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Media Release

CCSD students set new historic records in student achievement on SC READY assessments

Office of Communications

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District records all-time highs in ELA and Math

Charleston, SC – Charleston County School District (CCSD) outperformed similar districts across the state in terms of students meeting or exceeding expectations, as shown in today's release by the South Carolina Department of Education of SC READY test results from the 2023-2024 school year. Once again, CCSD 3-8 grade students improved from the previous year, set new district records, and continued to stay ahead of state averages when it comes to scoring "Meets or Exceeds Expectations" on the English Language Arts (ELA) and Math assessments.

SC READY ELA

More than 61 percent (61.2) of CCSD 3-8 grade students are now reading on or above grade level according to this exam, which is 7.7 percentage points higher than the state average (53.5). In addition, the district is five (5) points ahead of the state scores for each of the grades tested:

- CCSD third graders - 58.9 percent; state average - 53.8 percent
- CCSD fourth graders - 63.8 percent; state average - 57.2 percent
- CCSD fifth graders - 62.2 percent; state average - 55.6 percent
- CCSD sixth graders - 63.2 percent; state average - 53.7 percent
- CCSD seventh graders - 60.0 percent; state average - 50.3 percent
- CCSD eighth graders - 59.1 percent; state average - 50.3 percent

The 61.2 percent of students reading at or above grade level is an all-time high on the SC READY (first administered in 2016), besting last year's average of 60.5.

"We have made nearly a 13-point improvement in reading proficiency in three years," said Superintendent of Schools Anita Huggins. "These results are simply remarkable. I cannot begin to describe my pride in our students, teachers, and school leaders as they strive for excellence in our classrooms. We realize the work is not over, and we must continue our laser focus on closing gaps that persist. Today, we celebrate and congratulate our students and educators."

Additional notes related to CCSD's performance on the 2023-2024 SC READY ELA assessment:

- Ten CCSD schools improved their overall score by at least five (5) percentage points.
- Four major student groups improved districtwide from last year: Black, White, Exceptional Children, and Pupils in Poverty.

SC READY Math

CCSD students are 10 percentage points better (52.2) than the state average (42.2) on the 2023-2024 assessment in this subject and improved by 1.7 percentage points compared to last year. Just like ELA, this is the highest the district has scored in the math portion of SC READY.

"As our reading scores continue to improve, so do our math scores," said CCSD Chief Academic Officer Michelle Simmons. "Our upward trajectory on both assessments is intertwined. We know our commitment to a common curriculum, rigorous grade-level instruction, high expectations for our scholars, and support for educators are moving our entire system forward."

The district's middle school grades are well ahead of the state averages in meeting or exceeding expectations:

- CCSD sixth graders - 51.4 percent, state - 38.4 percent
- CCSD seventh graders - 47.8 percent, state - 33.7 percent
- CCSD eighth graders - 41.7 percent, state - 30.3 percent

Additional notes related to CCSD's performance on the 2023-2024 SC READY Math assessment:

- CCSD fourth, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders improved their proficiency scores compared to last year.
- Three CCSD schools improved by more than 10 percentage points, and another seven schools increased by five (5) points or more.
- Six student groups in CCSD made gains from last year to this year - Black (+3.0), White (+1.6), Other (+1.0), Special Education (+0.8), and Pupils in Poverty (+2.9).

The results for all schools and districts [can be found here](#).

For more information about CCSD data, contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.