

**New Providence School
District**

Assessment Report

2022 - 2023

Presented to the Board of Education

October 19, 2023

Student achievement is one of the most important cornerstones of any educational program and growth in this area is measured by collecting a rich and diverse array of both formal and informal evidence. This Assessment Report offers a comprehensive overview of our students' formal academic accomplishments, encompassing both state and national assessments ranging from the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) starting in the 3rd Grade, to national assessments such as the SAT, ACT, AP, PSAT, and Project Lead the Way tests taken by our upper grade students.

These assessments serve a dual purpose: they offer insights into district performance across various metrics while also supplying essential data for administrators and teachers to delve into individual and grade-level achievements. This information, in turn, informs the design, adaptation, and refinement of programs to ensure we address the diverse needs of our students. It's important to bear in mind that an all-encompassing assessment of student growth and achievement relies on a portfolio of evidence, including data derived from student performance on teacher and district assessments, ongoing formal and informal evaluations throughout the academic year, and information collected through daily interactions between students and their teachers.

Looking at the data as a whole, the *2022-2023 Assessment Report* underscores the ongoing academic growth and achievement of our students, ultimately reflecting their career and college readiness. This accomplishment can be attributed to the robust K-12 instructional and curriculum framework and the commitment of all shareholders to navigate the challenges posed by the disruptions of recent years.

Overview

The NJSLA results show an average increase in scores compared to those from Spring 2022. These increases were irrespective of gender, economic status or native language, although some differences in achievement are noted in the ethnic groups that make up the community.

There were large increases noted in students taking the SAT, ACT, and the AP assessments with average score increases compared to 2022 seen in both the PSAT and ACT. The number of students taking an AP course, taking an AP Exam and passing an AP Exam were the highest in the last five years. These are all encouraging trends. However, overall achievement on the AP assessments was down compared to previous years and a number of interventions (as noted later in the presentation) will be introduced to ensure continued student success . The number of National Merit scholars was consistent with last year although the number of AP Scholars was down. 96% of students taking the Project Lead the Way assessments passed.

The Class of 2023 continued the district's traditional high college attendance rate with 96% of

graduates continuing their education, 88% at four-year colleges, and 8% at two-year colleges, Career Education or in the Military. Combined with the class of 2022 data, these overall percentages strongly suggest that New Providence School District prepares its students to be college and career ready.

Shown below is a breakdown of the individual assessments from the 2022-23 school year.

New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA)

During the Spring of 2023, New Providence (NP) School District students participated in the statewide assessment program administered by the New Jersey Department of Education. The NJSLA were administered online and provided students in grades three through nine the opportunity to demonstrate their performance relative to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS), the state's rigorous academic expectations.

In ELA, 84% of students who took the ELA assessment at the elementary level met or exceeded expectations. Fifth and sixth-grade performance was exceptionally high with 91% and 87% of the students respectfully meeting or exceeding expectations. 79% of seventh, eighth, and ninth-grade students met or exceeded expectations.

The District Summary Reports show that New Providence (NP) students continue to outperform their peers across the state on the English Language Arts assessment with students in all grade levels performing well above the state averages. For example, the fifth-grade results show the largest difference between NP and the state with 91% of our students meeting or exceeding expectations versus 53% of the state.

80% of students who took the Math assessment at the elementary level met or exceeded expectations. Third-grade performance was admirably high with 86% of students meeting or exceeding expectations. 61% of seventh and eighth-grade regular Math students met or exceeded expectations while 80% of the Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry students met or exceeded expectations. It is worth noting that the sequence of Math courses changed in 2019 and students were given an opportunity to take more advanced Math courses in earlier grades. This has resulted in a change in the composition of student groups taking the Grade 8, Algebra I, II, and Geometry assessments. In addition, teacher feedback suggests that students found online and hybrid instruction in Math extremely challenging, more so than in other subjects, resulting in a disproportionate impact on student achievement. We still see some of these affected in grades eight, nine and ten.

As with ELA, the District Summary Reports show that NP students continue to outperform their

peers across the state on the Math assessment with students in all grade levels performing well above the state averages. For example, the above mentioned third grade results show the largest difference between NP and the state with 86% of our students meeting or exceeding expectations versus 46% of the state.

A new NJSLA-Science Assessment was introduced in 2018 with a two-year period of transition built in for students to gain familiarity with the new assessment format. This transition was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic and teachers and students are only now becoming more comfortable with the demands. 60% of fifth graders, 46% of ninth graders, and 63% of eleventh graders met or exceeded expectations, all of which were considerably higher than the state averages.

The state also releases Performance Level Summary Reports, Content Area Rosters, and Evidence Statements to provide individual, grade-level, school-level, and district-wide information that is useful to teachers and administrators in evaluating programs, curriculum, instructional strategies and to help target instruction to students based on their needs. The Evidence Statements are especially helpful as they provide results by grade level according to specific state standards. The Individual Student Reports were also supplied to the district and then subsequently sent home to parents to inform them of their child's performance in ELA and Math.

Dynamic Learning Maps

During the Spring of 2023, a very small percentage of Special Education students participated in the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessment. The DLM is an online alternative assessment offered by the state of New Jersey for those students who are unable to reasonably take the NJSLA. Students are eligible to take this assessment if their Individual Education Plan (IEP) team demonstrates that they possess a significant cognitive disability and are unable to access any aspect of the grade-level curriculum.

SAT and ACT

The number of students taking the SAT and ACT tests increased dramatically in 2023 and has increased beyond the levels seen pre-pandemic. We continue to strongly suggest that students take the SAT and ACT assessments and perform to the best of their abilities on every test they take.

NPHS students continue to outperform their peers on the SATs across the nation. The average SAT scores of the graduating Class of 2023 averaged 1173, compared to 1230 for the class of 2022. The average score for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing was 587 compared to 631 for the class of 2022 and in Math, the average score was 586 compared to 617 in 2022. 89% of the students met the college readiness benchmark in 2023 in Reading and Writing, compared to 92% in 2022 and in Math, 72% of students met the benchmark in 2023, compared to 83% in 2022.

Students also took the ACT, the standardized test for college admissions that covers four academic skills: English, Math, Reading, and Science. The ACT did not provide state and national results which inhibited our ability to compare our students to their peers, nor did they report the percentages of students meeting the college readiness benchmark scores.

The overall composite score for students taking the ACT during the 2022-2023 school year was 25.6, compared to 25.2 in 2021-2022. This increase was seen in all subject areas, Math, Science, STEM, English, Reading and Writing. Interestingly, in a recent [Education Week](#) article it was reported that the national average ACT composite score for the graduating class of 2023 was 19.5 out of a possible 36, down from 20.3 among the graduating class of 2021, and representing a 32-year low.

PSAT

This year we were again able to offer the PSAT to all sophomores and juniors, as well as any seniors who still needed to meet the Class of 2023 state graduation testing requirements. A total of 151 sophomores and 164 juniors took the PSAT assessment. Our students' scored an average of 1078, a 23 point increase over 2021 and also higher than the New Jersey average of 947 and the national average of 952. The average score for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing was 550 compared to 540 in 2021, and in Math, 528 compared to 514 in 2021, both being above the New Jersey and national averages.

National Merit Scholars Program

Each year, approximately 1.6 million students complete the PSAT/NMSQT exam and are eligible for recognition. 34,000 scorers were identified nationally as Commended Scholars, with nine NPHS students receiving this recognition, consistent with the number from the prior year. This recognition has been the highest in the last five years. Although the district had no National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists or Finalists this year, we did have six students receive the National Hispanic Recognition Award, and one student receive the National African American Recognition Award.

Advanced Placement and AP Scholars

The Advanced Placement exams were administered in May 2023. The high school has recently focused on increasing both the total number of students taking AP courses and the number of students taking the AP exams. Consequently, this year we saw close to a 30% increase in total AP students with 93% of these taking the corresponding AP exams, compared with 83% in 2022 and 70% in 2021.

The above increase has resulted in New Providence High School earning a place on the AP School Honor Roll for the 2022-23 school year. The AP School Honor Roll recognizes schools that have done outstanding work to welcome more students into AP courses and support them on the path to college success.

The number of AP Exams taken by students in 2023, 396, was the highest in the last five years. Of these 396, 83% received passing scores of 3 or more, compared to the 87% of exams that received a passing score in 2022. This lower number has led to the NPHS administration implementing a series of strategies including a deeper dive into the instructional reports produced by the College Board, the creation of a common resource of best instructional practices for AP teachers, more support for AP teachers and an analysis of other variables affecting AP Exam performance. These strategies will be revisited during the year and after the 2023 AP Exam scores are released to monitor their progress and overall effectiveness.

Historically, the College Board provided students with recognition for high achievement on numerous AP tests according to four categories:

- AP Scholar - student received scores of 3 or higher on three or more exams

- AP Scholar with Honor - student received an average of 3.25 on all exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams

- AP Scholar with Distinction - student received an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

At NPHS in 2023, 29% or 57 of the tested students were recognized in this program compared to 44% (66) of the tested students. The breakdown of these 57 students is shown below with the corresponding 2022 numbers. Historical data can be found in the presentation.

- 26 AP Scholars

- 8 AP Scholars with Honors

- 23 AP Scholars with Distinction

It is worth noting that for the first time in the history of AP testing at NPHS, we had a student achieve a perfect score on an AP Exam. This student was one of only 459 students in the world to earn every point possible on the AP Computer Science Principles Exam, receiving the maximum score on each portion of the exam.

In addition, 97.7% of the 2021 graduating class that enrolled in four-year colleges, remain in college 16 months after graduation. This is an important data point in concluding that the K-12 program is highly effective in preparing students for collegiate success.

Taken in its totality, the above data shows how the New Providence students continue to demonstrate academic growth as they move past the learning obstacles posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to make progress in developing career and college readiness. Our administrators, department heads, and teachers will continue to leverage these results and the data collected from local and district assessments to build a detailed picture of students' achievement, evaluate the efficiency of specific instructional strategies, and ensure that we are optimally addressing the specific needs of New Providence students.

The slides that follow continue the assessment data analysis and also provide a summary of the appropriate next steps.



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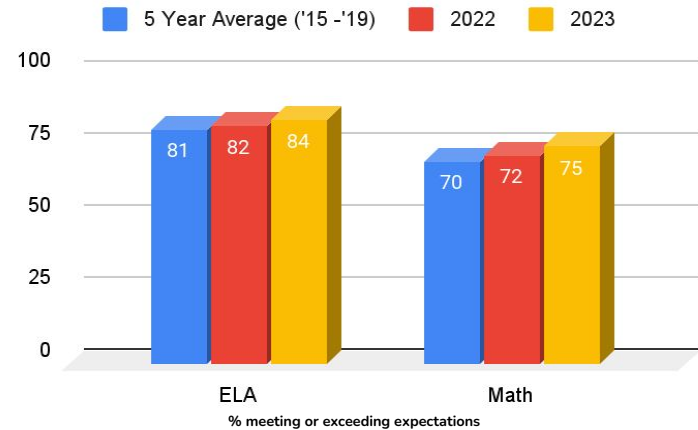
- ☐ [NJSLA](#)
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NJSLA

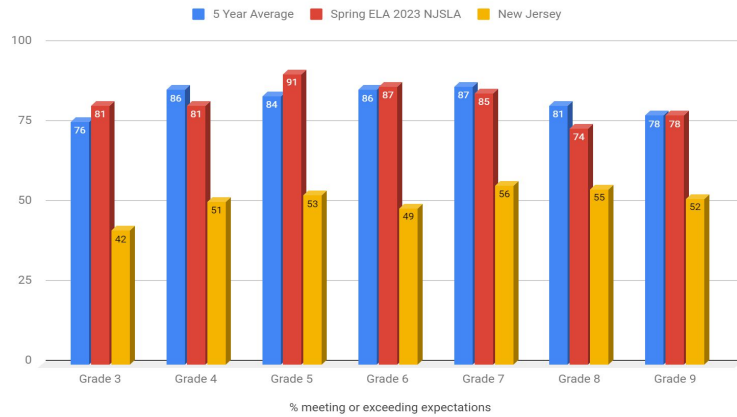


Overall NJSLA ELA/Math





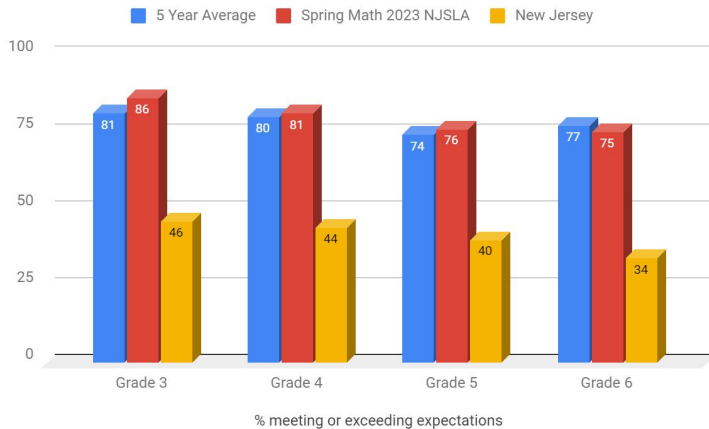
NJSLA ELA Scores 2023 v Five-Year Average (2016,17,18,19,22)



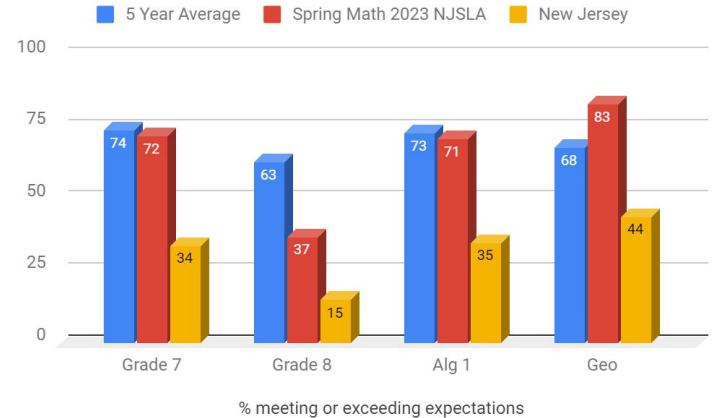
ELA	% meeting or exceeding expectations							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	20	21	2022	2023
Grade 3	77	76	76	79			70	81
Grade 4	83	84	92	81			90	81
Grade 5	80	86	84	87			83	91
Grade 6	84	85	88	85			89	87
Grade 7	87	89	83	94			84	85
Grade 8	73	78	87	85			80	74
Grade 9	78	77	81	80			73	78



NJSLA Math Scores 2023 v Five-Year Average (2016,17,18,19,22)



NJSLA Math Scores 2023 v Five-Year Average (2016,17,18,19,22)

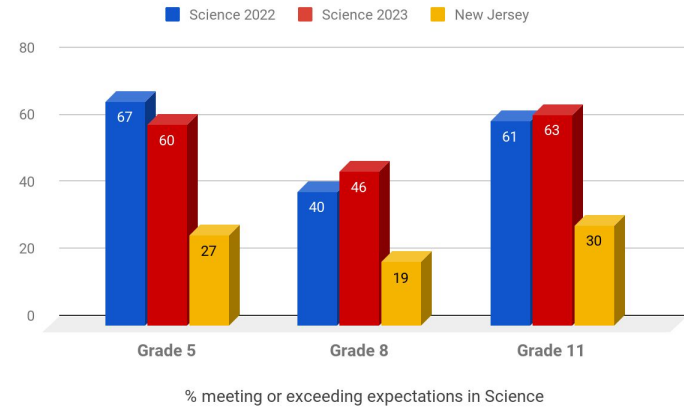




Math	% meeting or exceeding expectations							
	2016	2017	2018	2019	20	21	2022	2023
Grade 3	81	83	75	85			81	86
Grade 4	79	83	80	78			82	81
Grade 5	58	78	78	81			75	76
Grade 6	81	76	76	78			72	75
Grade 7	66	78	76	79			73	72
Grade 8	58	71	78	72			37	37



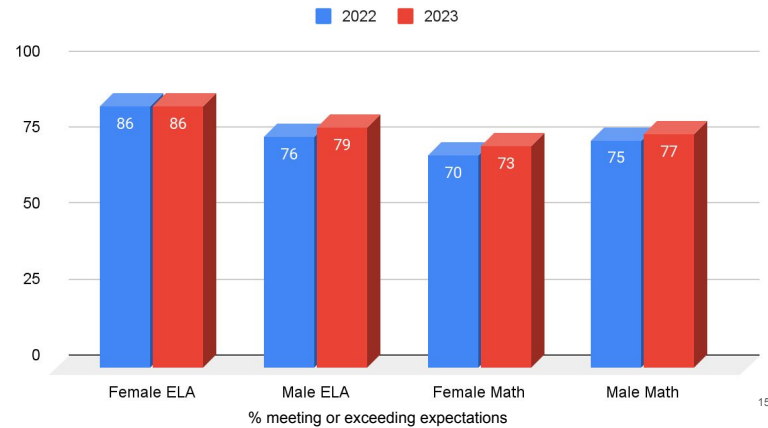
NJSLA Science Scores 2022 v 2023



NJSLA Sub Groups



Gender NJSLA ELA/Math 2022 vs 2023

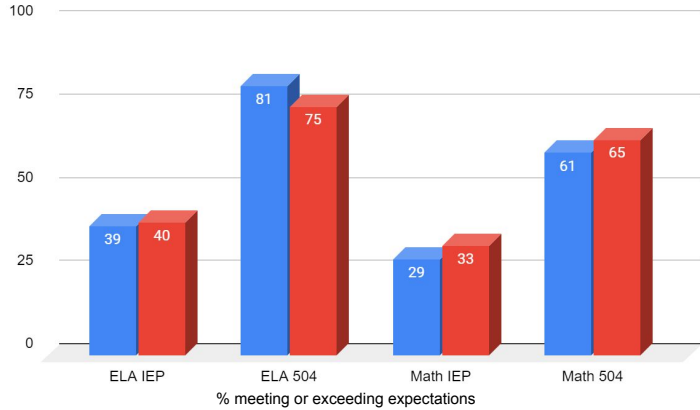




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Students with Disabilities
NJSLA ELA/Math 2022 vs 2023

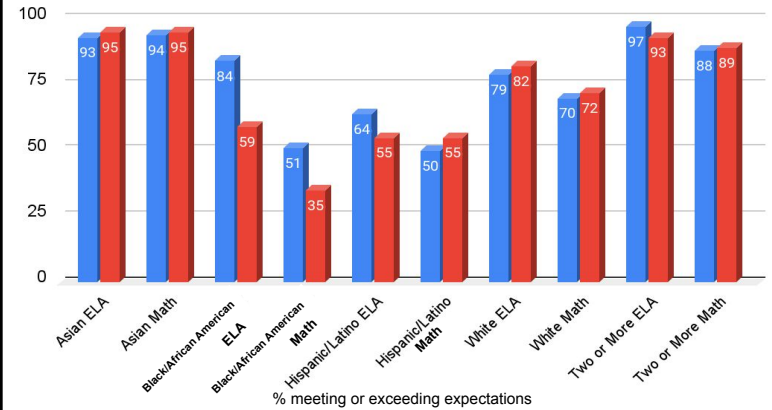
2022 2023



New Providence School District Assessment Report 2023

Ethnicity
NJSLA ELA/Math 2022 vs 2023

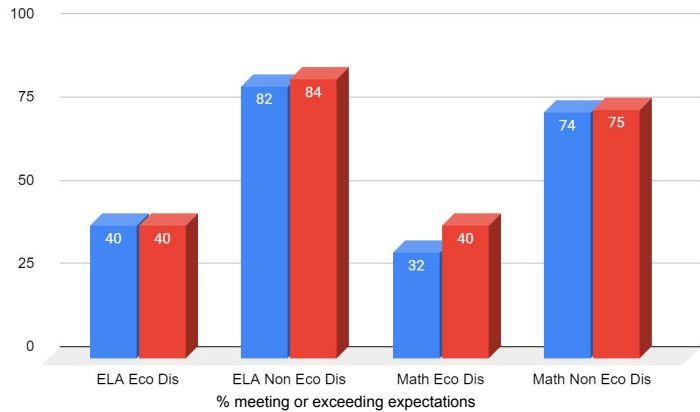
2022 2023



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Economically Disadvantaged Learners
NJSLA ELA/Math 2022 vs 2023

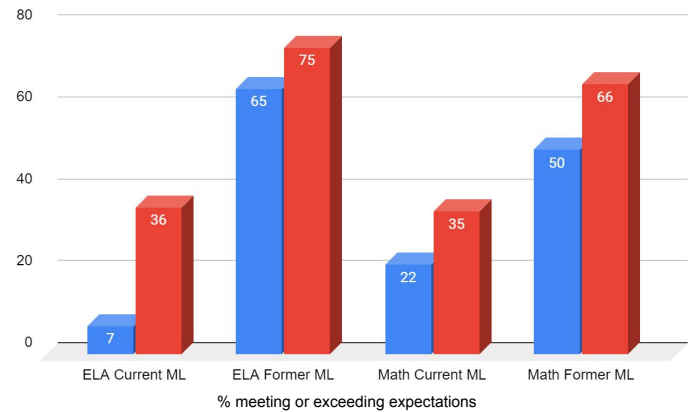
2022 2023



New Providence School District Assessment Report 2023

English Language Learners
NJSLA ELA/Math 2022 vs 2023

2022 2023





Recommendations/Interventions

- Use the data points to help identify students for additional programs and to provide differentiated support based on need.
- Continue the emphasis on standards-based instruction and local assessments designed around the needs of NJSLA.
- Use the iReady personalized instruction component to address needs identified by the diagnostic assessments.
- Examine the use of additional high-impact instructional strategies and targeted instruction in Math 8 and HS Algebra I.
- Continue to provide opportunities for teachers to collaborate around the areas of concern identified by the NJSLA data.
- Provide additional resources and support to multilingual learners.
- Identify and review appropriate 504s and IEPs to ensure appropriate accommodations and modifications are in place.



Dynamic Learning Maps



2022-2023 Dynamic Learning Maps

- The DLM's are online, alternative assessment for students with special education needs.
- IEPs determine the student eligibility based on significant cognitive disability.
- DLMs are offered in Language Arts, Math, and Science.
- A small percentage of district students took the DLM in their current educational settings.
- The results are shared with parents and used by IEP teams for goals and objectives.



SAT



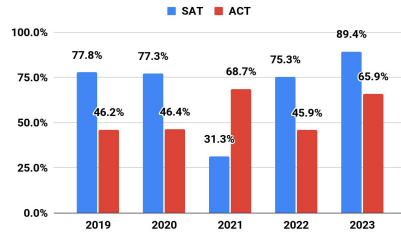
SAT and ACT Testing Trends

Total Number of Students Tested

Class	SAT		ACT	
	NPHS	NJ	NPHS	NJ
2023	152	73,353	112	
2022	110	72,338	67	*
2021	85	54,415	46	*
2020	116	82,988	70	*
2019	133	84,602	79	26,266

*Not published

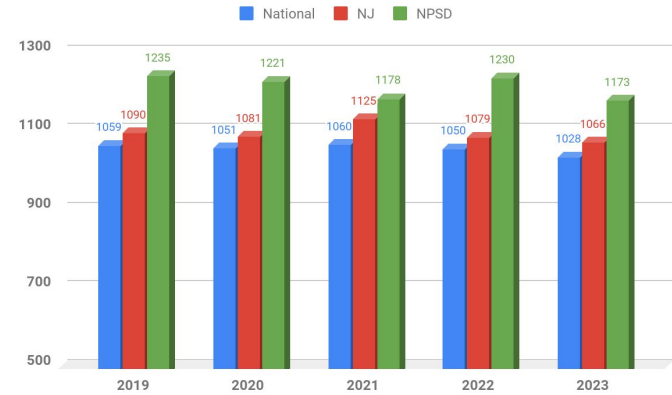
Percentage of Total Class



Data from SAT Cohort Final Report for New Providence High School 2019-2022; SAT Suite of Assessments Annual Report New Jersey; ACT Profile Reports for New Providence High School 2018-2020; ACT Online Reporting Portal 2021-2023; PowerSchool



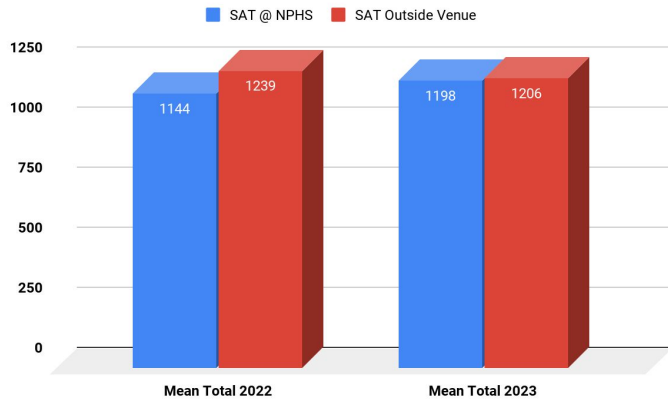
SAT Average Scores 2019-2023



Max score = 1600



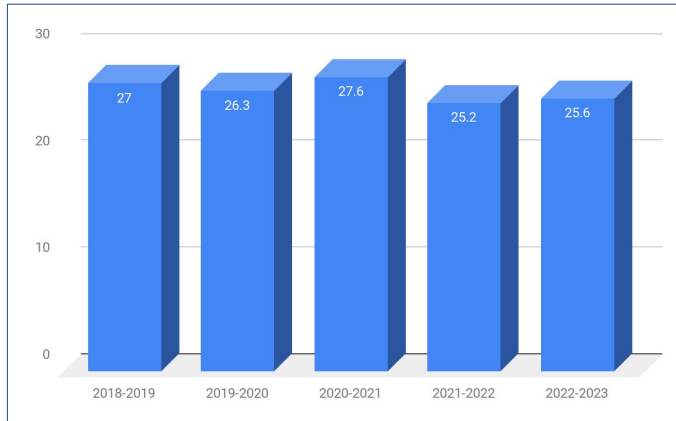
SAT at NPHS vs SAT Taken at Outside Venue



ACT



ACT Average Scores 2017-2022



Data now reported by school year.

Max score = 36



ACT Average Scores 2018-2023

School Year	Composite	Math	Science	STEM	English	Reading	Writing	ELA
2022-2023	25.6	25.1	24.9	25.2	25.9	26.4	9.0	31.0
2021-2022	25.2	24.6	24.7	24.9	25.7	25.4	8.1	25.0
2020-2021	27.6	27.0	26.3	26.8	28.4	28.5	8.4	26.5
2019-2020	26.3	26.2	25.3	26.0	26.3	26.8	8.0	25.3
2018-2019	27.0	26.9	25.9	26.7	27.6	27.3	8.5	26.6

Max score = 36

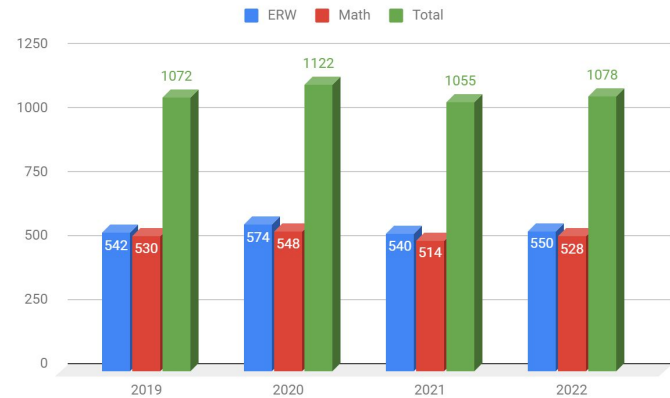
Data from ACT Online Reporting Portal



PSAT and National Merit Scholars



PSAT Average Scores October 2022

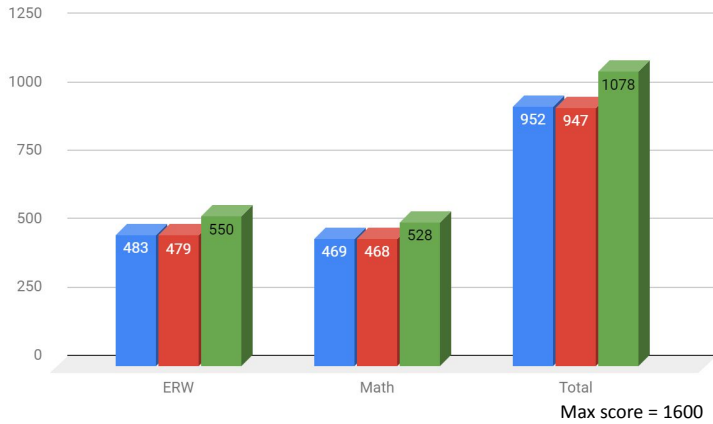


Max score = 1600



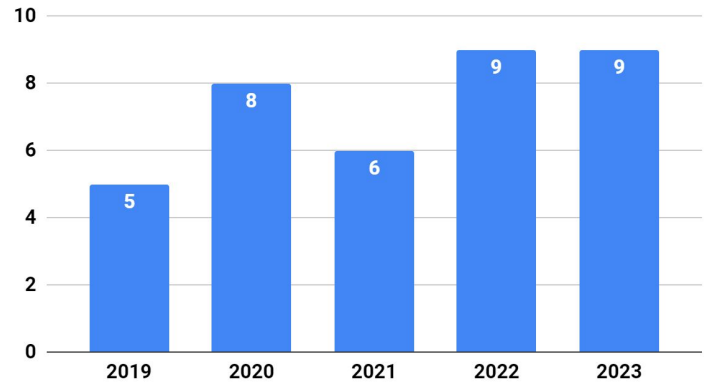
PSAT Average Scores 2022

■ National ■ NJ ■ NPSD

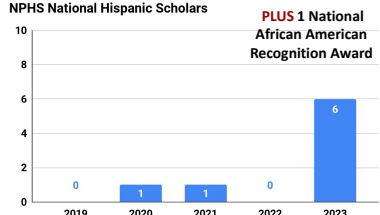
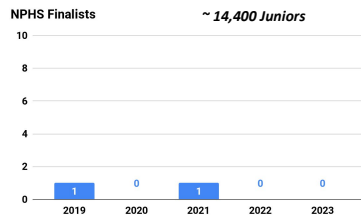
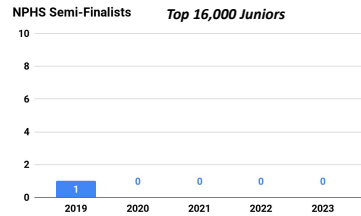
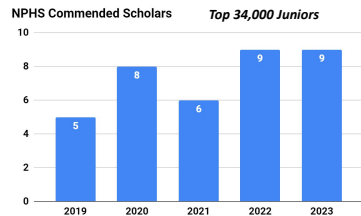


National Merit Scholars

NPNS Commended Scholars



National Merit Scholars



Recommendations/Interventions

- Examine the use of additional high-impact instructional strategies and targeted instruction in Math 8 and HS Algebra I.
- Continue to administer the PSAT, SAT, and ACT during the school day and pay for the PSAT for Sophomores and Juniors at NPNS
- Continue to explore the possibility of providing the opportunity for the pre-ACT in the future.
- Continue to advise students to take at least one standardized test.
- Provide students easy access to SAT and ACT practice via Albert.io.
- Continue to work with the PTSA on providing SAT and ACT Boot Camps on weekends.
- Distribute the PSAT practice questions from College Board in September.



Advanced Placement and AP Scholars

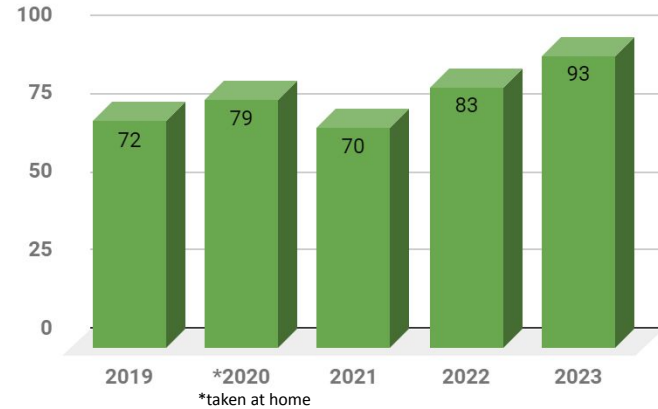


SILVER
AP 2023 School Honor Roll
New Providence High School



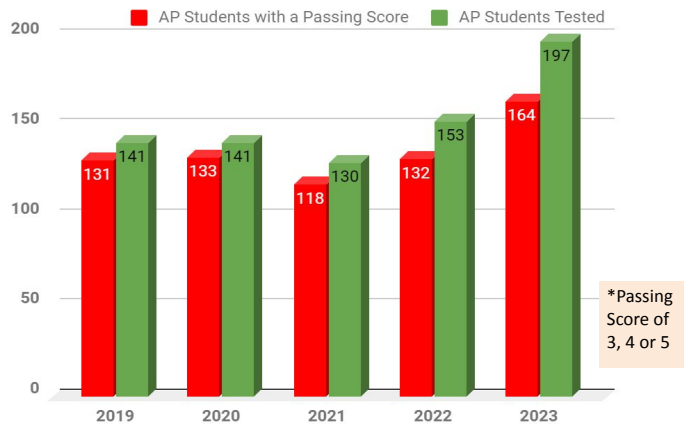
AP Test Enrollment - 2019 - 2023

Percentage of Students Enrolled in an AP Course who took the AP Exam



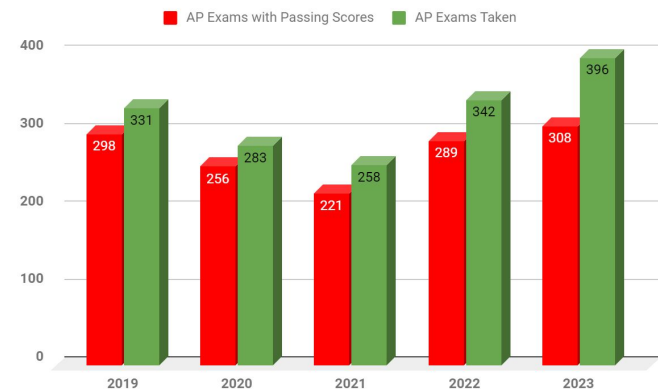
AP Achievement 2019-2023

AP Students with at least one Passing Score vs AP Students Tested



AP Achievement 2019-2023

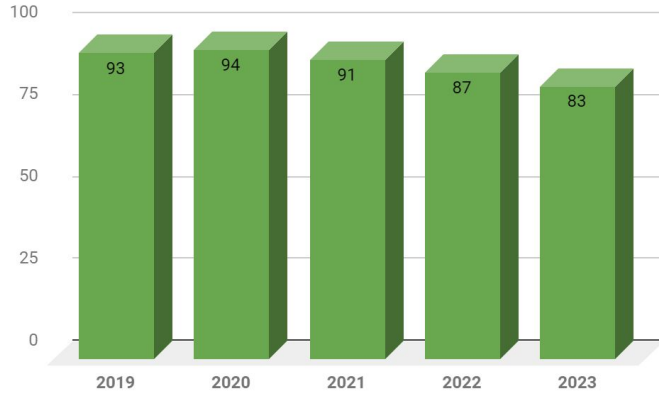
AP Exams with Passing Scores vs AP Exams Taken





AP Achievement 2019-2023

Percentage of AP Exams with Passing Scores



AP Achievement - Computer Science

Includes One Perfect Score!

Sebastian Mercado

(Class of 2026)

Sebastian not only received the top score of 5, but was also one of only 459 students in the world to earn every point possible on the AP Computer Science Principles Exam, receiving the maximum score on each portion of the exam.



AP Scholars

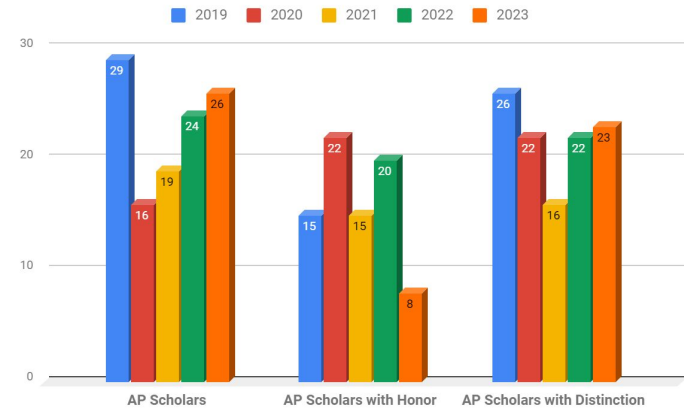
Levels of Recognition

AP Scholar	Student received scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams
AP Scholar with Honor	Student received an average of 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams
AP Scholar with Distinction	Student received an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams

The National AP Scholar Program was discontinued in January 2021 by the College Board.



AP Scholars





Recommendations/Interventions

- Provide additional PD opportunities for all AP teachers.
- Examine strategies to promote AP courses in the World language department.
- Adapt the AP Teacher Cohort program to address the different needs of the AP teachers and provide focused mentoring.
- Create a resource highlighting high-impact AP instructional strategies for new AP teachers.
- Examine the external variables that may potentially affect AP Exam performance, such as AP course entry requirements and lost instructional time.
- Monitor student performance in the AP classrooms and the correlation between AP Scores and class grades.
- Create student AP Study Groups prior to testing.



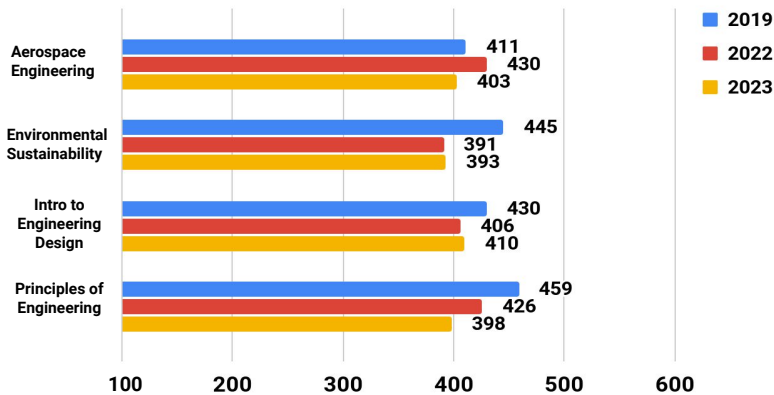
Project Lead the Way

New NPMS program is also in development



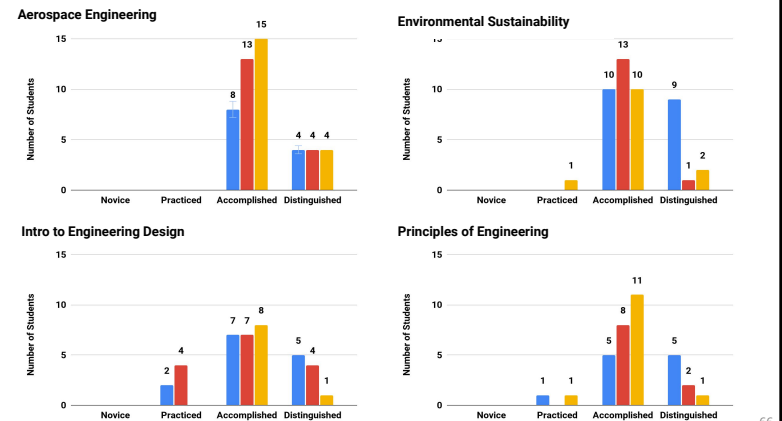
PLTW

Average Scores by Course



PLTW

By Achievement Level



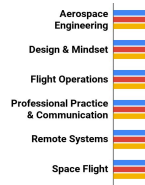


PLTW

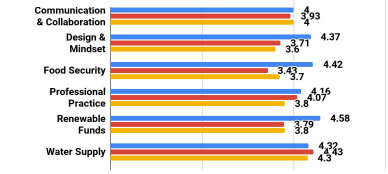
Skill Cluster Score Averages

2019 2022 2023

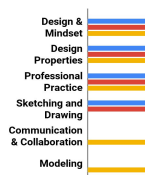
Aerospace Engineering



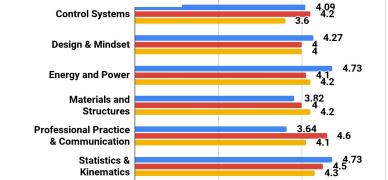
Environmental Sustainability



Intro to Engineering Design



Principles of Engineering



Recommendations/Interventions

- Continue to support and provide focused professional development to new staff teaching the PLTW courses.
- Analyze the skill cluster scores averages provided by PLTW for each course to identify areas of need and to design instruction to address these areas.
- Continue to provide instruction that addresses the skills contained in the Skill Clusters as a way to develop in students the important in-demand transportable skills.
- Add additional NPMS courses to enhance the PLTW program across the two schools.



ACADEMIC PREPARATION

- Content and Skills Mastery
- Transfer of Knowledge
- Complex Problem Solving
- Independence

Digital Citizenship

- Literacy
- Responsibility
- Security

GROWTH MINDSET

- Adaptable and Resilient
- Lifelong Learner
- Open-Mindedness
- Innovative Thinking
- Creativity
- Digital Literacy & Creativity
- Technology Design & Programming

A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

- Setting and Achieving Goals
- College, Career, and Life Readiness

SOCIAL SKILLS

- Cooperation & Communication
- Listening • Conflict Resolution
- Building Positive Relationships
- Leadership • Role Model
- Emotional Intelligence • Self-awareness
- Self-regulation • Empathy • Integrity

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

- Positively Contributes to Society
- Culturally, Socially, and Environmentally Respectful
- Ethical Behavior and Civic Responsibility

2021
91.2% of class students entered 4-year colleges = **134 students**

16 months later
131 students still in 4-year colleges (97.7%)