



DEGRAZIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5051 W. Overton Rd.

Tucson, AZ 85742

520-579-4800

Principal- Tawnya Caldwell



MUSD 2023 School Profile

Vision Statement:

*Love.
Learn.
Lead.*

Mission Statement:

*DeGrazia Elementary,
in collaboration with parents and
community, will challenge all students to
achieve academic and personal excellence
in a rigorous, relevant and supportive
learning environment.*

Principal Message:

Hello Dust Devils!

Welcome to DeGrazia! I am very proud to be the principal of this neighborhood school and our amazing Dust Devil Students!

I want you to feel that your children are both loved and challenged here at DeGrazia at all times! I value the importance of having a loving environment for a child to attend school, because I know that is the best way to engage a child's brain so they can learn. Our staff cares about that as well, and we try our very best to always provide that. Our administrative team works with our staff in team collaborations and staff meetings/trainings to continually grow and learn about academic subjects so that we can provide the best instruction each day as possible. We try to be thoughtful and innovative at all times about the practices we bring to our daily teaching life. We also work together to give children leadership opportunities in their classrooms and as they get older, with leadership in our school as well. Because of these core values, our vision statement is LOVE. LEARN. LEAD.

We have an incredible team of educators and staff at DeGrazia and I am glad you have made DeGrazia your school home! Thank you for choosing to be a Dust Devil! If you are ever in need of my support, please call, email, or come by our office. I am here to help you any time!

*Tawnya Caldwell
Principal, DeGrazia Elementary School*

School Highlights- Points of Pride

- **We honor 3 students from each classroom and 6 staff members each month at our monthly awards ceremony!**
 - We take our **Love, Learn, Lead** vision very seriously at DeGrazia and we honor our students and staff that display those qualities each month at a school-wide awards ceremony! Each classroom, including our preschool and Pre-K, nominates one student in each of the three categories that exemplifies the traits of that **Love, Learn, or Lead** word. Those students are awarded a certificate and their parents are invited to attend and see their child receive the award. We also honor three support and three certified staff members under the same categories. Our Dust Devils are awesome and we want them to know it!

- **Our 5th and 6th graders, and our Student Council, are leading the way!**
 - We have a team of 5th and 6th graders, led by our Associate Principal-David Dooley, that help all of our Dust Devils see good role models “reinforcing our ART Code...**Act Safely, Respect Everyone and Everything, Take Responsibility.** These students help out at breakfast time and with morning school duties with our younger students and also take on some afternoon duties to help keep our campus operating smoothly. We also have a Student Council that has officers from our 5th and 6th grades, and representatives from 3rd-6th grades. This group helps plan on how to raise and spend fundraiser money and plans fun activities for our school like our spirit weeks! We also have 6th graders that do our morning announcements along with our administrators. Way to lead the way Dust Devils!

- **We pride ourselves in our academic offerings!**
 - DeGrazia is an A rated school and we are VERY proud of that!
 - Every child at our school is given a rigorous schedule of learning each and every day! Each classroom is learning English/Language Arts (ELA) through Scholastic Reading and Writing. Grades K-2 learn phonics from Foundations each day, and grades 3-6 are taught phonics and grammar through Scholastic. Each child receives reading at their level every day through digital platforms and small group instruction opportunities. All students learn Math through Eureka Math, and also receive opportunities to be stretched or remediated during the day. Students are taught Science and Social Studies through MUSD provided units that follow the Arizona State Standards.

DeGrazia Elementary School Student Programs

Academic Offerings: DeGrazia offers a wide variety of academic learning for students.

- Gifted Education in Marana (GEM) services
- Small group reading and math lessons each day to reach every child's needs
- Exceptional Student Services Programming
- English Learner Programming

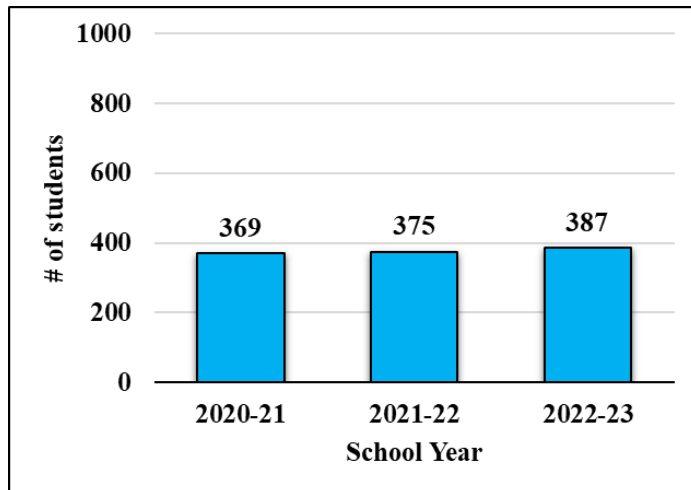
Elementary Specialist Programming: 100% of DeGrazia students participate in these programs...

- Elementary Counseling twice per month
- Library/Media Center twice per month
- Elementary Music twice per week
- Elementary PE twice per week

Our Students

Our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds that enhance our diverse community. They care about each other and our school. Our students achieve their academic goals, as well as their social/emotional (PBIS) goals. We are so grateful to be able to serve such a diverse and caring student body.

Student Enrollment: Last year, **387 students** attended DeGrazia Elementary School.



Student Mobility Rate: 19%
Free and Reduced Lunch: 50.39%

2022-2023 Student Demographics: The DeGrazia Elementary School student body is diverse.

Race/Ethnicity	% of DE students
Hispanic	46%
White	41.3%
Multi-Racial	5.7%
Black	4.1%
Asian	1.6%
American Indian	1.3%

Students with Special Needs: 23.77%
Students Identified as Gifted: 14.21%

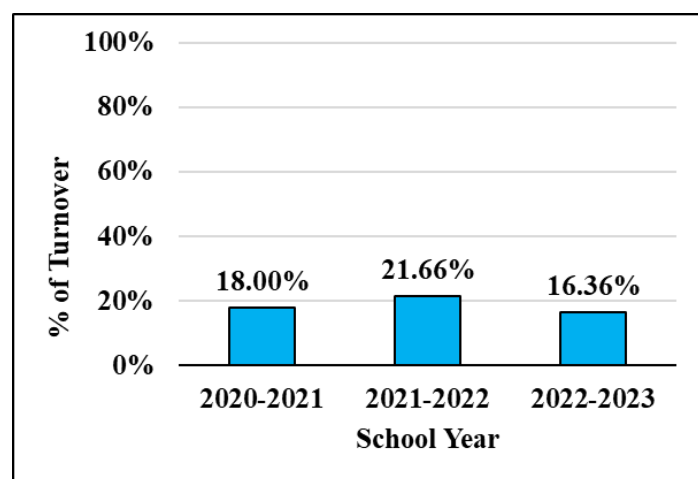
Our Staff

The staff at DeGrazia works very well together in order to achieve our vision of LOVE. LEARN. LEAD. We take care of each other so that we are emotionally and professionally equipped to be the best we can be for our students!

- Grade teachers collaborate twice per week, and often more, to plan lessons for the following week. These collaborations also include looking at student data so we can continually plan for individualized and small group instruction.
- Special Education teachers meet once per week to ensure their caseloads are being serviced properly, to plan meetings, and to share ideas..
- Special education aides meet at least twice per month to learn topics related to helping students with behaviors and modifying work as needed.
- Reading teachers and aides receive ongoing training to best service our most struggling readers.
- Music, PE, and Counselor teachers leave campus on Fridays after student dismissal to collaborate with other teachers like them from around the district in order to share and come up with new ideas.
- Our teaching staff engages in ongoing professional development in both academics and behavior/lifeskills. We pride ourselves in having our staff learn from each other in small groups or by observing each other.

DeGrazia Elementary School Staff Profile: We have 59 staff members who work at our school:

- 25 Support Staff
- 32 Certified Staff
 - **96.87% Appropriately Certified**
- 2 Administrative Staff



DeGrazia Elementary teachers participated in **1322.75** hours of professional learning last school year!

Staff Demographics and Experience: We have an experienced and diverse staff supporting our students at DeGrazia Elementary School.

- Average Years of Experience: 10
- Staff Members with an Advanced Degree: 18

Race/Ethnicity	% of DE staff
White	65.5%
Hispanic	28.8%
Asian	5.7%

Gender	% of DE staff
Female	81.4%
Male	18.6%

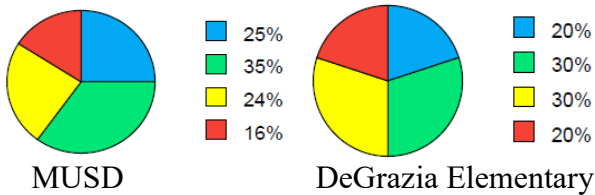
Student Academics and Literacy

At DeGrazia, we use student performance and data to inform our planning. Students are exposed to grade level standards, as well as learning at their individual level of instruction. The State of Arizona has a Move on When Reading statute designed to position students for success as they progress through school, college, and career. As a part of this law, students are required to meet certain reading benchmarks in order to be promoted to the fourth grade. In MUSD, we use Acadience Reading to help teachers identify children at risk for reading difficulties and determine the skills to target for instructional support.

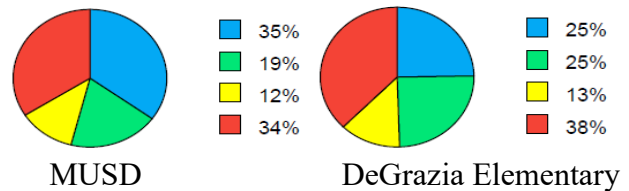
End of School Year 2022 - 2023 Acadience Reading Benchmark Data Key

Status	Score Level
■	Above Benchmark
■	At Benchmark
■	Below Benchmark
■	Well Below Benchmark

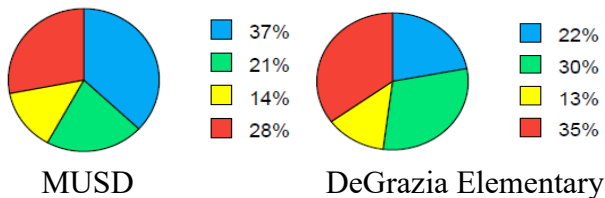
Kindergarten End of Year (2023) Reading Acadience Scores



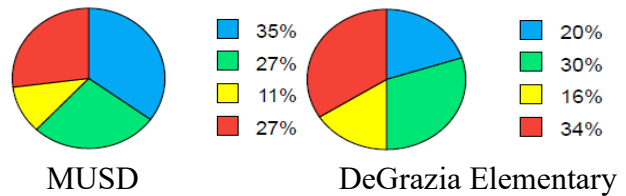
1st Grade End of Year (2023) Reading Acadience Scores



2nd Grade End of Year (2023) Reading Acadience Scores

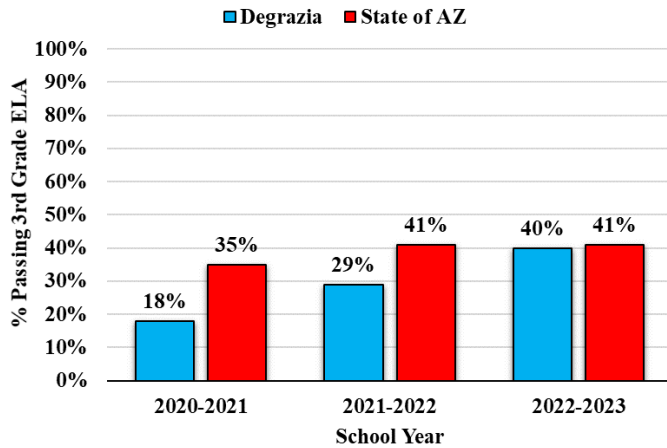


3rd Grade End of Year (2023) Reading Acadience Scores

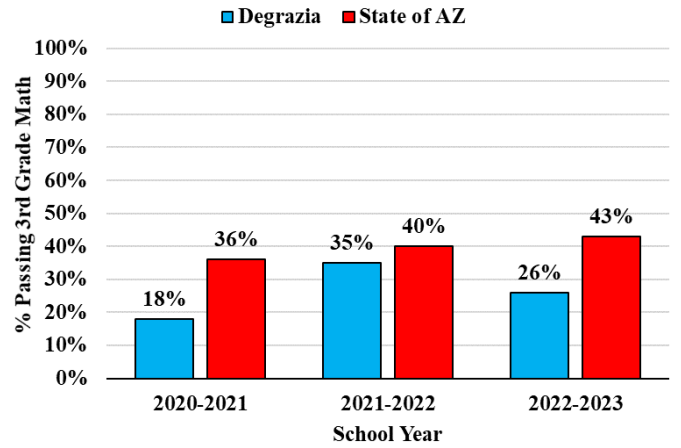


State Assessments: AzM2 / Arizona Academic Standards Assessment (AASA)/ AzSCI

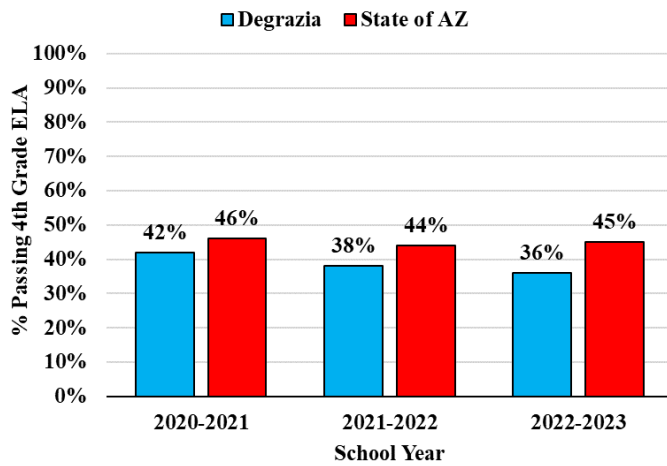
Standardized Testing Performance 3rd Grade ELA:



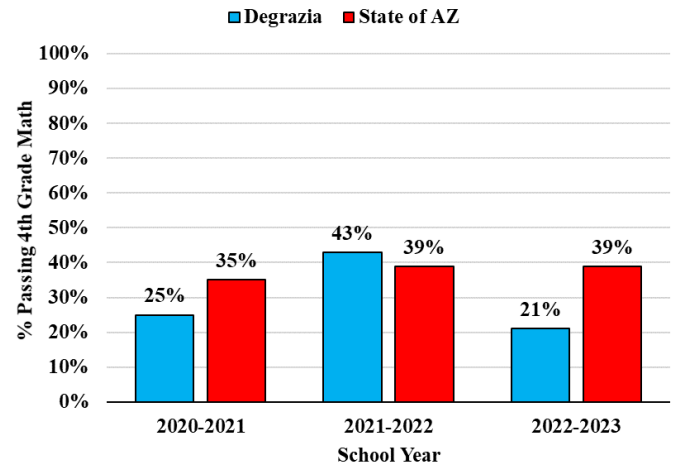
Standardized Testing Performance 3rd Grade Math:



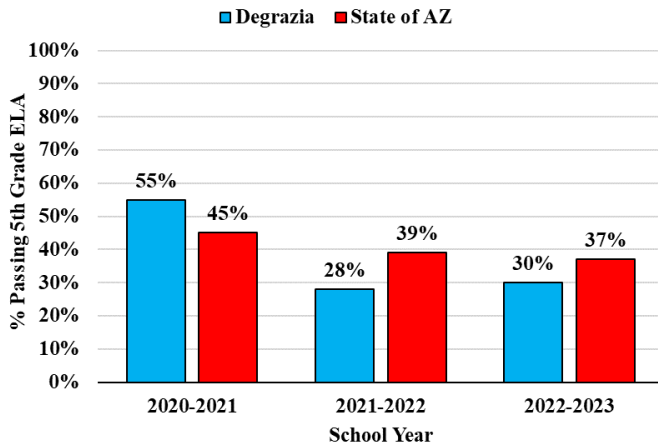
Standardized Testing Performance 4th Grade ELA:



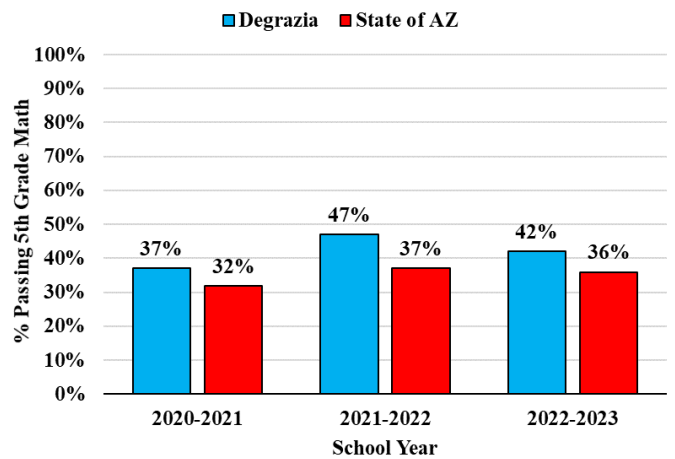
Standardized Testing Performance 4th Grade Math:



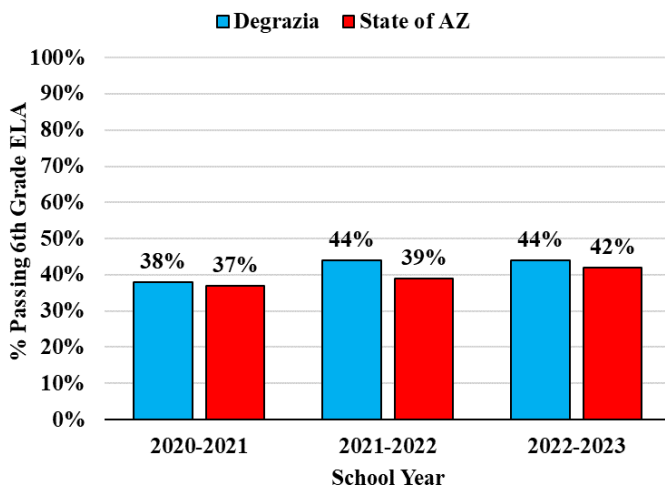
Standardized Testing Performance 5th Grade ELA:



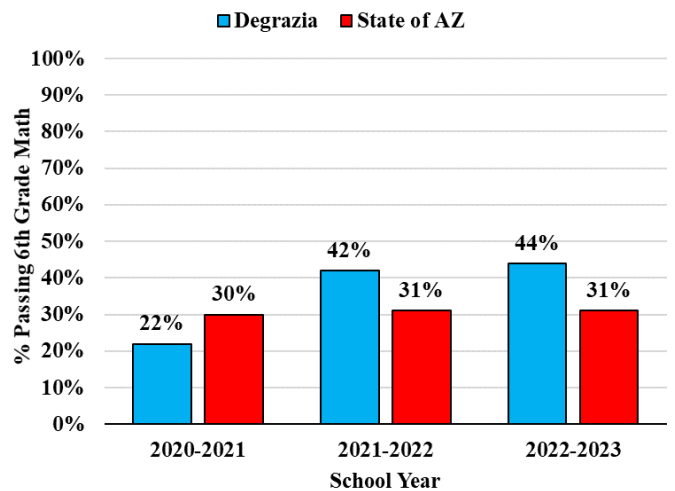
Standardized Testing Performance 5th Grade Math:



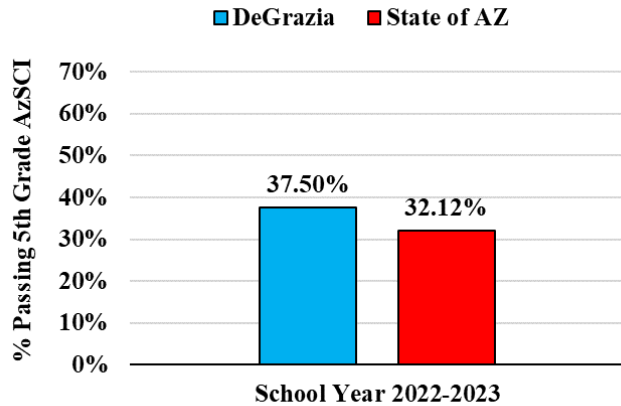
Standardized Testing Performance 6th Grade ELA:



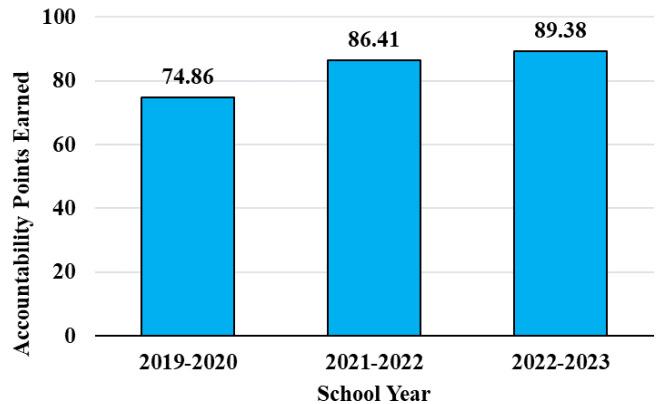
Standardized Testing Performance 6th Grade Math:



Spring 2023 Standardized Testing Performance
5th Grade AzSCI:

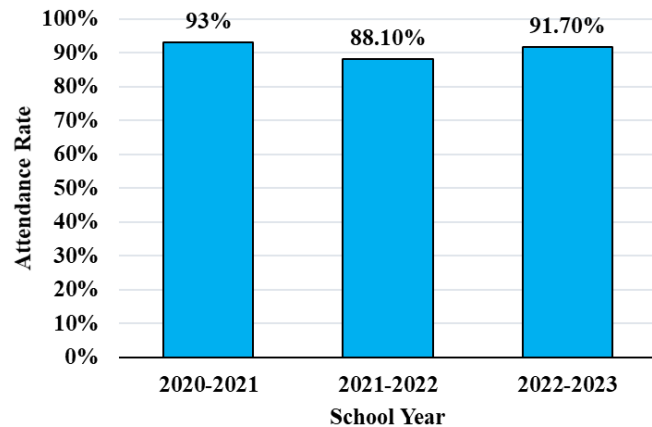


State of Arizona Letter Grade: DeGrazia Elementary School currently has an “A” letter grade from the Arizona Department of Education!

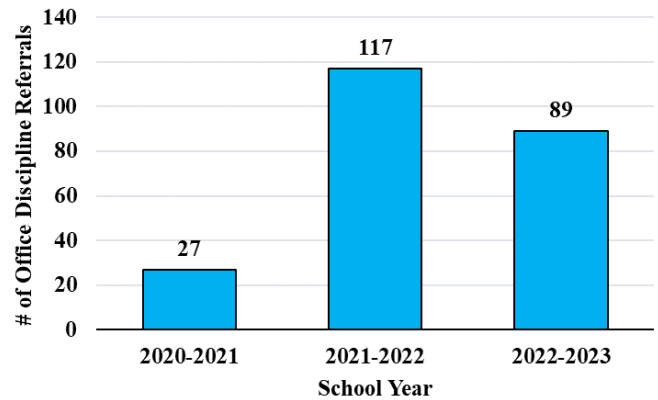


On Track Indicators

Attendance Rate: 272 DeGrazia Elementary School students had fewer than 15 absences last school year!



Discipline Data: DeGrazia students earned less than one referral per student last school year.



High Reliability Schools

We are excited to announce that DeGrazia Elementary School is OFFICIALLY CERTIFIED in Level One of the High Reliability Schools Framework established by the Marzano Research Group. The focus of this level is “Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative Culture”. We are so proud of our school community for coming together to earn this certification.

This year we are focused on Level Two: “Effective Teaching in Every Classroom”. We are excited to

share action steps we are taking to make sure every student in our school experiences effective instruction every single day.

ACTION STEPS TO SUSTAIN LEVEL ONE

- Regularly scheduled celebration is important to our students and staff. We celebrate 54 students and 7 staff each month at our awards assemblies.
- High quality communication will be delivered through the following platforms: Tuesday Newsday, Class Dojo, Facebook and email.
- We continue to focus on effective teacher/staff collaboration during planning time. Teams meet twice per week and also engage in even more professional development opportunities once per month and also quarterly.

ACTION STEPS TOWARD LEVEL TWO CERTIFICATION

- Each teacher has their growth goal posted outside their classroom door. Students have written goals as well, so our entire building is working on improving themselves each and every day!
- We will engage in instructional walks to provide learning opportunities for all teachers and strengthen our instructional practices. We will share that data and let teachers visit each other to create even more teaching efficacy.