

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Shepardson Watson-Chairperson, Andrea Ackerman-Vice Chairperson, (Remote), Dean Antipas, William Horgan (remote - arrived at 6:08 p.m.), Elizabeth Porter, Matthew Shulman, Rita Volkmann, Jay Weitlauf (remote - arrived at 6:13 p.m.)

MEMBER ABSENT: Beverly Washington

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Austin, Phil Piazza, Sam Kilpatrick, Lauren Casini, Peter Bass, Jemal Davis, Keith Danieluk, Samantha Singleton

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Shepardson Watson called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. REVIEW OF OCTOBER 10, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Porter, Volkmann: To approve the October 10, 2023, meeting minutes.
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

III. REVIEW OF GMS DATA, ACTION PLANS, AND INTERVENTION - (Attachment #1)

Mr. Bass gave an overview of the GMS Summative Assessment Data:

- Student Population (Special Education/English Learner/Military Families/Racial Makeup/Lunch Status); Smarter Balanced Assessment; ELA: Building Level & Grade Level; GMS ELA Performance by Needs (High and Non-High Needs); GMS ELA Performance (High Needs – Subgroups); Grade 6-8 ELA Performance: “DRG” G; Math: Building Level & Grade Level; GMS Math Performance by Needs (High and Non-High Needs); GMS Math Performance (High Needs – Subgroups); Grade 6-8 Math Performance: “DRG” G (Students At/Above Benchmark); SBAC Performance by Race (Student At/Above Benchmark); Performance Distribution (by Counts and Percents); GMS Next Generation Science by Needs (by High Needs Student Count & Non-High Needs Student Count); GMS Next Generation Science Standards (High Needs – Subgroups); Grade 8 NGSS Performance by Race (Students at/above Benchmark); Grade 8 NGSS Performance: “DRG” G (Students at/above Benchmark).

Mr. Bass, Mr. Davis, Mr. Danieluk, and Ms. Singleton gave an overview of the GMS Action Plan.

IV. REVIEW OF DRAFT SCHOOL CALENDAR – (Attachment #2)

Superintendent Austin gave an overview of the draft 2024-2025 school calendar.

Mrs. Volkmann stated that she could not support the proposed calendar unless the start date was after Labor Day.

Mrs. Porter stated that the calendar should be in line with the other states and that she prefers a 12-month calendar.

V. REVIEW OF THE REFERRAL TRACKING SHEET

Mrs. Volkmann made a referral to the Policy Committee regarding PTO.

Mr. Shulman made a referral regarding the Mentor Program.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Porter, Shulman:

To adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY



GMS Summative Assessment Data

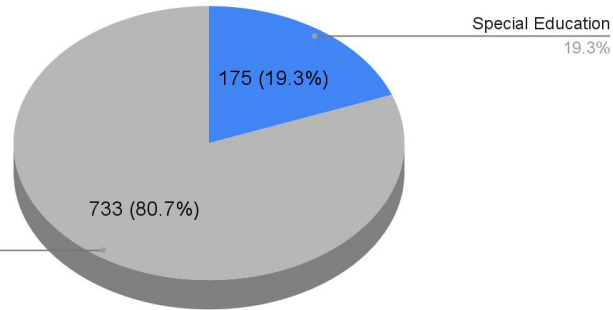
2022-2023



Student Population		
Grade 6: 312	Grade 7: 287	Grade 8: 309

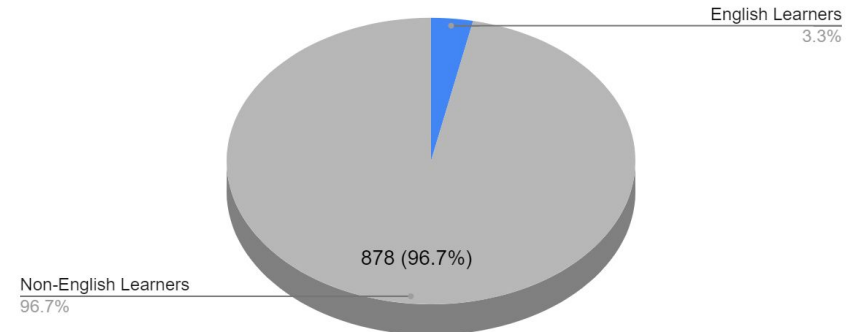
Special Education

2022-2023 School Year



English Learners

2022-2023 School Year

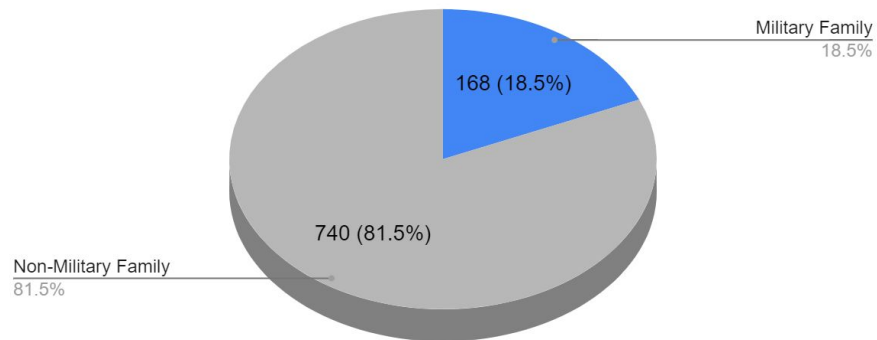


Groton Middle School
2022-2023



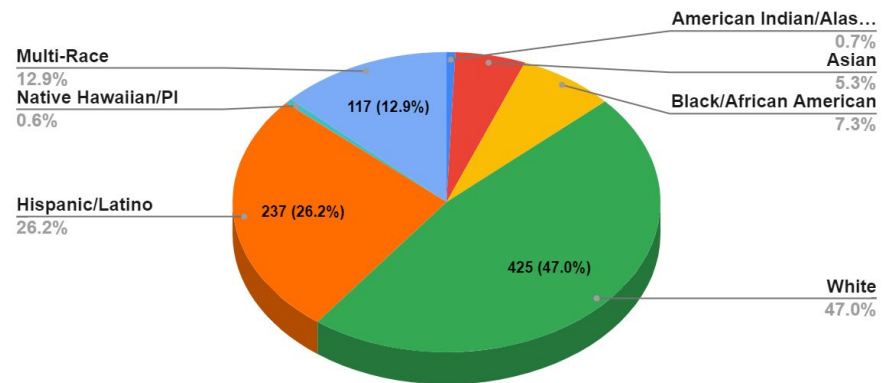
Military Families

2022-2023 School Year



Racial Makeup

2022-2023 School Year

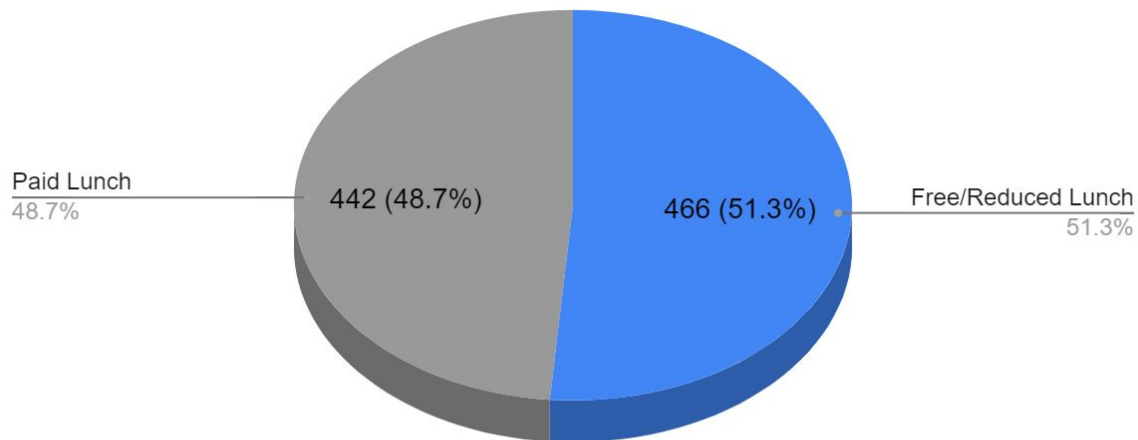


Groton Middle School
2022-2023



Lunch Status

2022-2023 School Year



Groton Middle School
2022-2023



Smarter Balanced Assessment

Achievement Levels

(According to Grade Level Standards)

Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4



Benchmark



	ELA: Building Level									
	Performance Distribution - Percents					Performance Distribution - Counts				
Student Count	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above
Total: 884	29%	26%	30%	14%	44%	259	229	268	128	396

	ELA: Grade Level									
	Performance Distribution - Percents					Performance Distribution - Counts				
Grade Level	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above
6 (311)	35%	28%	25%	12%	37%	107	89	79	36	115
7 (277)	28%	25%	32%	16%	48%	77	68	87	45	132
8 (296)	26%	24%	34%	16%	50%	75	72	102	47	149

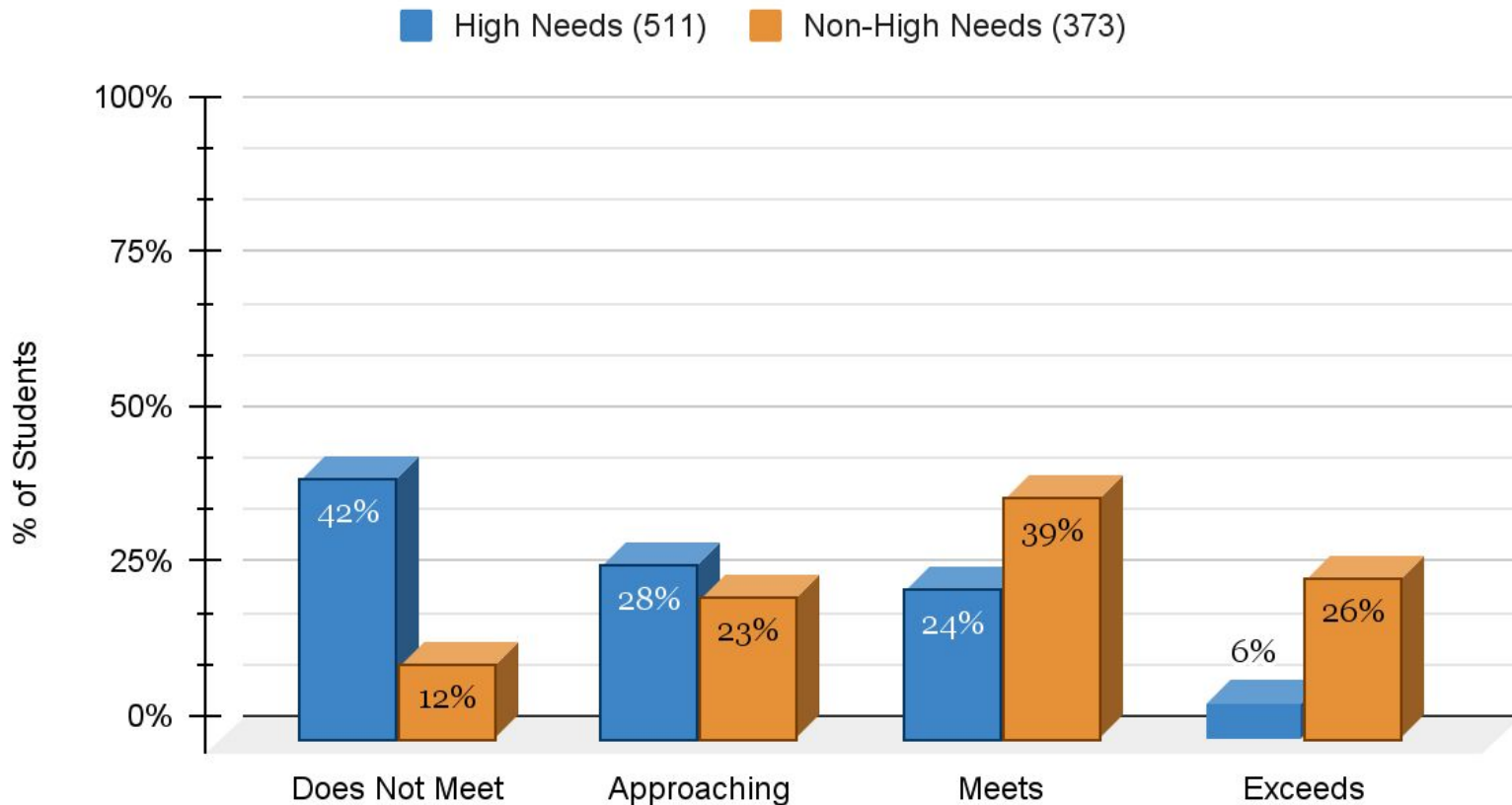
Smarter Balanced Assessment
2022-2023



Students in the “**high needs**” group belong to one or more of the following subgroups:

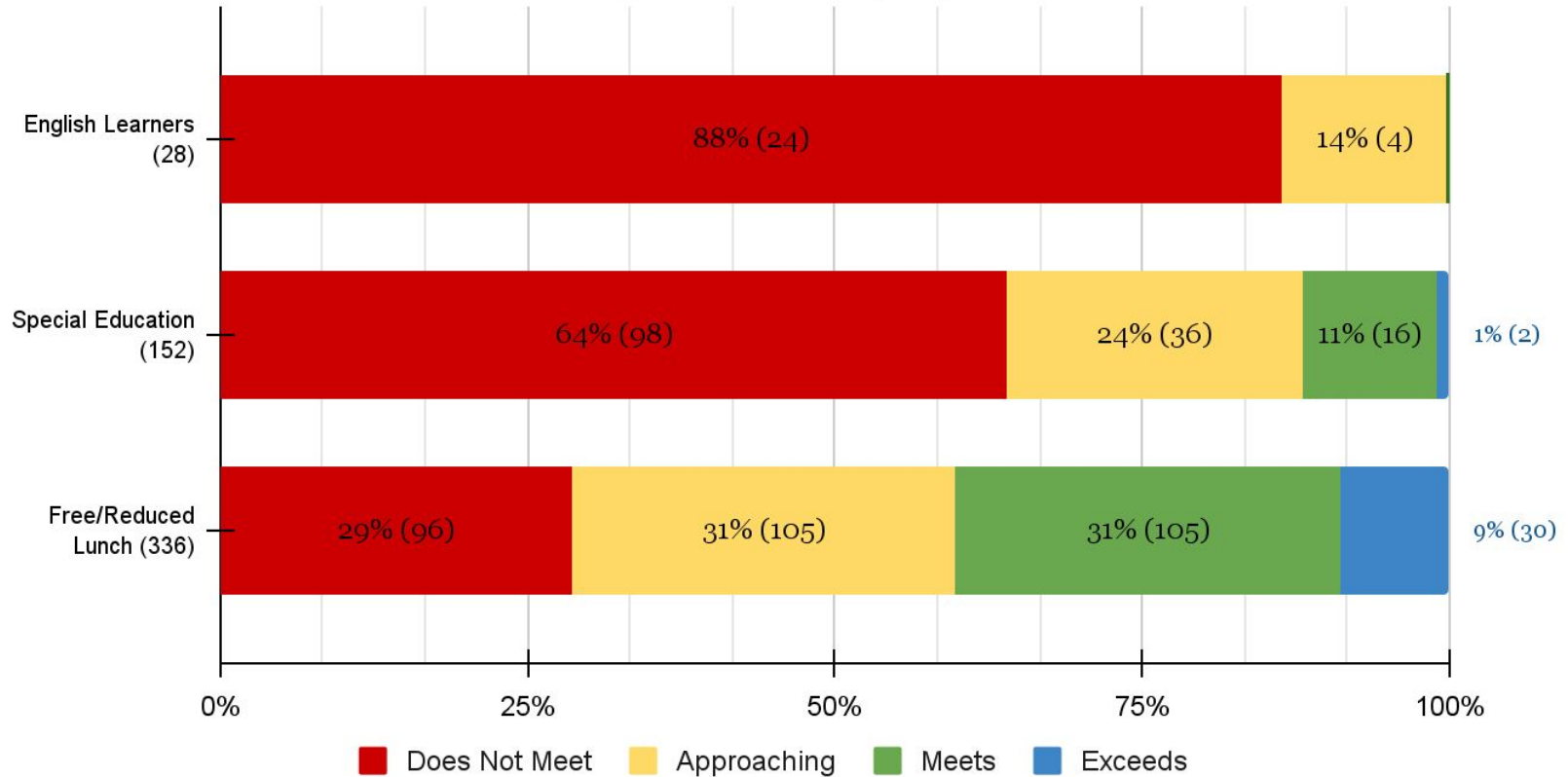
- Special Education
- Multi-Language Learners
- Economically Disadvantaged
(Qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch)

GMS ELA Performance by Needs



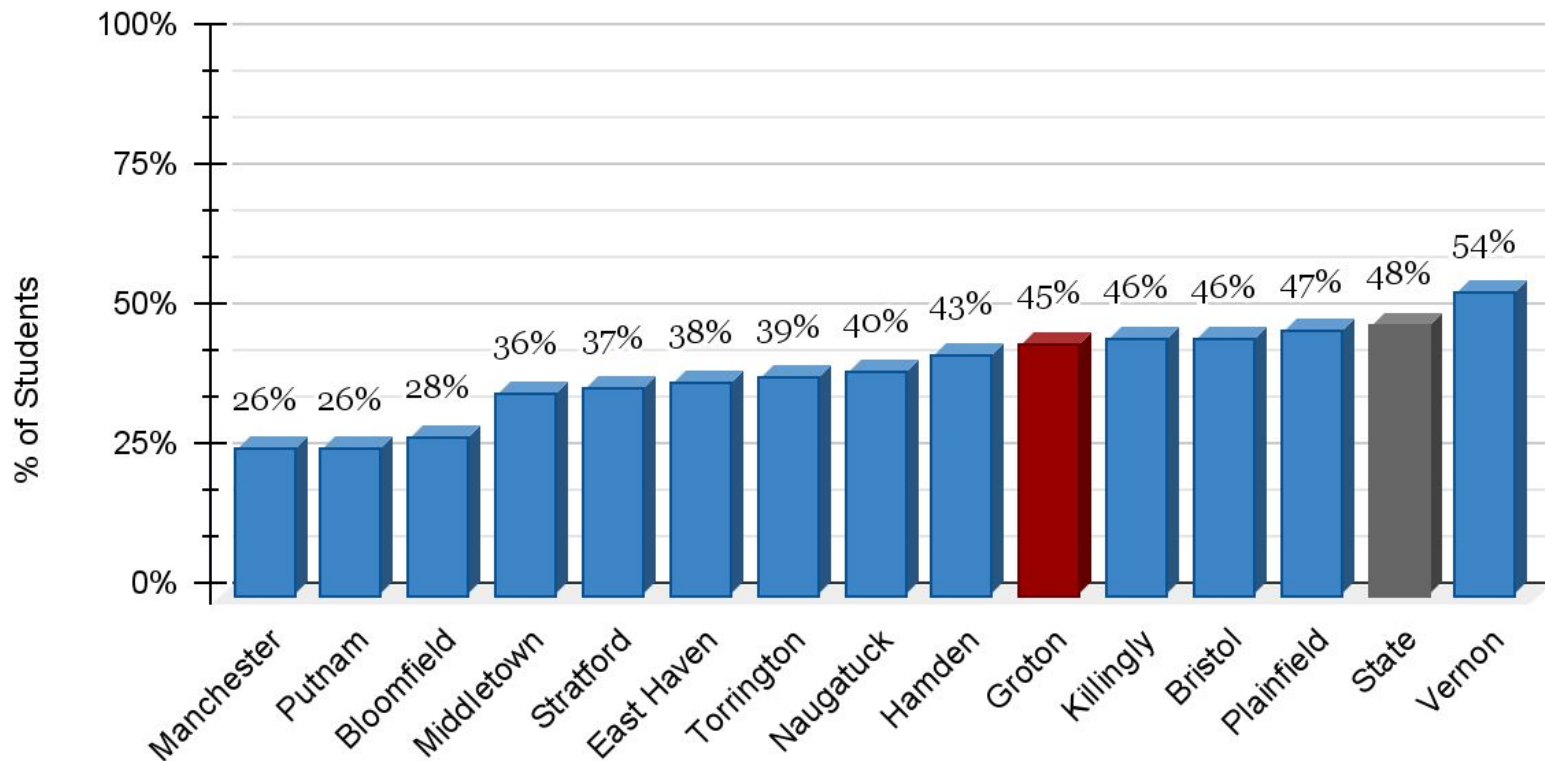
GMS ELA Performance

"High Needs"- Subgroups



Grade 6-8 ELA Performance: "DRG" G

Students At/Above Benchmark





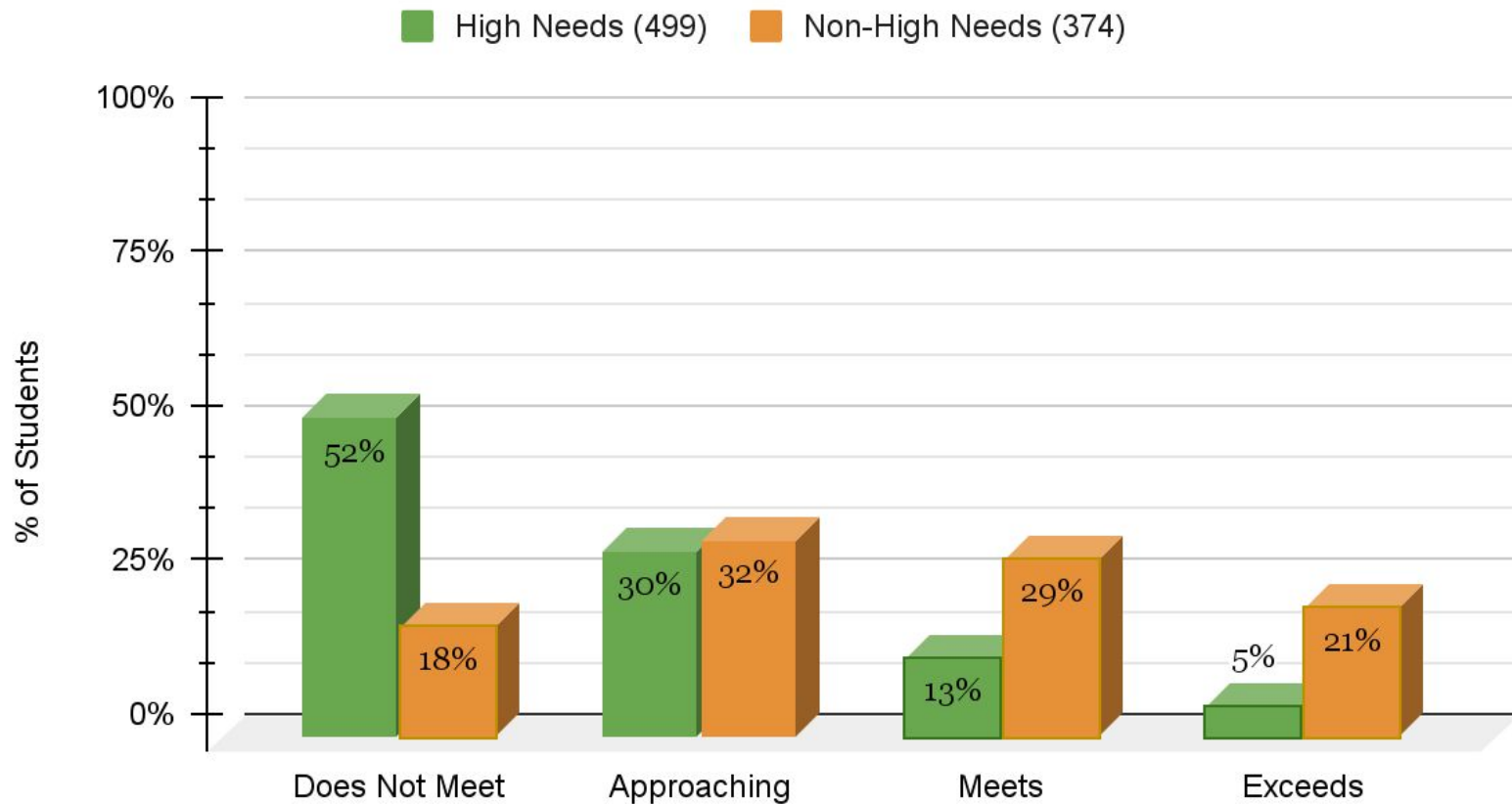
	Math: Building Level									
	Performance Distribution - Percents					Performance Distribution - Counts				
Student Count	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above
Total: 873	37%	31%	20%	12%	32%	325	268	175	105	280

	Math: Grade Level									
	Performance Distribution - Percents					Performance Distribution - Counts				
Grade Level	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above	Does Not Meet	Approaching	Meets	Exceeds	At/Above
6 (309)	44%	34%	14%	7%	21%	137	105	44	23	67
7 (273)	32%	27%	27%	14%	41%	88	73	73	39	112
8 (291)	34%	31%	20%	15%	35%	100	90	58	43	101

Smarter Balanced Assessment

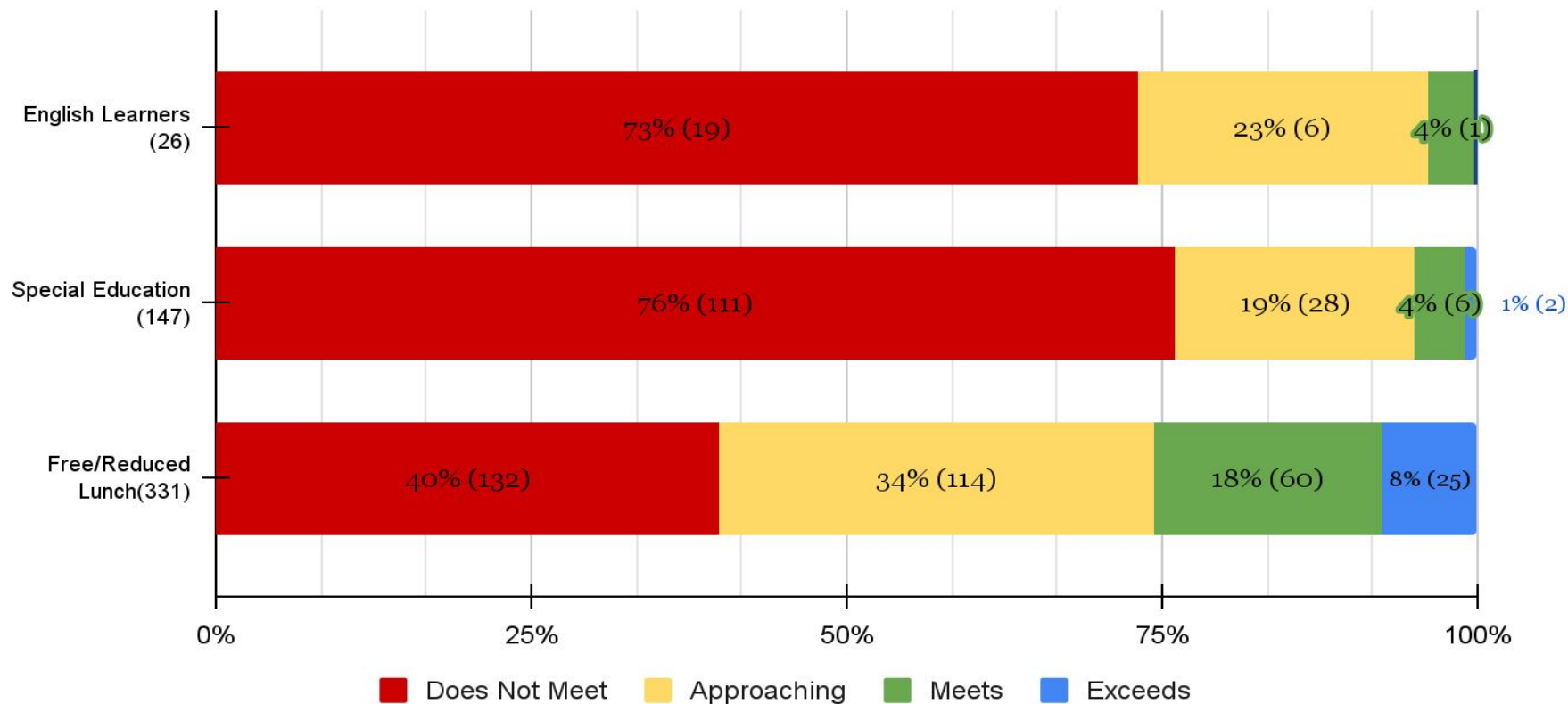
2022-2023

GMS Math Performance by Needs



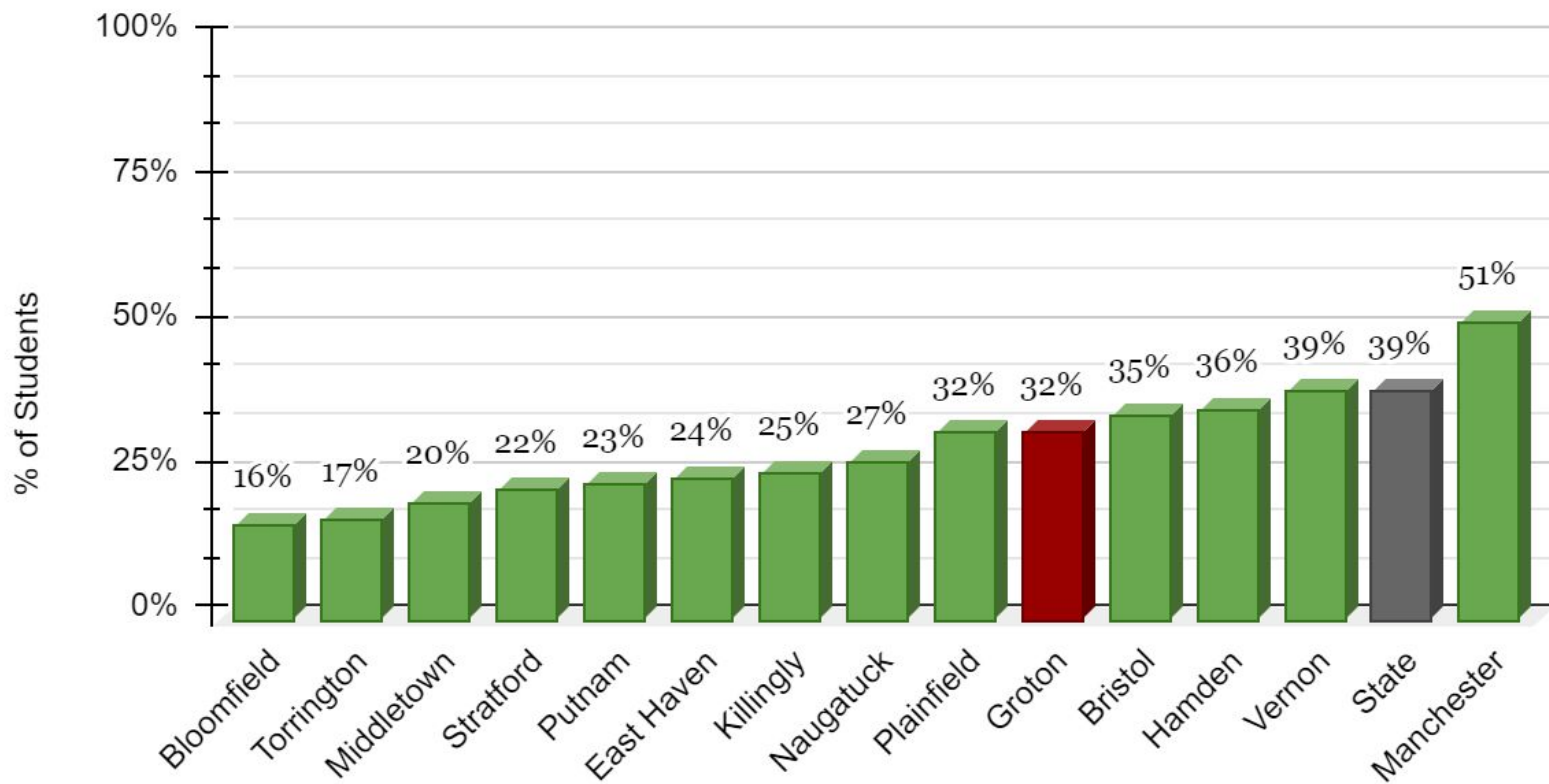
GMS Math Performance

"High Needs"- Subgroups



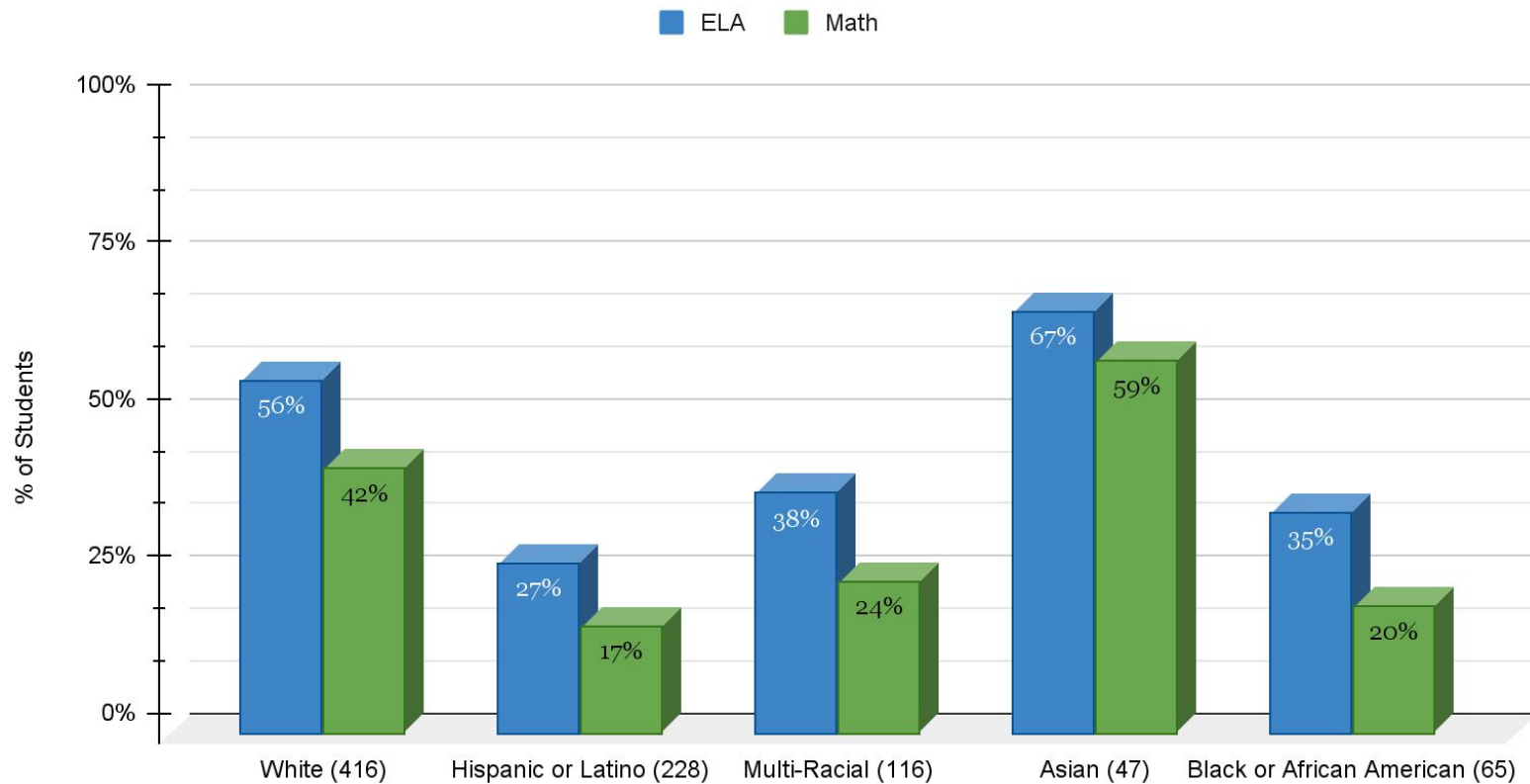
Grade 6-8 Math Performance: "DRG " G

Students At/Above Benchmark



SBAC Performance by Race

Students At/Above Benchmark

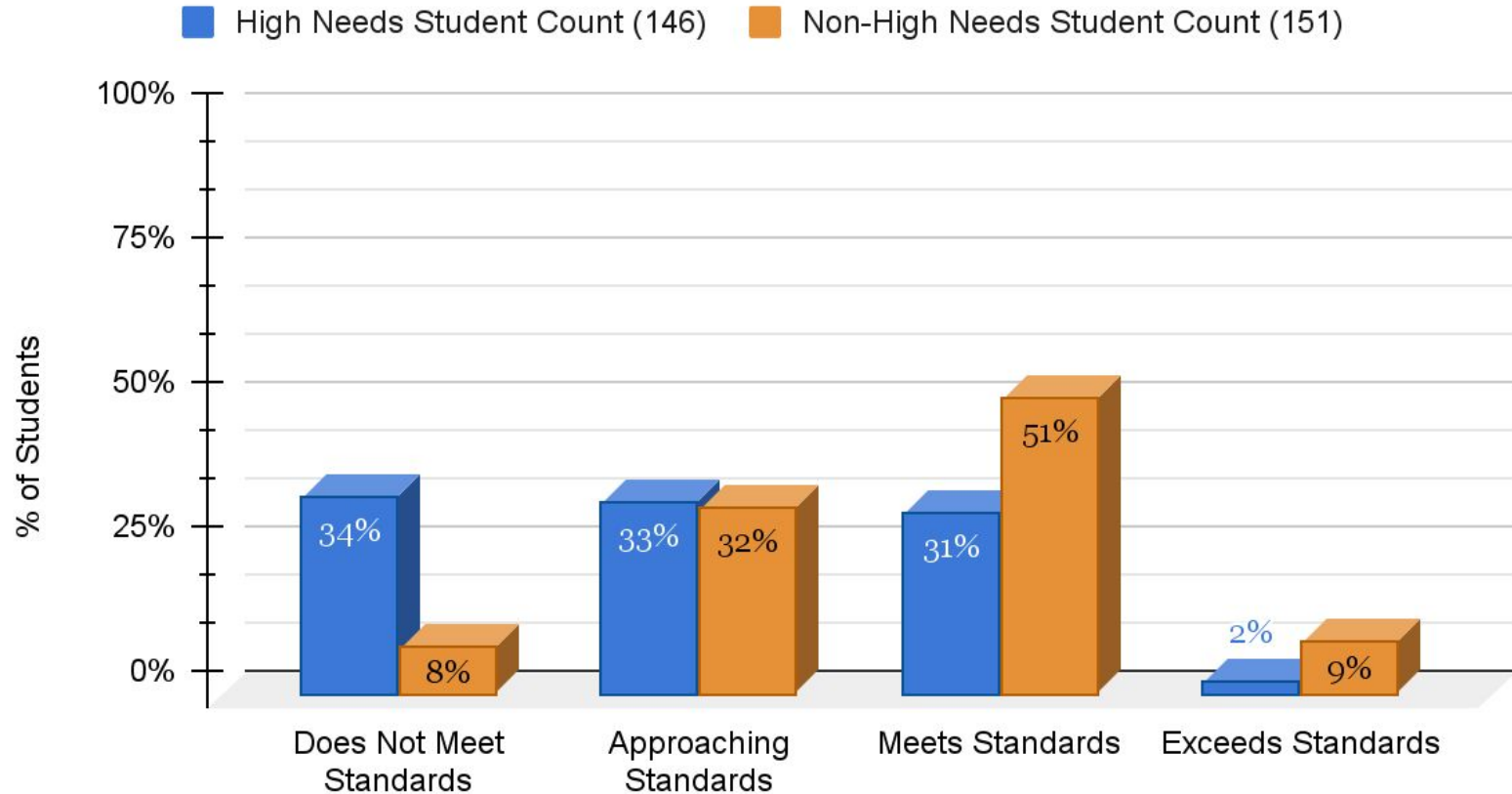




	Performance Distribution - Counts					Performance Distribution - Percents				
Grade 8 Student Count (297)	Does Not Meet Standards	Approaching Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	At/Above	Does Not Meet Standards	Approaching Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards	At/Above
	63	96	122	16	138	21%	32%	41%	5%	46%

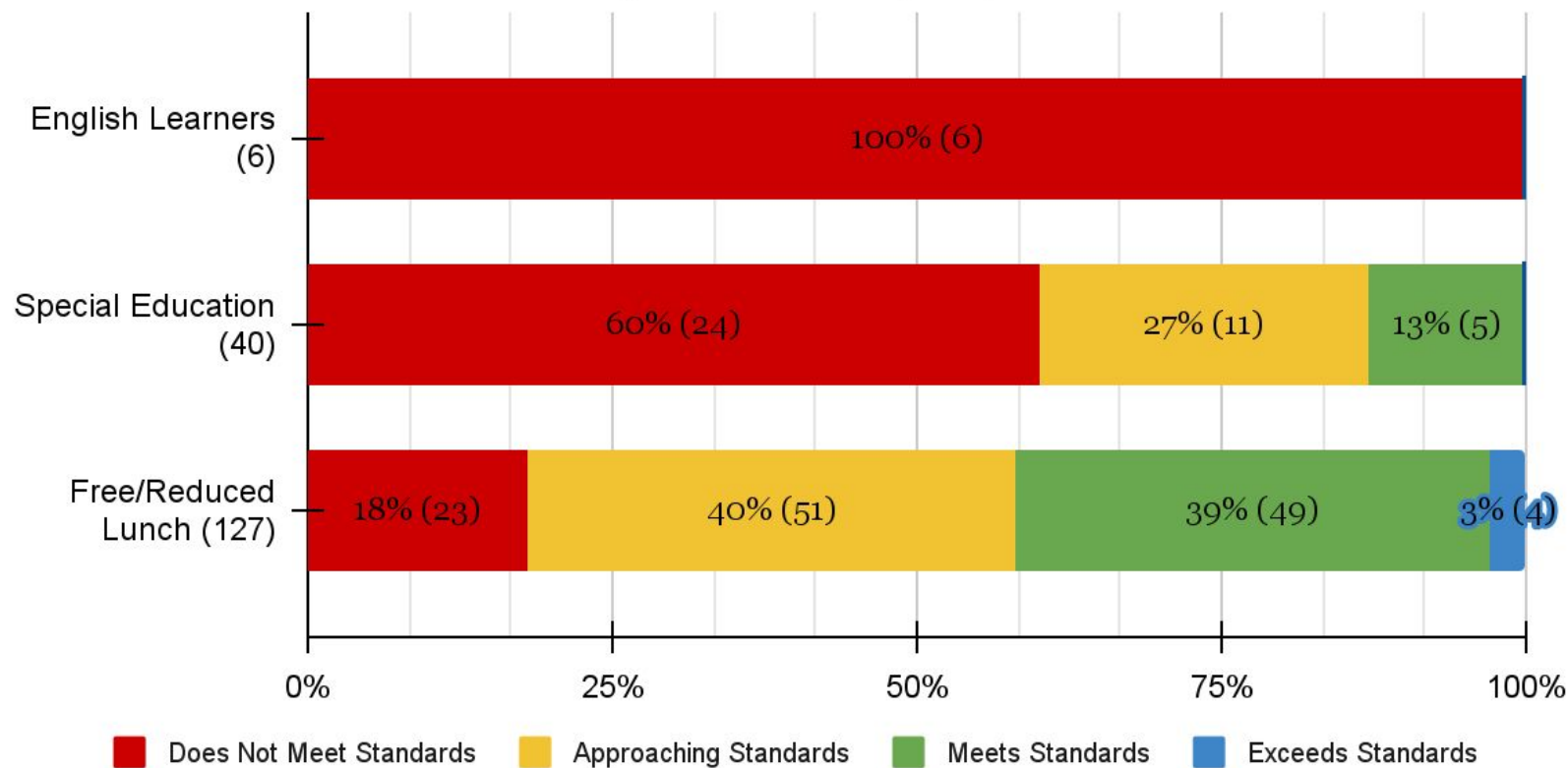
Next Generation Science Standards Assessment
2022-2023

GMS Next Generation Science by Needs



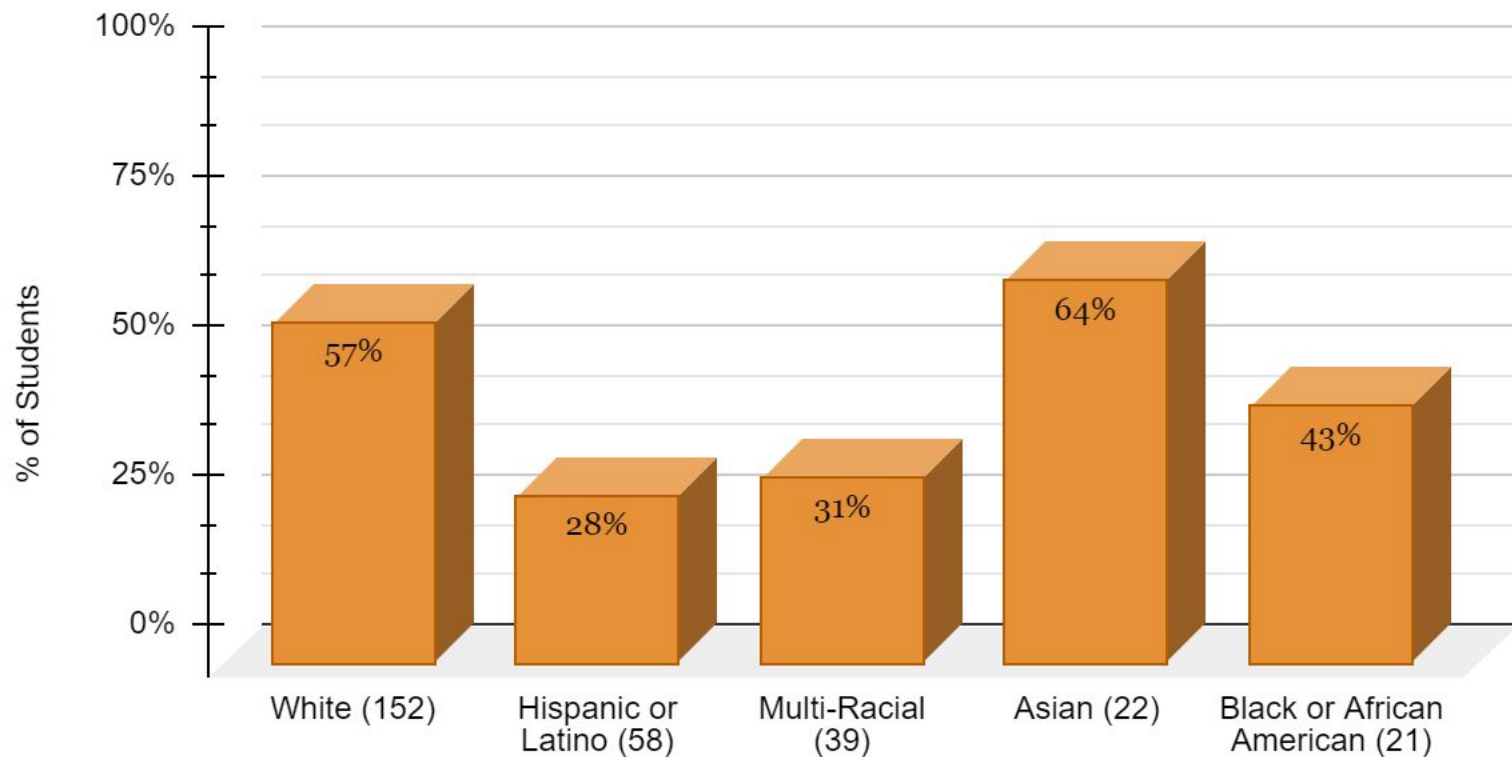
GMS Next Generation Science Standards

"High Needs"- Subgroups



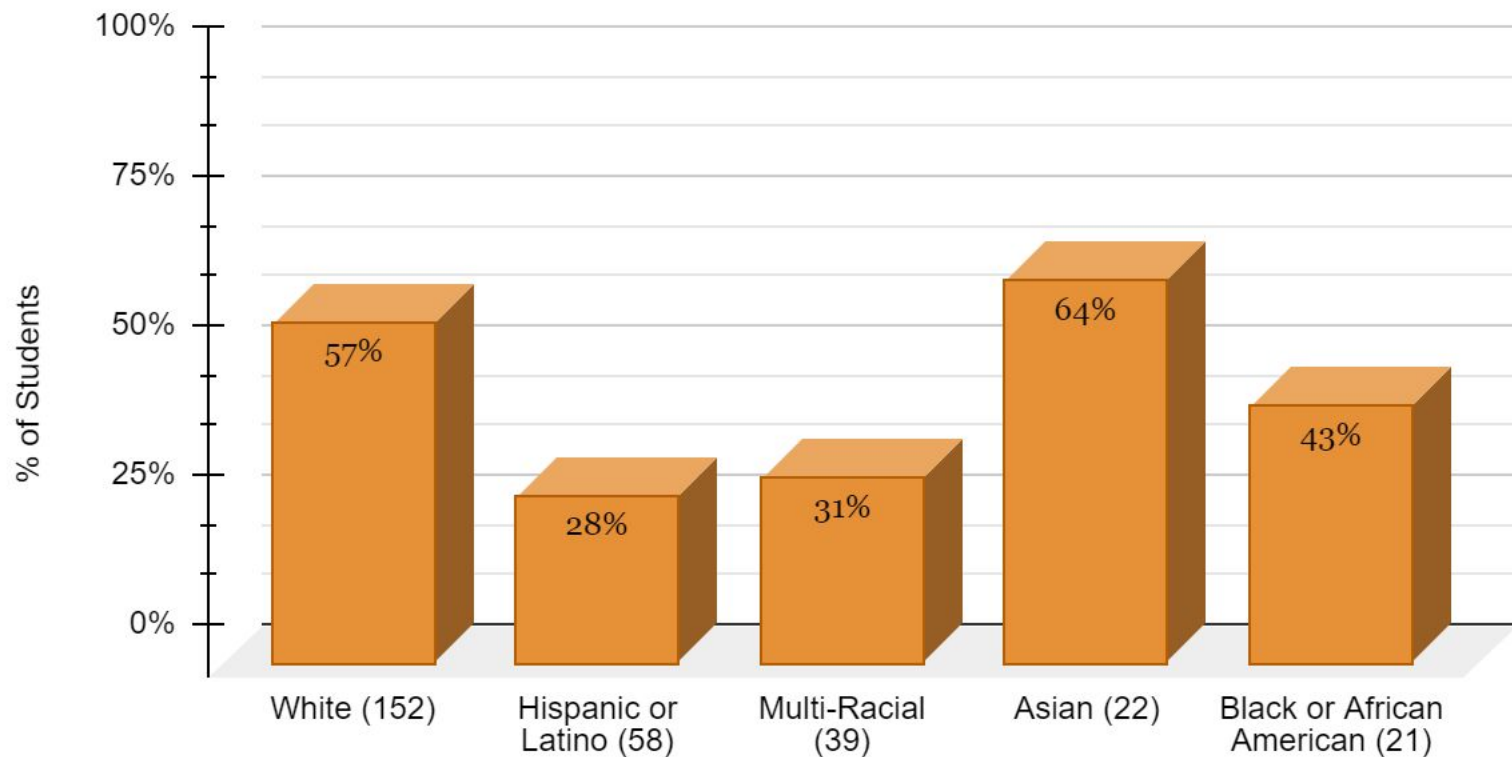
Grade 8 NGSS Performance by Race

Students At/Above Benchmark



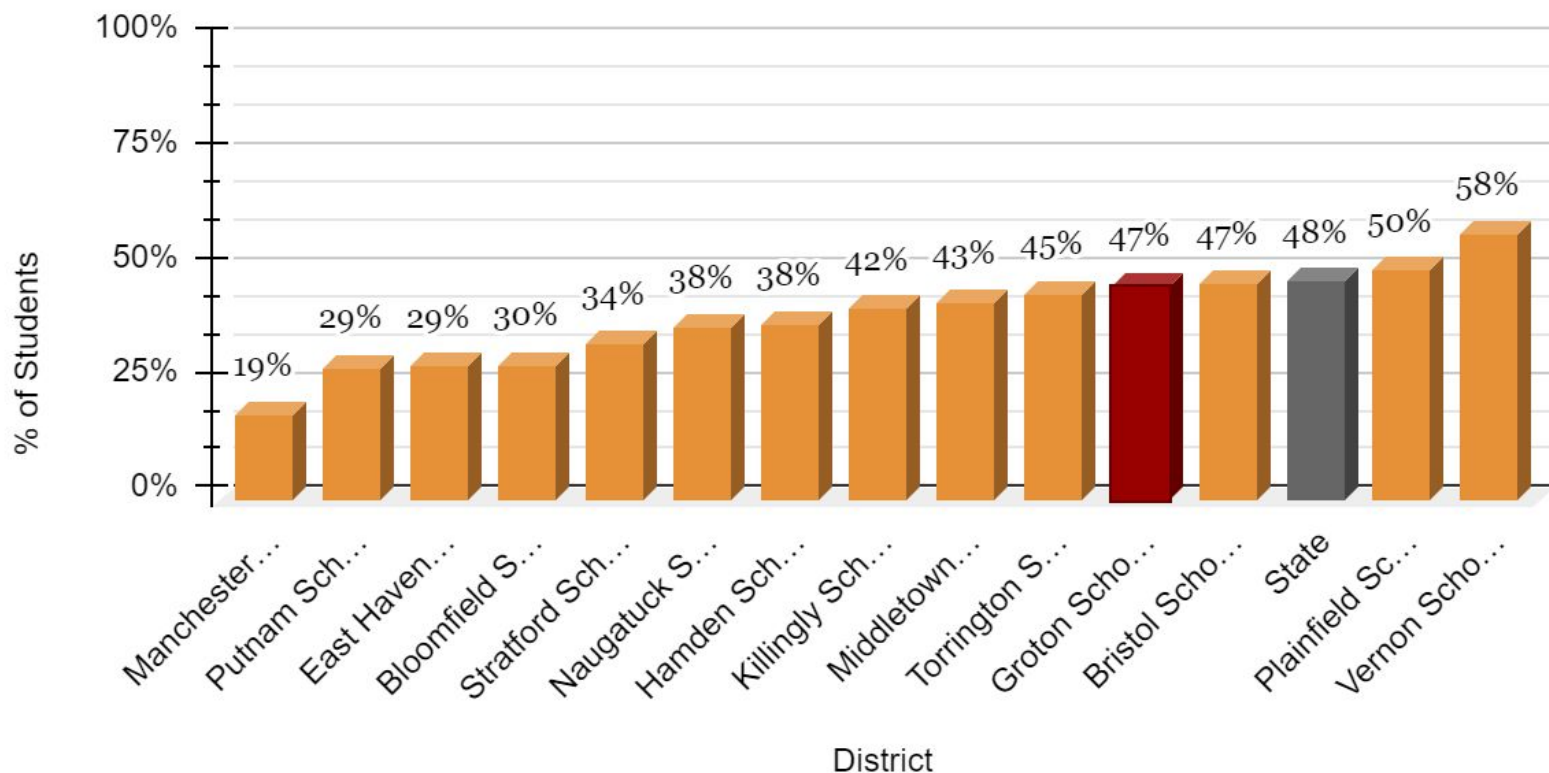
Grade 8 NGSS Performance by Race

Students At/Above Benchmark



Grade 8 NGSS Performance: "DRG" G

Students At/Above Benchmark





Groton Middle School Action Plan

Areas for Focused Growth

Academics

- Data Team Meetings in Language Arts, Math, and Science
 - To review current summative scores and determine next instructional steps
 - To review SBAC / NGSS Interim Assessment results and other pertinent data points to determine next instructional steps
- Increased usage of DreamBox for all
- Implementation of Building Thinking Classrooms in Math classes
- Focused usage of Lexia PowerUp for targeted and individualized intervention
- Falcon Academy Homework help and After School Learning Center



Groton Middle School Action Plan

Areas for Focused Growth (continued)

Promoting Growth Mindset

- Addressing Chronic Absenteeism
- Student Buy In - School Spirit - Falcon Pride!
- Implementation of Power Up classes



Groton Middle School Action Plan

Areas for Focused Growth (continued)

Supporting Teaching and Learning

- Updated teacher evaluation system to support Tier 1 Instruction
- Professional Development to Improve Core Instruction
- Increase reading in the content area training for all disciplines in grades 6-12, including work with Cornelius Minor, district partner
- Curriculum Enhancement & Vertical Alignment
- Ongoing work with Dr. Mahri Wrightington
 - Tier 1 Student Engagement Training
 - Review the GMS MTSS process and practices



Groton Middle School Action Plan

Areas for Focused Growth (continued)

Climate and Culture

- Work with Kris Wraight with Restorative Practices
- Quality Behavior Intervention training with staff
- Feedback from staff from August faculty meeting reviewed by the GMS Safe School Climate Team to address areas for improvement: Communication, Faculty Mental Health and Well Being, and Student Behaviors and Needs
- School Spirit - Falcon Pride!
- Getting Better Together!

DRAFT - 2024-2025 School Calendar
 Early dismissal

 No school

Start Date: 8/29/2024
Tentative End Date: 6/12/2025

JULY 2024					0/0
M	T	W	Th	F	
1	2	3	4	5	
8	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	
29	30	31			

4, 5 July 4th Recess

AUGUST 2024					2/2
M	T	W	Th	F	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	

26 Convocation/School Meetings
 27, 28 Professional Development
29 First Day of School (1-12)
30 First Day of School (K)

SEPTEMBER 2024					20/22
M	T	W	Th	F	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30					

2 Labor Day
3 First Day of School (Preschool, PreK)
 17 TLI-Early Dismissal

OCTOBER 2024					22/44
M	T	W	Th	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30	31		

8 TLI-Early Dismissal
 14 Columbus Day
 23, 24, 25 Parent/Teacher Conference

NOVEMBER 2024					16/60
M	T	W	Th	F	
				1	
4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	22	
25	26	27	28	29	

5 Professional Development
 11 Veteran's Day
 27, 28, 29 Thanksgiving Recess

DECEMBER 2024					15/75
M	T	W	Th	F	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30	31				

10 TLI-Early Dismissal
 23-31 Winter Holiday Recess

JANUARY 2025					21/96
M	T	W	Th	F	
		1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	
13	14	15	16	17	
20	21	22	23	24	
27	28	29	30	31	

1 New Year's Day
 14 TLI-Early Dismissal
 20 Martin Luther King Day

FEBRUARY 2025					18/114
M	T	W	Th	F	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	

11 TLI-Early Dismissal
 17, 18 Presidents Day Recess

MARCH 2025					20/134
M	T	W	Th	F	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21	
24	25	26	27	28	
31					

7 Professional Development
 11 TLI-Early Dismissal
 26, 27, 28 Parent/Teacher Conference

APRIL 2025					17/151
M	T	W	Th	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30			

14-17 Spring Recess
 18 Good Friday
 29 TLI-Early Dismissal

MAY 2025					21/172
M	T	W	Th	F	
			1	2	
5	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21	22	23	
26	27	28	29	30	

13 TLI-Early Dismissal
 26 Memorial Day

JUNE 2025					9/181
M	T	W	Th	F	
2	3	4	5	6	
9	10	11	12	13	
16	17	18	19	20	
23	24	25	26	27	
30					

12 Tentative Last Day of School, Early Dismissal
 13, 16, 17, 18, 20 Snow Make-Up day
 19 Juneteenth Day
 FHS Graduation - TBD*

LEARN REGIONAL CALENDAR

2024-2025

Adopted by MSSA SECASA Superintendents 9/8/23

August 2024 2						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024 20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2024 22						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2024 17						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024 15						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2025 21						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025 18						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025 20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa/1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025 17						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2025 21						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025 7						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Date	Event/Holiday
August 27	First Day of School for Teachers
August 29	First Day of School for Students
November 5	Regional PD Day/Election Day
March 7	Regional PD Day
Dec. 23- Dec. 31	Winter Recess
February 17-18	Presidents' Day Recess
April 14-18	April Recess
September 2	Labor Day
October 14	Indigenous Peoples' Day
November 11	Veterans Day
November 28-29	Thanksgiving
January 1	New Year's Day
January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
April 18	Good Friday
May 26	Memorial Day
June 19	Juneteenth Day
June 10	Last Day of School (180)

