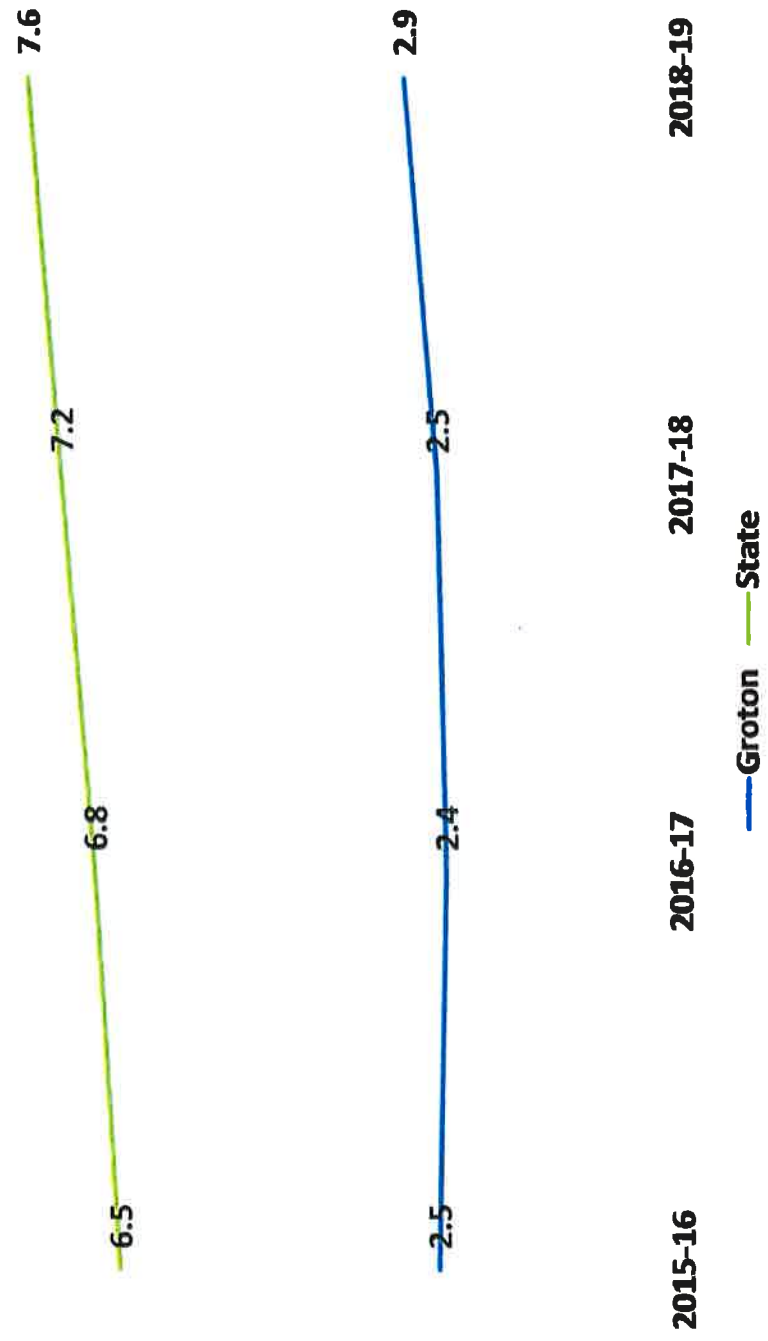


Percentage English Learners

■ Groton ■ State



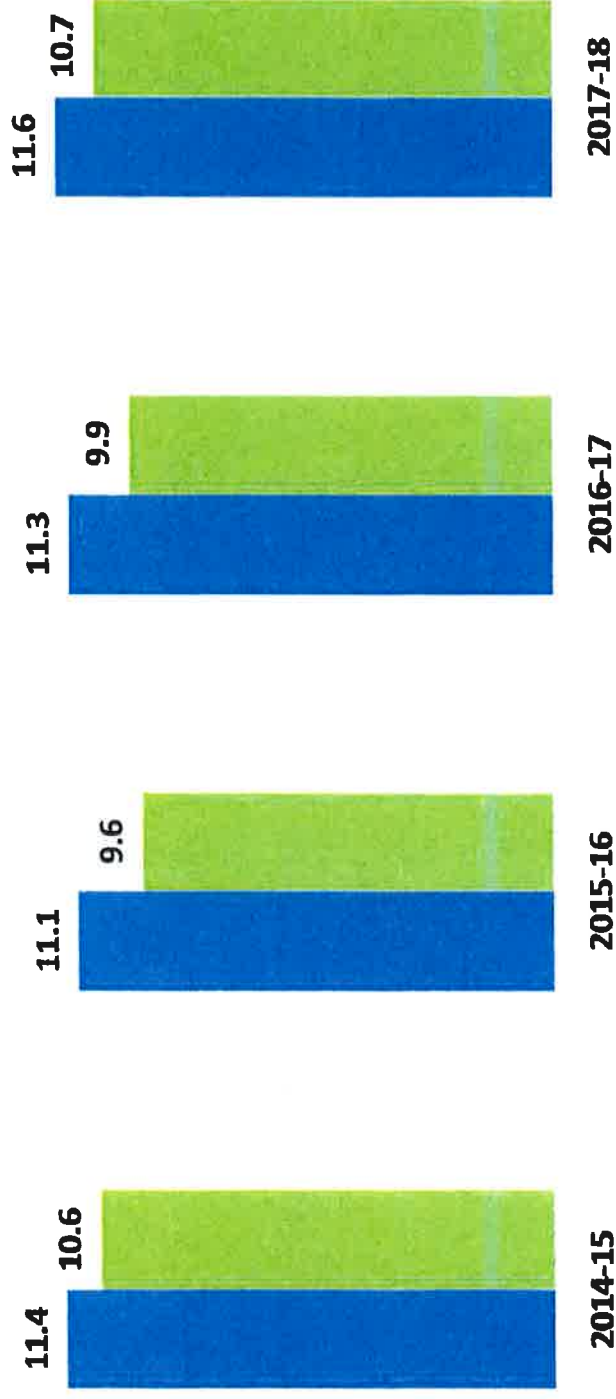
Percentage English Learner



Percentage of Students Chronically Absent

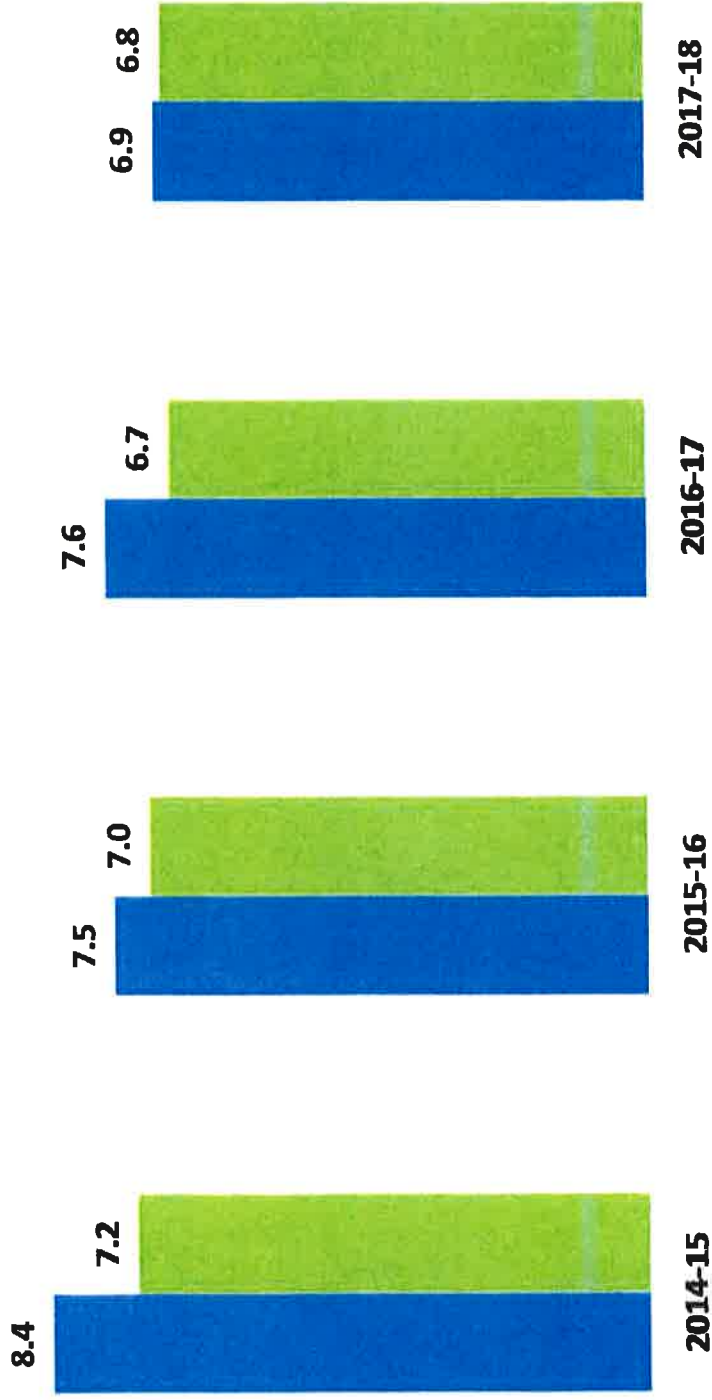
Target ≤ 5

■ Groton ■ State

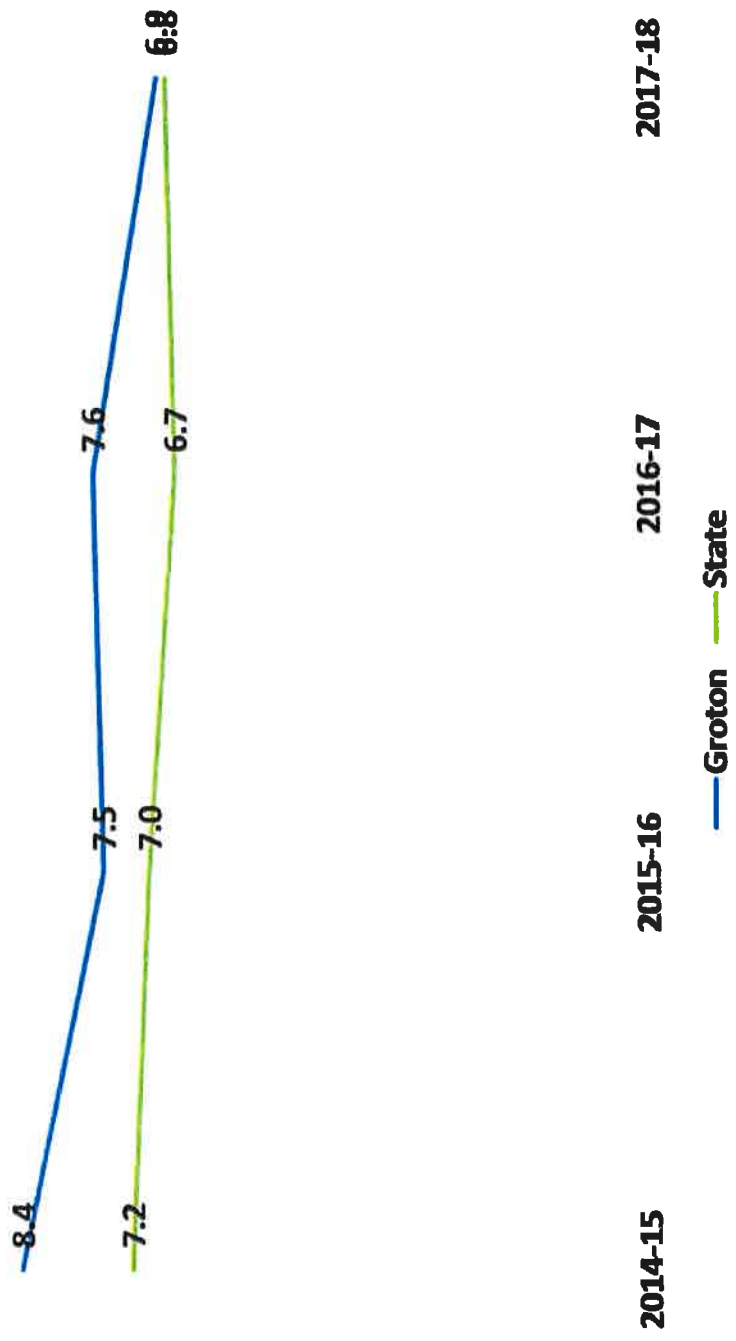


Suspension/Expulsion Rate

Groton State

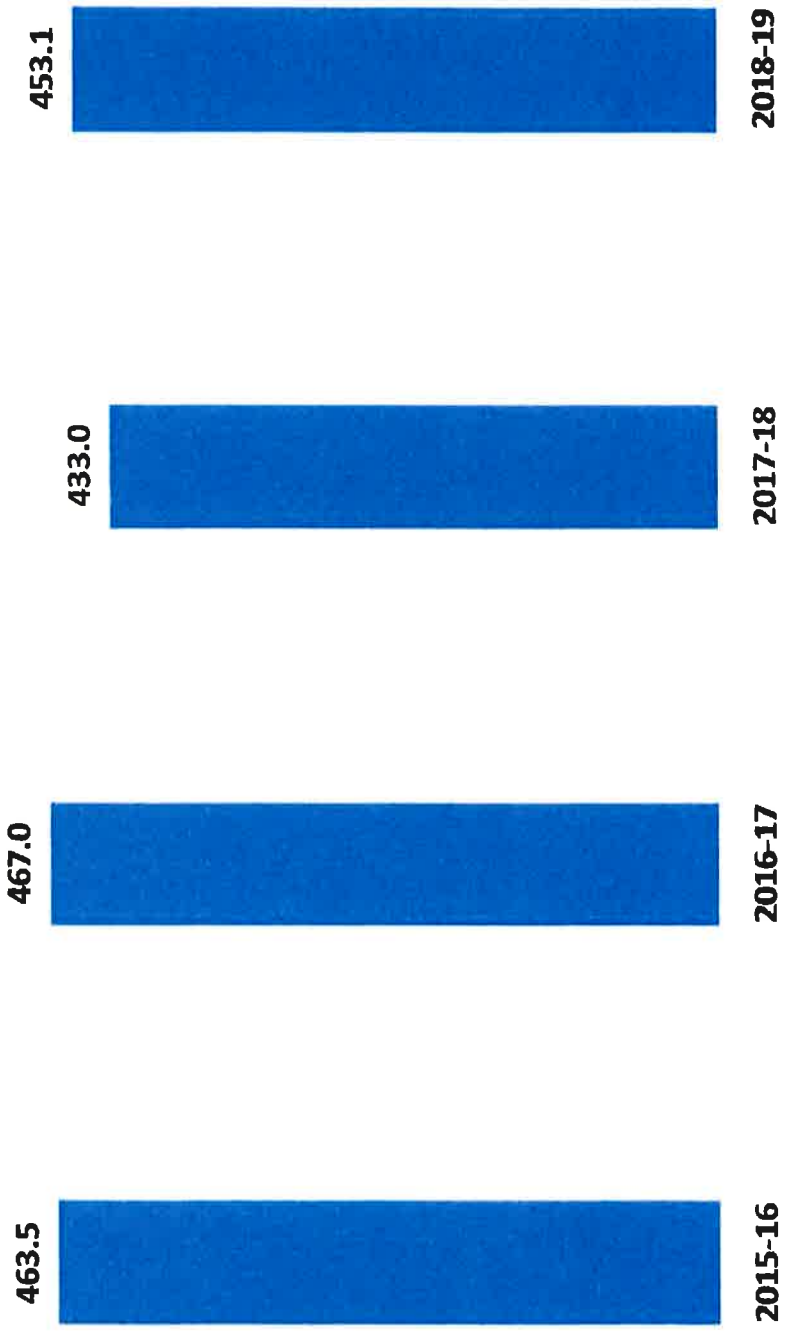


Suspension/Expulsion Rate



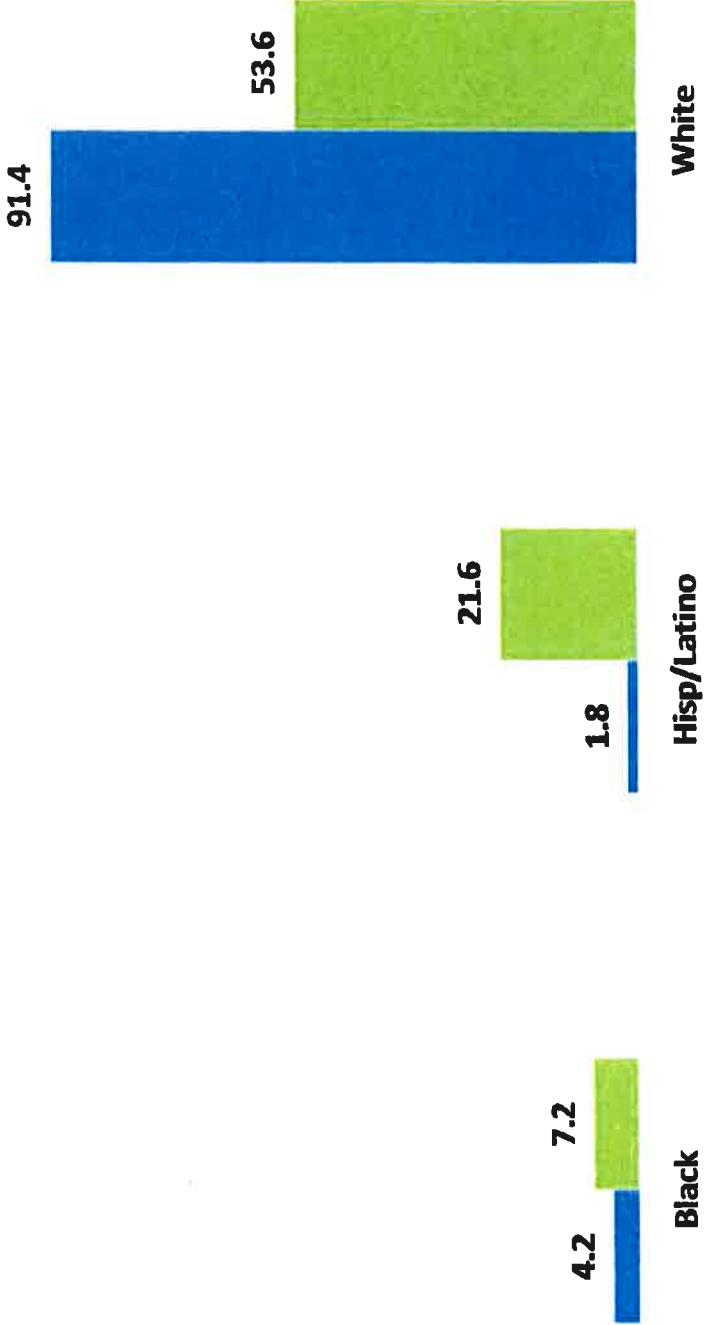
Educators

Certified Staff Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)



Percentage by Race/Ethnicity 2018-19

■ Staff ■ Student

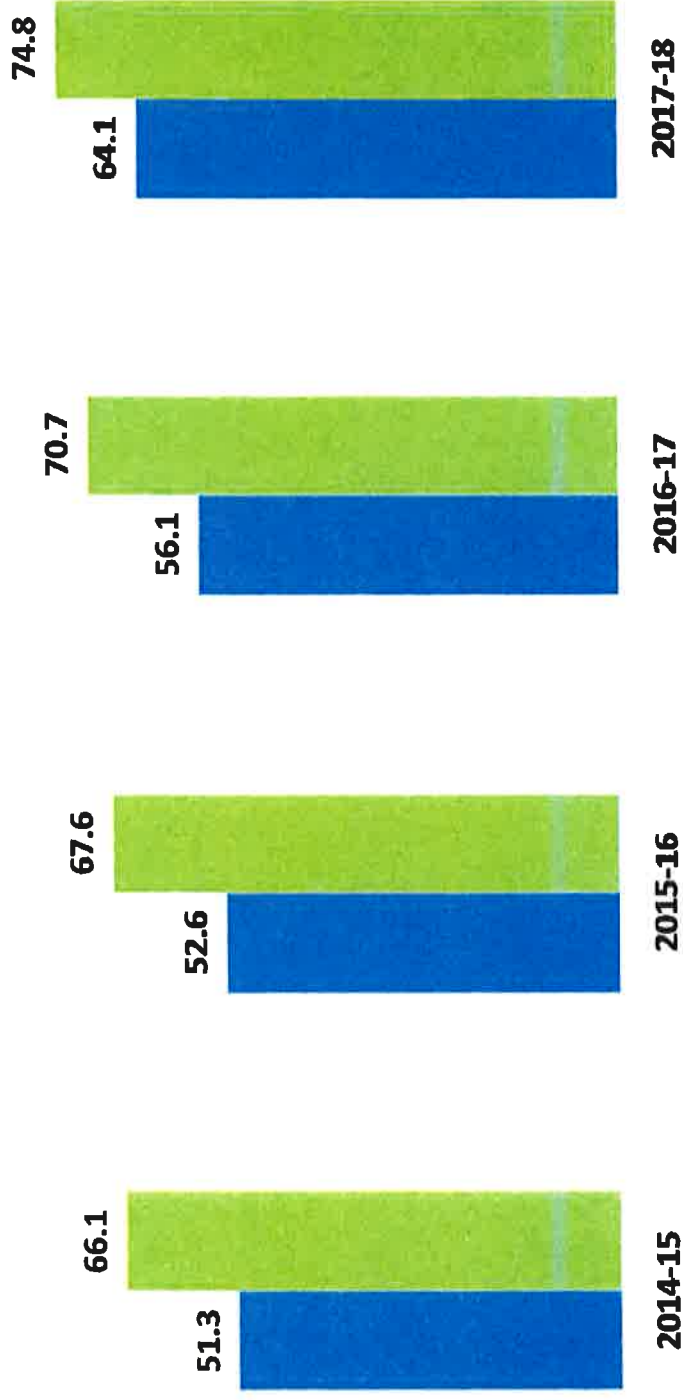


Instruction/Resources

College-and-Career-Readiness Course-Taking

Target: 75

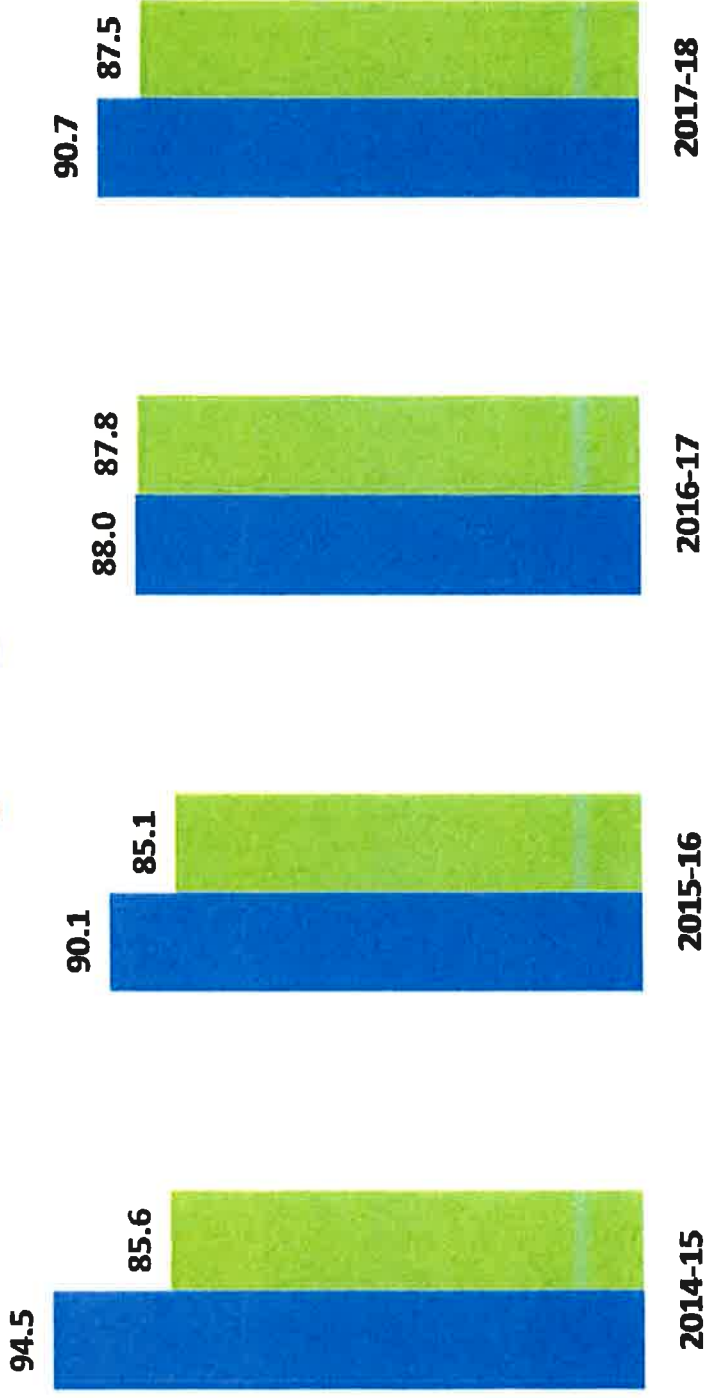
■ Groton ■ State



On-Track to High School Graduation

Target: 94

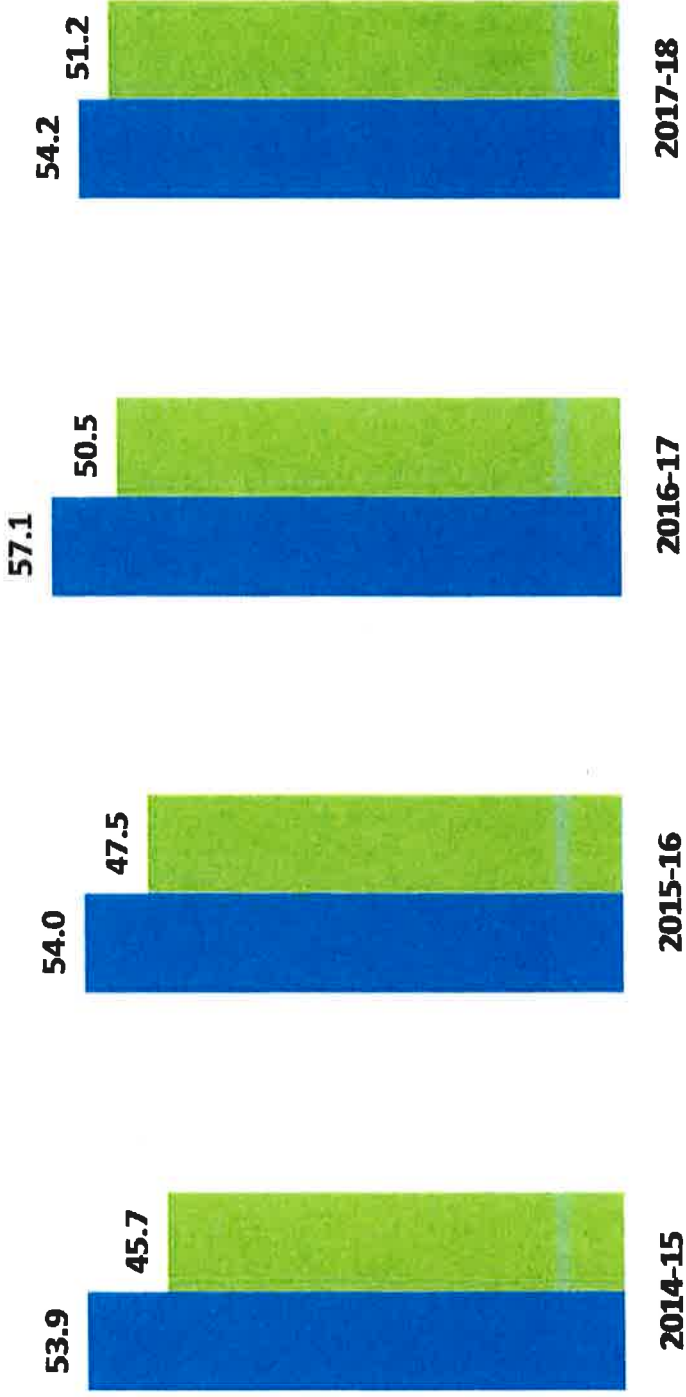
■ Groton ■ State



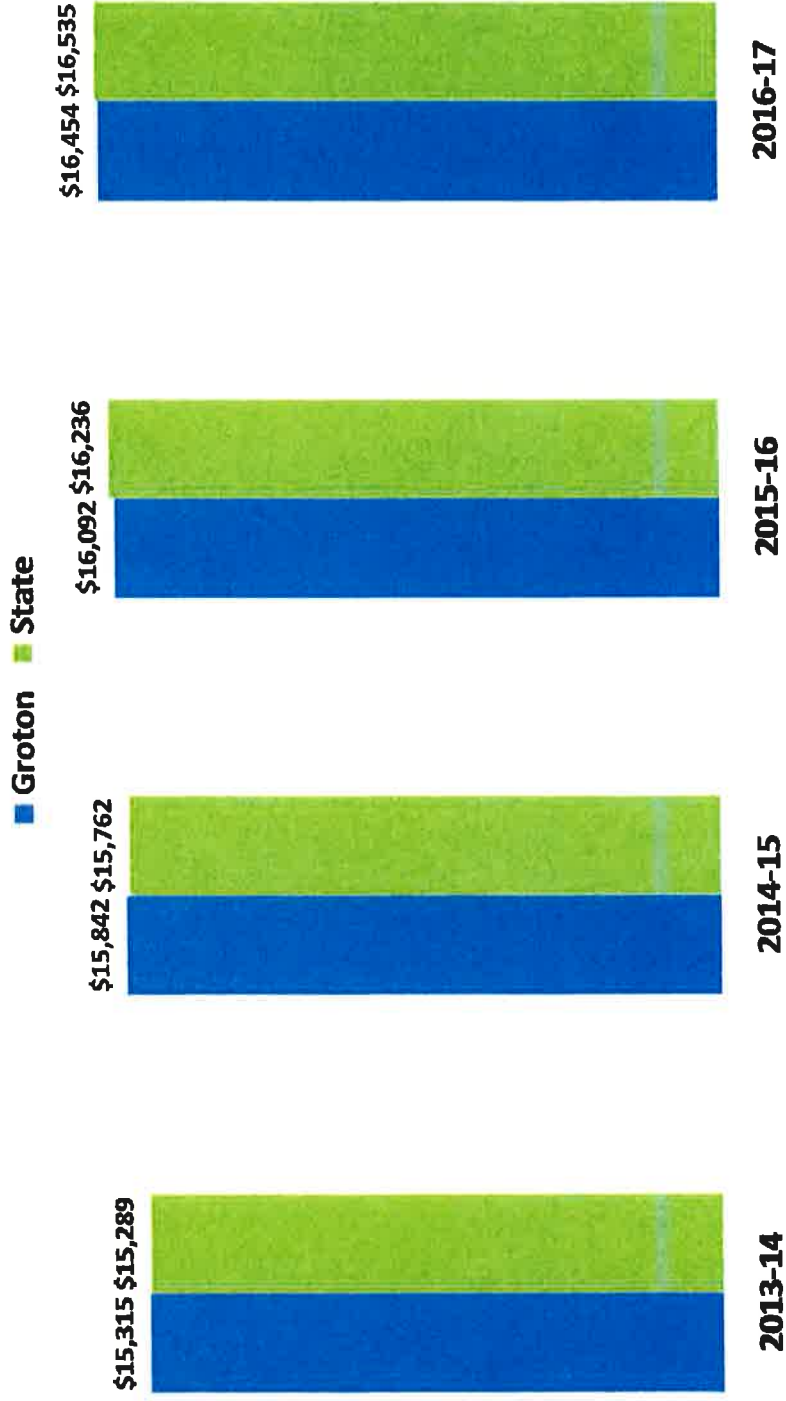
Arts Access

Target: 60

■ Groton ■ State

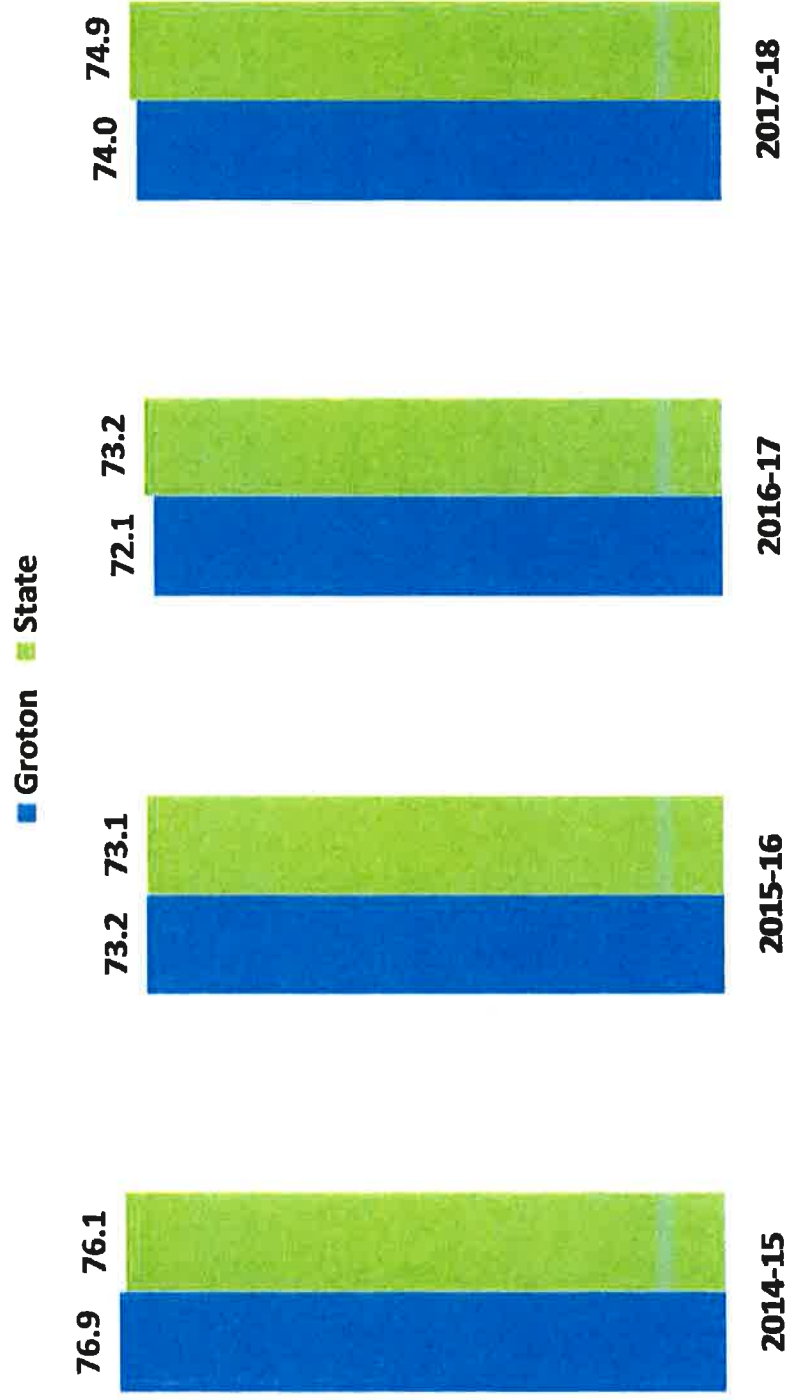


Per Pupil Expenditures



Performance

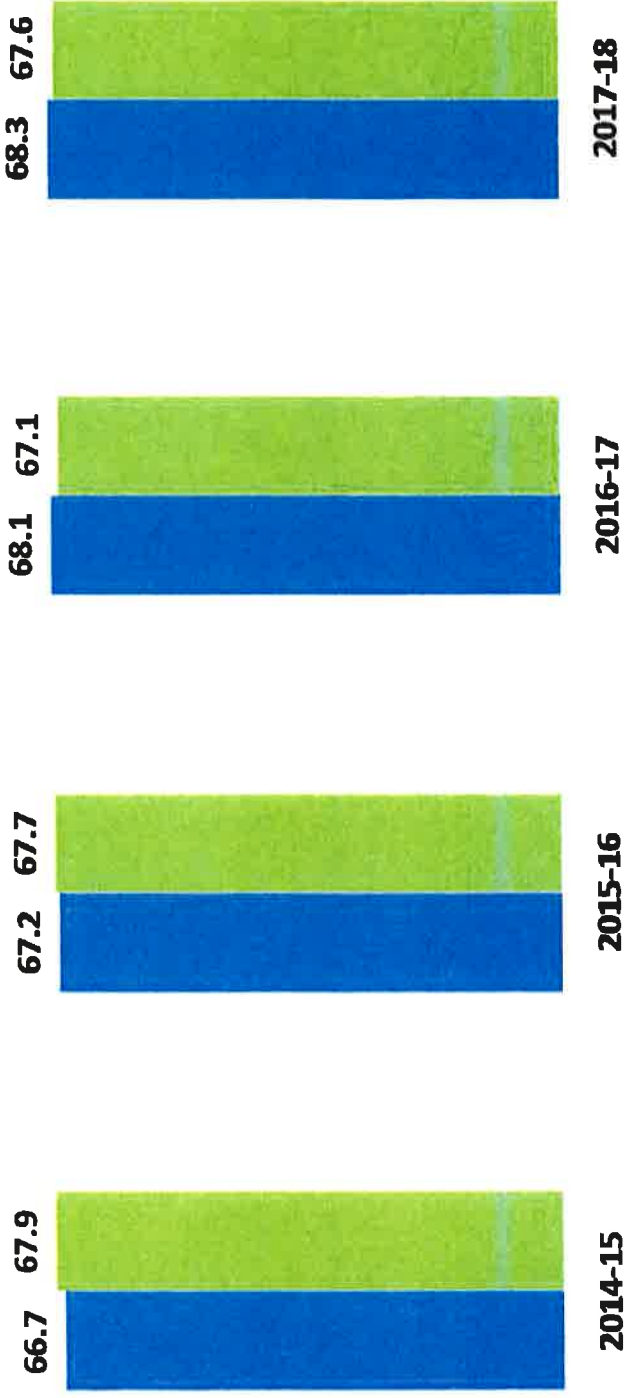
Next Generation Accountability Index



District Performance Index (DPI), ELA

Target: 75

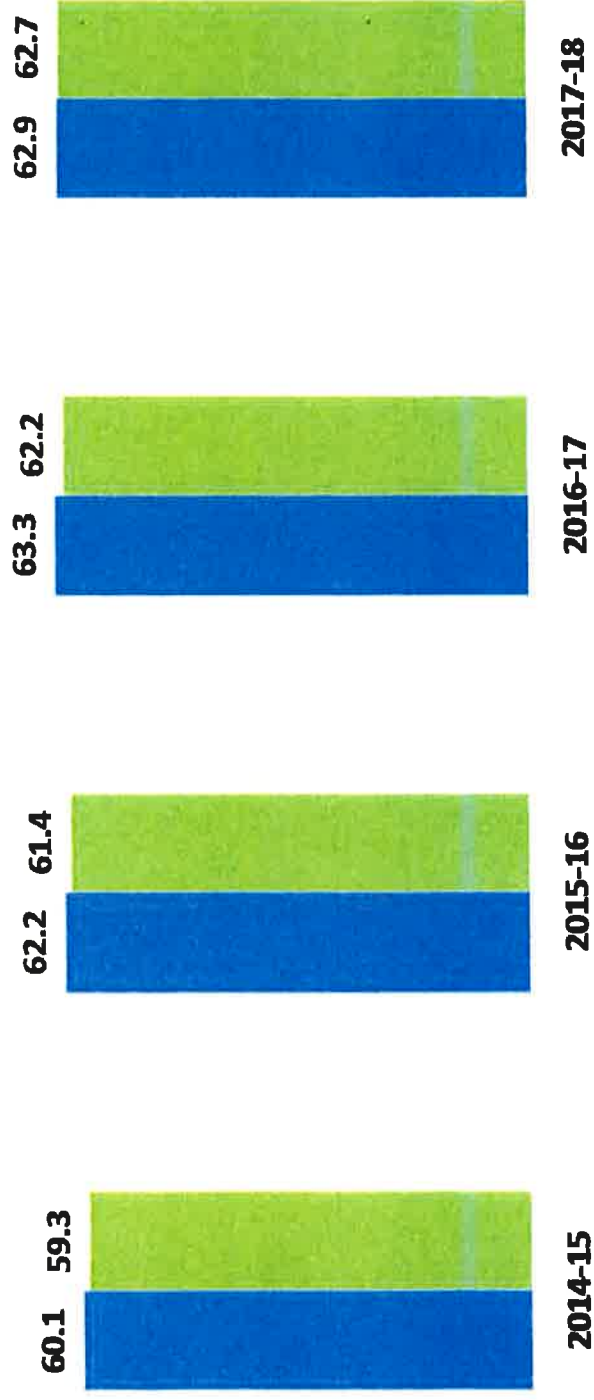
■ Groton ■ State



District Performance Index (DPI), Math

Target: 75

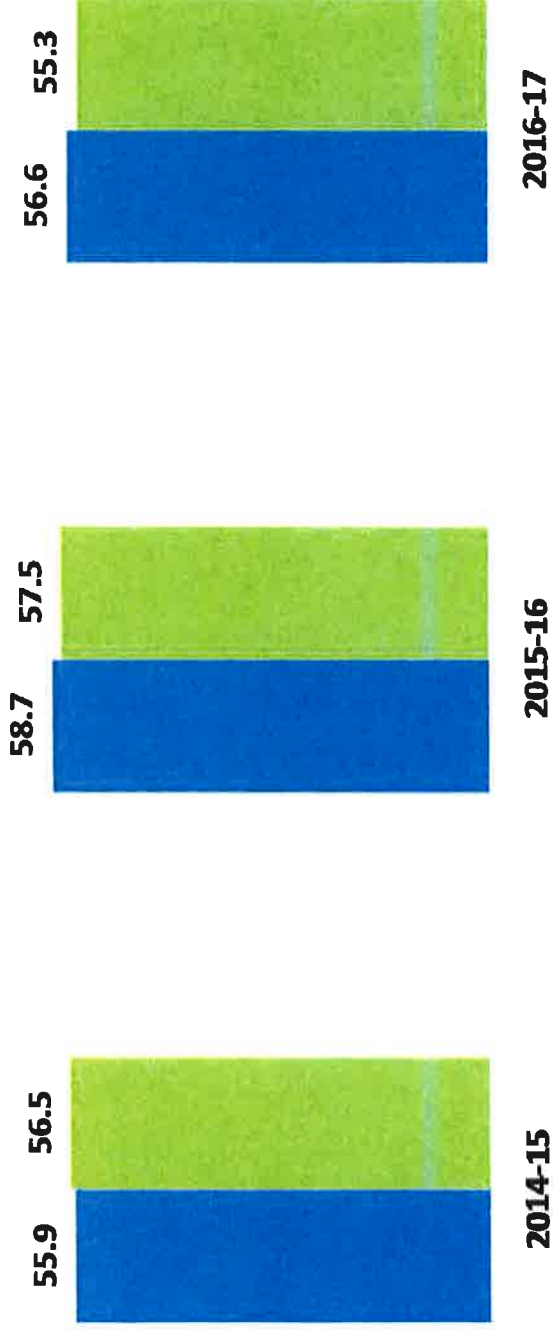
■ Groton ■ State



District Performance Index (DPI), Science

Target: 75

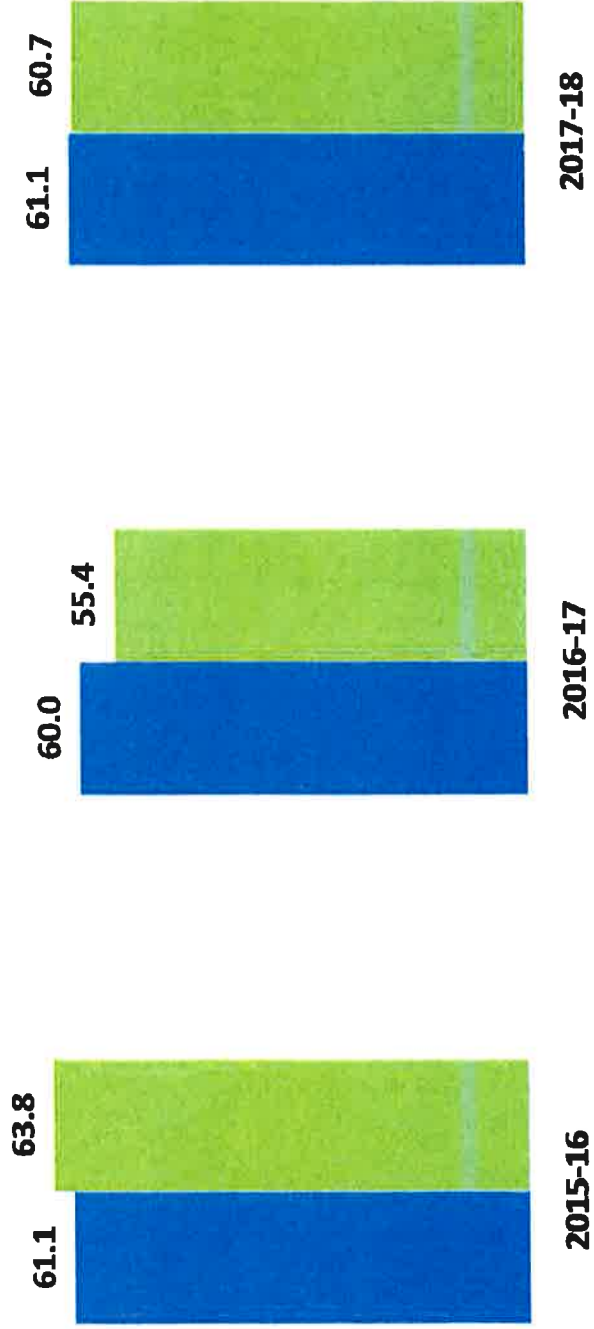
■ Groton ■ State



Smarter Balanced Growth, ELA

Target: 100

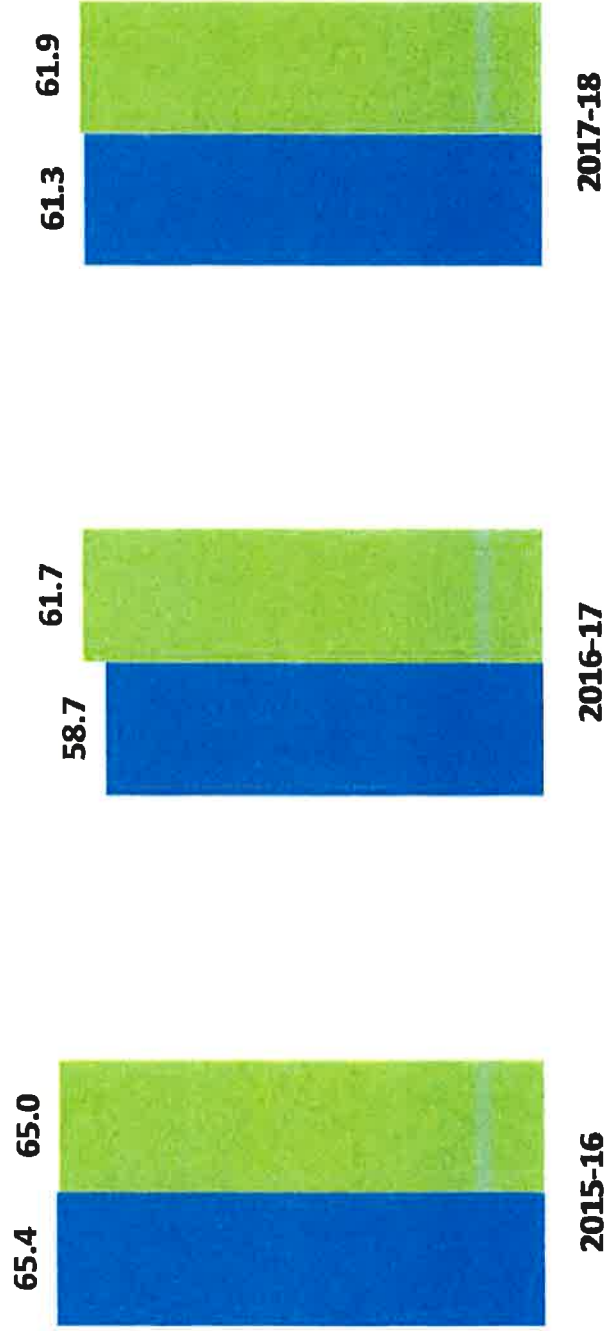
■ Groton ■ State



Smarter Balanced Growth, Math

Target: 100

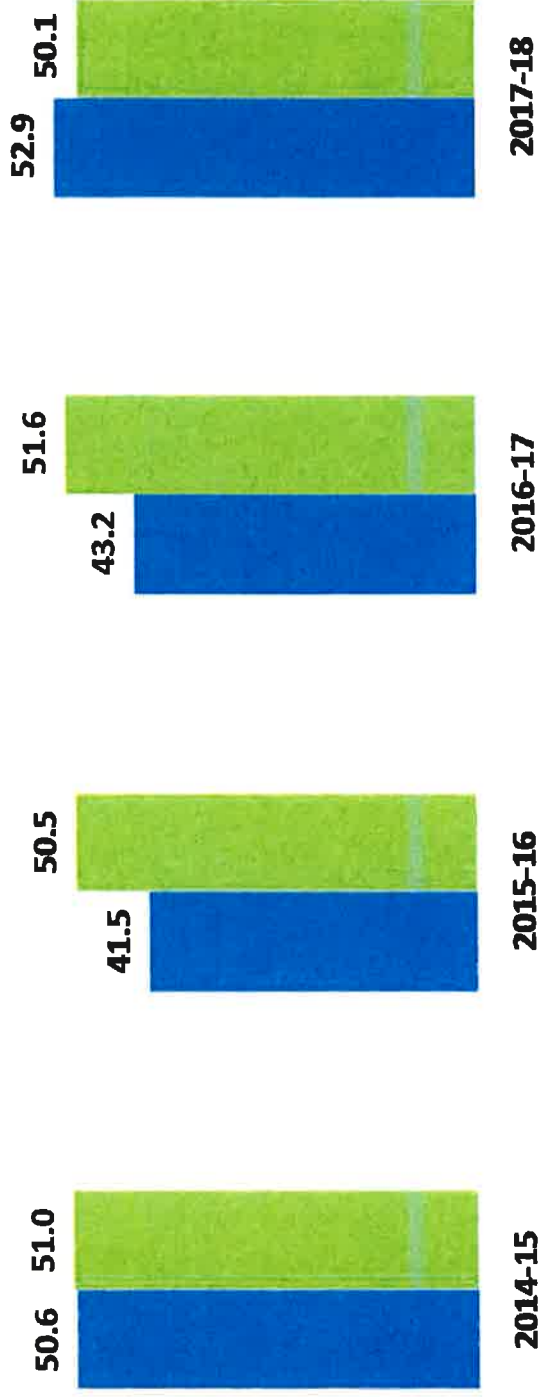
■ Groton ■ State



Percentage of Students Reaching Fitness Standard

Target: 75

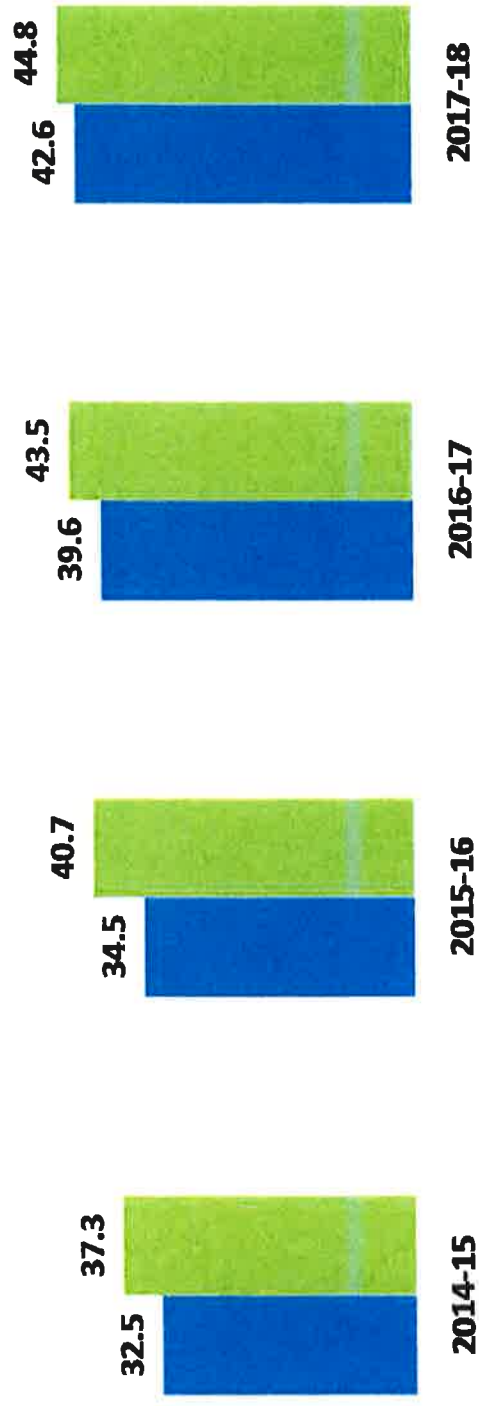
■ Groton ■ State



Meeting Benchmark on College Readiness Exam

Target: 75

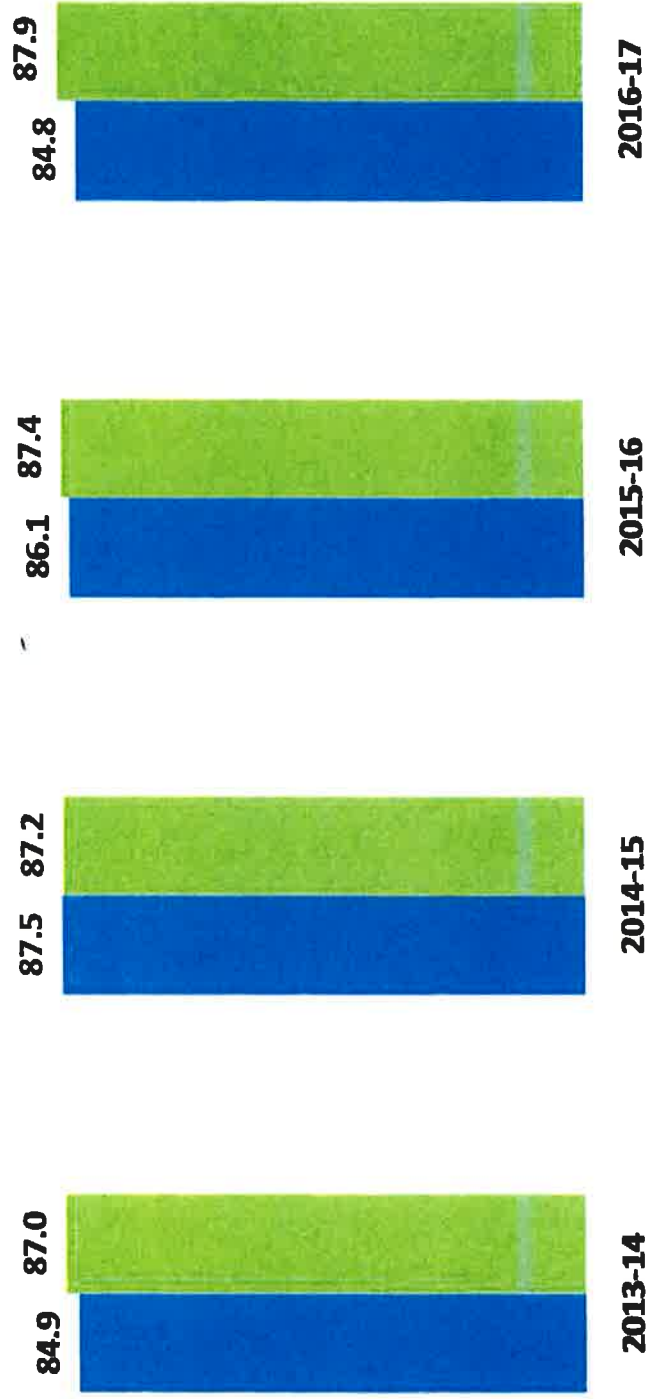
■ Groton ■ State



Four-Year Graduation Rate

Target: 94

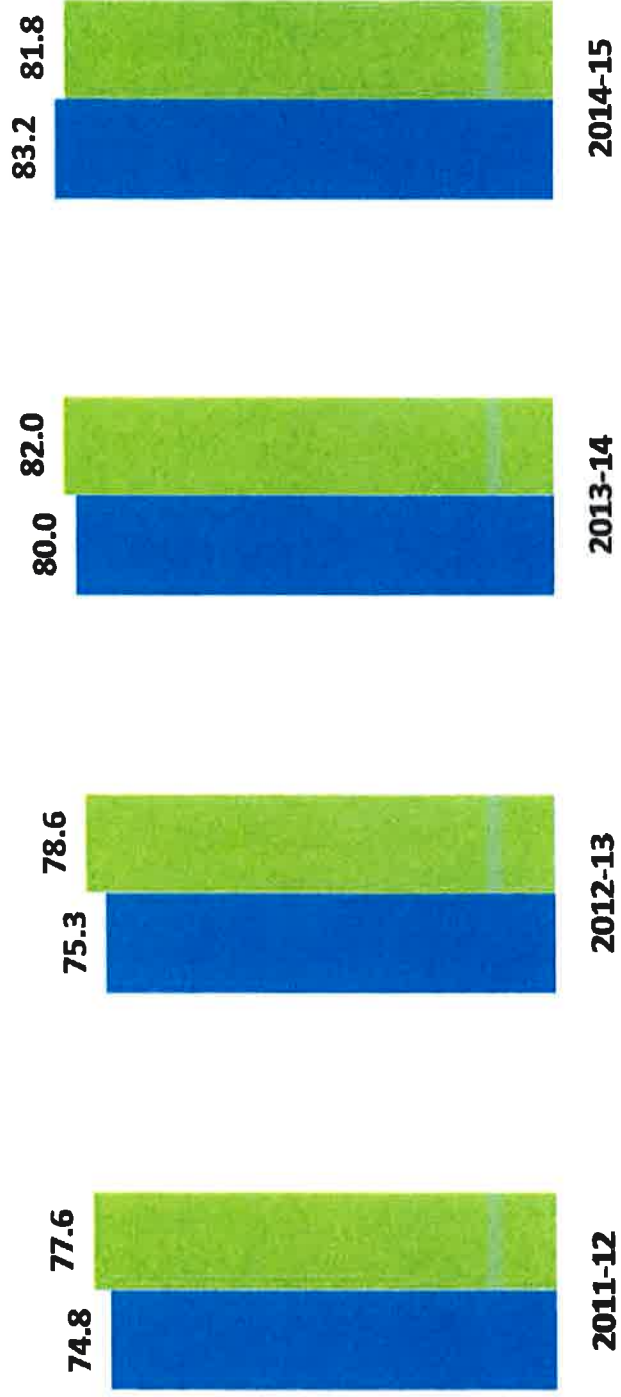
■ Groton ■ State



Six-Year High Needs Graduation Rate

Target: 94

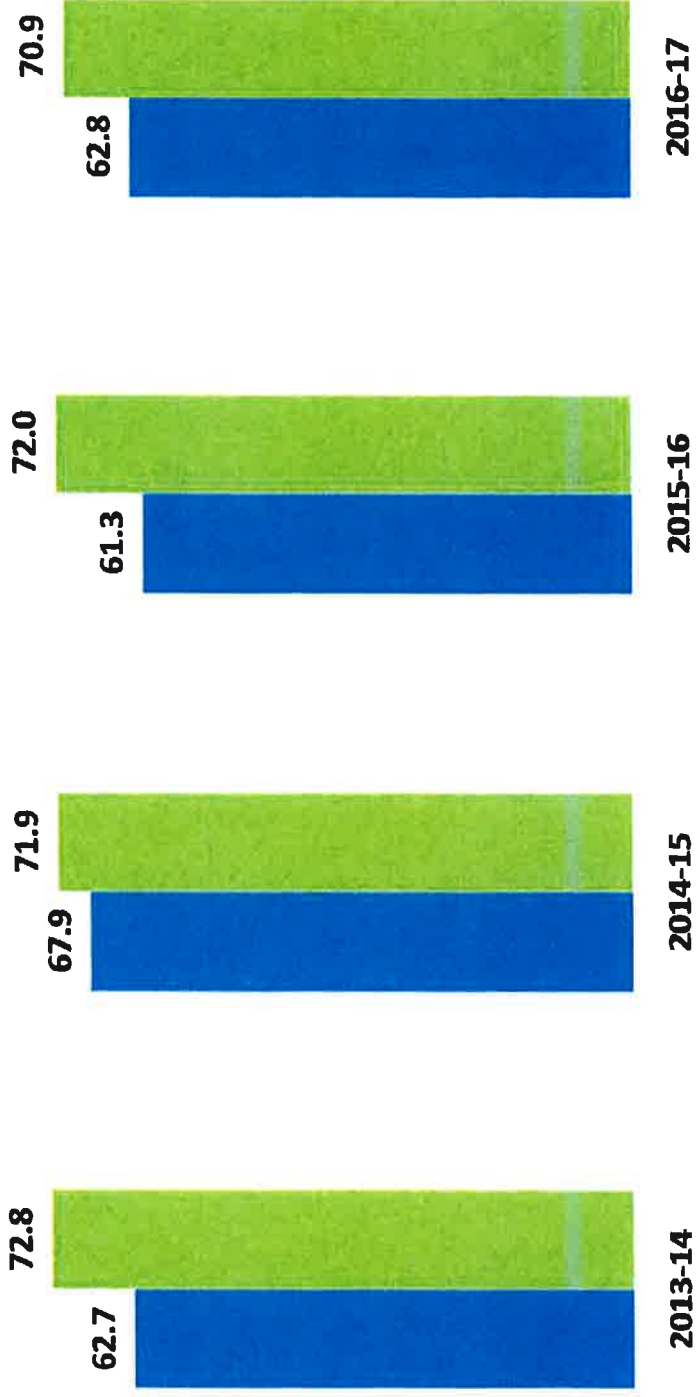
■ Groton ■ State



College Entrance

Target: 75

■ Groton ■ State



Narrative

School District Improvement Plans and Parental Outreach Activities, 2017-18

- We use a variety of formative and summative assessments as part of our yearly assessment calendar to inform curriculum and instruction.
- These assessments include the state-wide SBAC assessments, the SBAC pilot science exams, and the eleventh grade SAT exam. At the elementary and middle school level has a literacy and math specialist.
- High school department chairs coordinate department efforts in the various disciplines. Entering its fourth year of the Columbia's Teacher College Reading and Writing Project, which include coaching of K-8 teachers.
- Teachers are working with distinguished math consultant, Dr. Cathy Fosnot, on inquiry-based math workshop.
- We continue to focus on culture and climate in all of our schools. We have begun to implement restorative justice practices at all levels.
- We host a series of "Parent Information Nights" at each individual school during the early evening hours to further promote community outreach and parental involvement.
- The district applied for and was approved for a candidacy for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program in grades 6-10.
- This initiative is aimed at significantly expanding enrollment in the International Baccalaureate programs offered by the district.

Efforts to Reduce Racial, Ethnic and Economic Isolation, 2017-18

- The Groton Public School System continues to make a concerted effort to ensure that our students receive an educational experience which enables them to interact with teachers and students from diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds.
- We received extensive professional development training from the National Urban Alliance.
- The National Urban Alliance training presents educators with specific instructional strategies that are anchored in cognitive research and that also promote positive classroom environments to cast a wide net on different learners.
- At our high school, where 44% of the students are eligible for free and reduced lunch, the district implemented a 1-2-1 Chromebook initiative.
- Other opportunities to offer enriching and diverse experience for our student population included student trips to the Mystic Seaport, the Mystic Aquarium, Project Oceanology, and the Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra, and partnering with the U.S. Naval Submarine Base.
- Fitch High School students participated in a regional diversity program called More Than Words.

Equitable Allocation of Resources among District Schools, 2017-18

- The Groton Board of Education's policy concerning the annual distribution of resources ensures that each of the nine schools in the district receives an adequate level of material, supplies, and personnel to implement and execute educational programs.
- Funding is based on student enrollment, district-wide educational programs, and the unique needs of its students, commensurate with district goals and available resources to ensure equity and address needs.

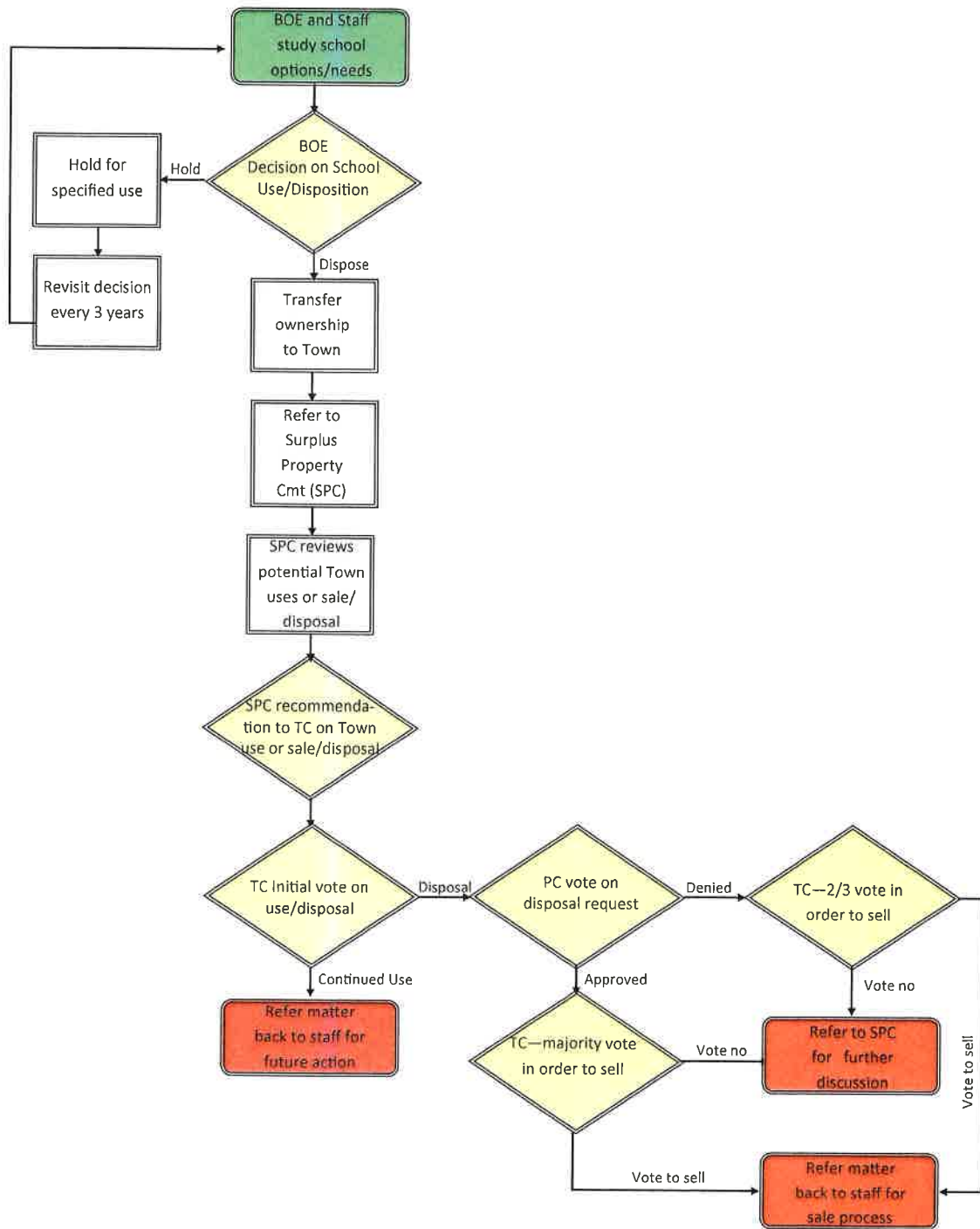
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 2018-2019



ABSENTEEISM

■ Absent less than 10%
 ■ Absent 10% or more (Chronic)





Status of Pleasant Valley School

2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed – under BoE control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 30, 2019 – turn over Pleasant Valley to the town • One year use of Pleasant Valley by Robotics team and use of A-frame for storage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robotics – site needed for team usage • Remove all equipment and supplies from A-frame, possible storage alternative (3 portables- WSMS (1)/CMS (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BoE closes Claude Chester, S. B. Butler, and Mary Morrisson Schools • Claude Chester – turnover to the town July 2021 • S. B. Butler – BoE retains as storage facility and possible Robotics team site • Mary Morrisson – BoE keeps control and maintains building for a limited number of years; monitor elementary school enrollment and determine if school may be needed for future use