

Congratulations class of



2025

Marion P. Thomas Charter School

Superintendent's Report
June 23, 2025



The MPTCS Mission

Reimagining Education - It takes a Village!



The mission of Marion P. Thomas Charter School is to build culturally rich, transformative educational spaces that cultivate successful, lifelong innovators who use their passions, character, and intellect to better themselves, the greater Newark community, and the world beyond.



The Tree of Knowledge



The Torch



The Sankofa



The Tiger



Superintendent's Report

Agenda



- Attendance
- Academic Updates
 - Standards-based grading
 - NJGPA Results - Class of 2026
- Highlights and Celebrations



The Tree of Knowledge



The Torch



The Sankofa



The Tiger

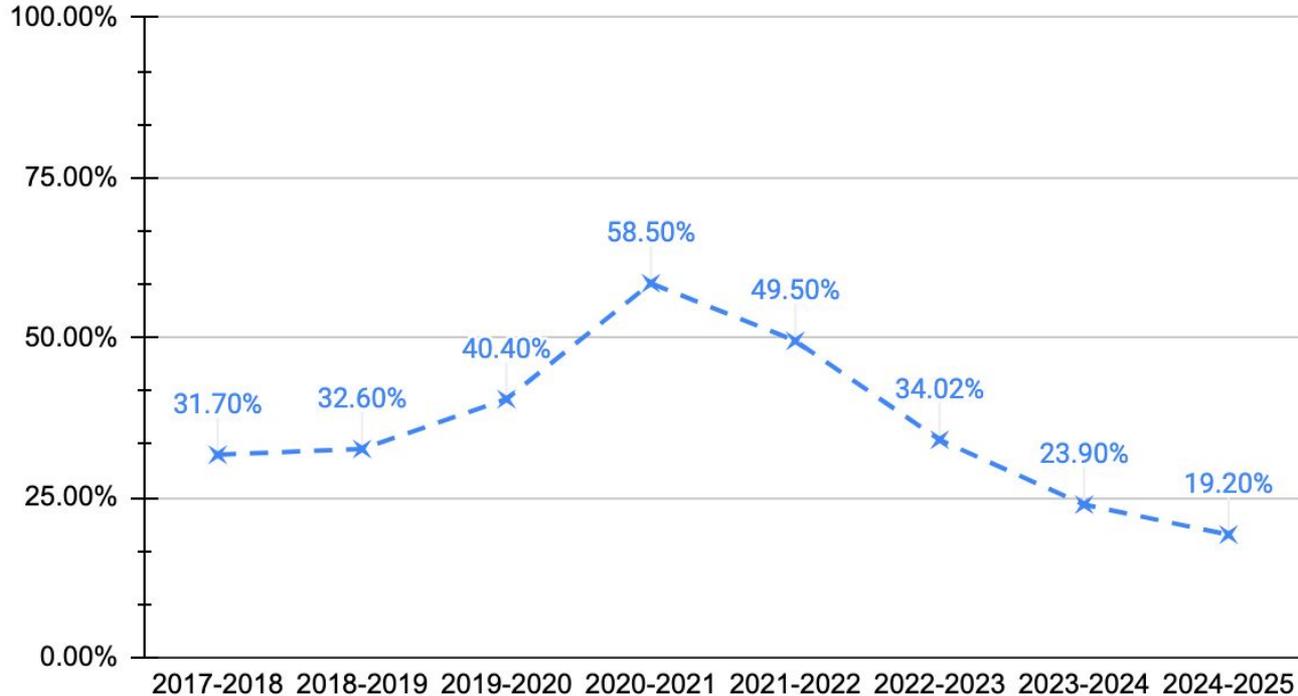
ATTENDANCE





ATTENDANCE DATA

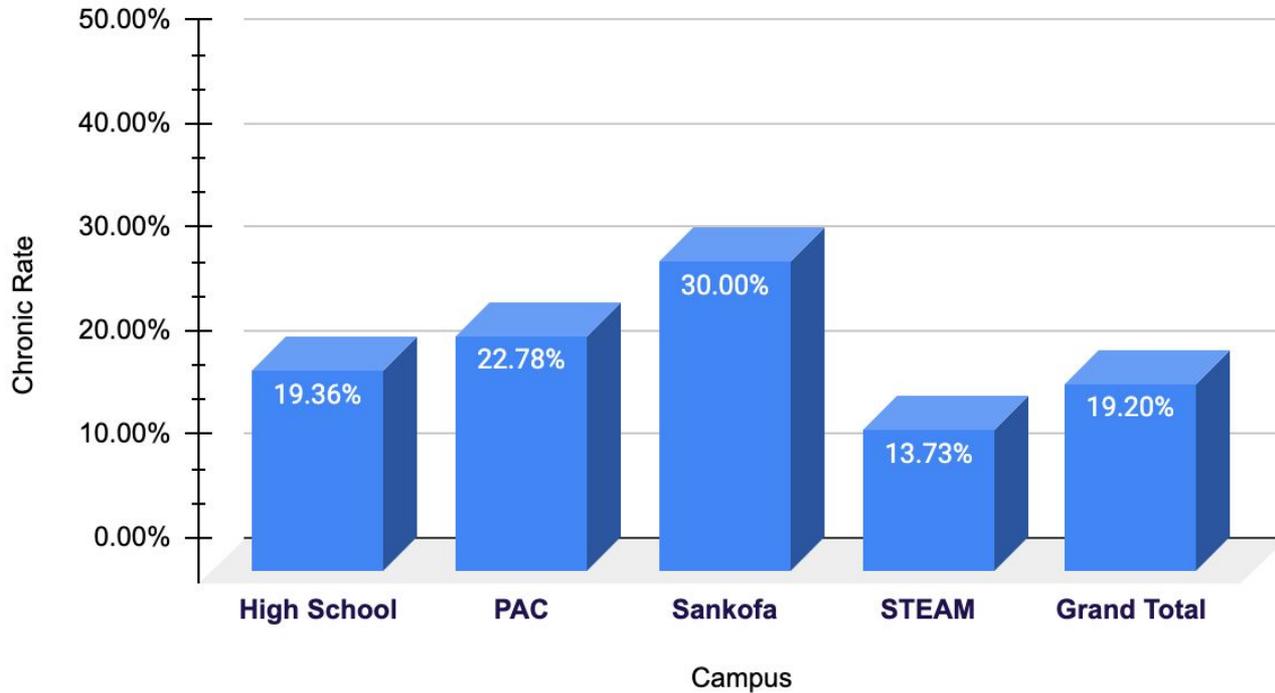
Percent of Students Chronically Absent



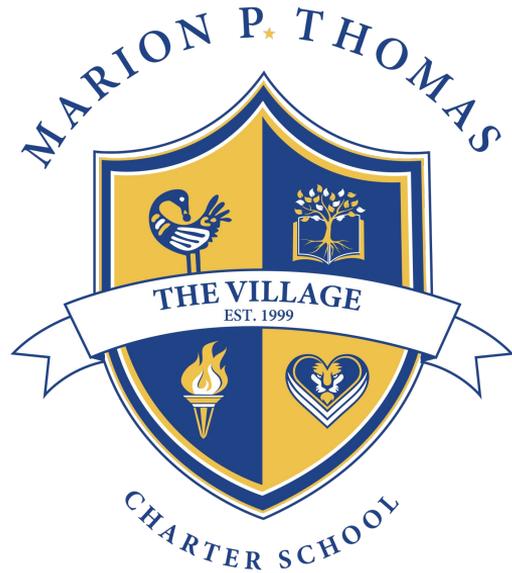


ATTENDANCE DATA

Percent Chronic by Campus



Standards-Based Grading





Purpose of Report Cards



- Clearly and accurately communicate what students **know and can do** in relation to academic standards
- Provide feedback to support learning
- Document student growth over time

“Grades are supposed to be a form of communication - not compensation, not control.”

Rick Wormeli (2018)

***Teacher, School Administrators, and Central Office working together to support the shift to SBG!*





Key Features of Standards-Based Grading



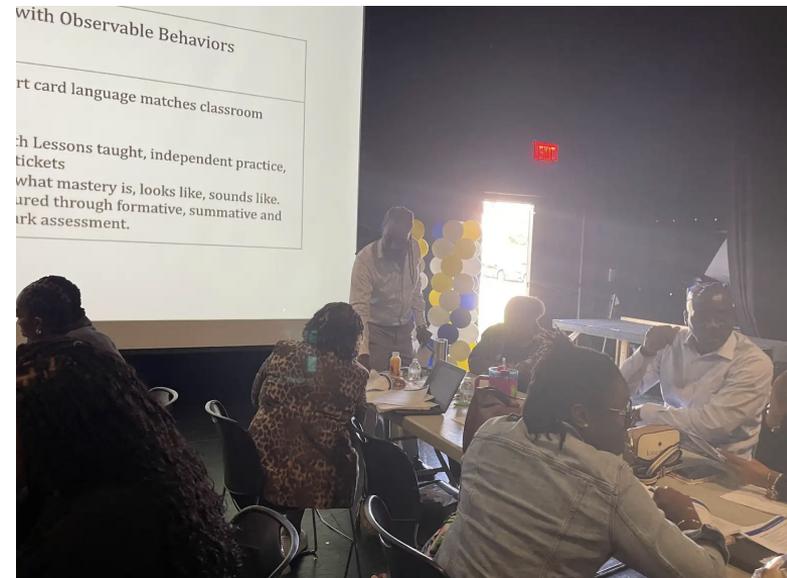
- **Focus on learning standards:** All assessments are aligned to specific state or district standards
- **Proficiency levels:** Students are scored based upon mastery levels
- **Reassessment opportunities:** Students are allowed and encouraged to relearn and reassess to demonstrate growth
- **No averaging of grades:** Most recent and/or most consistent evidence of learning is used
- **Separation of academics and behavior:** homework, participation, behavior, effort, etc. are reported separate from academic mastery



Neighboring Districts



- Many neighboring districts throughout the State of New Jersey have fully transitioned to or are in the process of transitioning to standards-based grading.
- Some districts include:
 - South Orange-Maplewood School District
 - Hamilton School District
 - West Orange Public Schools
 - Cedar Grove Public Schools
 - Jersey City Golden Door Charter School
 - Secaucus Public School District





Progress Indicators



Current Grading Scale

Academic Evaluation Key		Evaluation Legend
A+ - 100-95	C+ - 79-75	O - Outstanding
A - 94-90	C - 74-70	S - Satisfactory
B+ - 89-85	D - 69-65	R - Reinforcement
B - 84-80	F - 64 & Below	U - Unsatisfactory
* - Improvement Needed	INC - Incomplete	NA - Not applicable
M - Medical	NM - No Mark	

Progress Indicators

Progress Indicators – Academic Subject Areas	
4	- Consistently Exceeds the Standard
3	- Meets the Standard
2	- Approaches the Standard
1	- Does not meet the Standard
CI	- Concept Introduced
NE	- Not Evaluated at this time

- Shift for K-8 Grade Levels ONLY
 - Grades 6-8 will still have a numerical grade value
- SBG report card - Need alignment with pacing guide and assessment criteria
- What happens if a standard isn't fully taught yet?
 - CI - Concept Introduced
 - NE - Not Evaluated



Current vs. Future



Current 1st Grade MPTCS

Marking Period:	1	2	3	4	F
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS					
READING					
- Applies phonetic principles when reading					
- Identifies grade level sight words and vocabulary					
- Can read orally with confidence and proficiency					
- Participates in projects					
- Comprehends Text					
- Demonstrates Comprehension					
- Participates in projects					
- Knows and understands facts and concepts					
- Geography					
- Completes and returns homework on time					
WRITING					
- Writes in clear, concise organized language					
- Uses standard English convention in writing					
- Writes for different purposes and a variety of audiences					

SBG 1st Grade - Future MPTCS

ACADEMIC GRADING SCALE				BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVES & SPECIAL AREA GRADING SCALE																																																																																																																																																																																																							
<p>4 - EXEMPLARY: Student demonstrates an advanced understanding of concepts, skills, and processes taught in this reporting period.</p> <p>3 - PROFICIENT: Student consistently demonstrates an understanding of concepts, skills, and processes taught in this reporting period.</p> <p>2 - DEVELOPING: Student is not yet consistent in demonstrating an understanding of concepts, skills, and processes taught in this reporting period.</p> <p>1 - EMERGING: Student does not demonstrate an understanding of grade level concepts, skills, and processes taught in this reporting period.</p>				<p>C - CONSISTENTLY</p> <p>U - USUALLY</p> <p>NI - NEEDS IMPROVEMENT</p>																																																																																																																																																																																																							
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Shifting to Trimesters



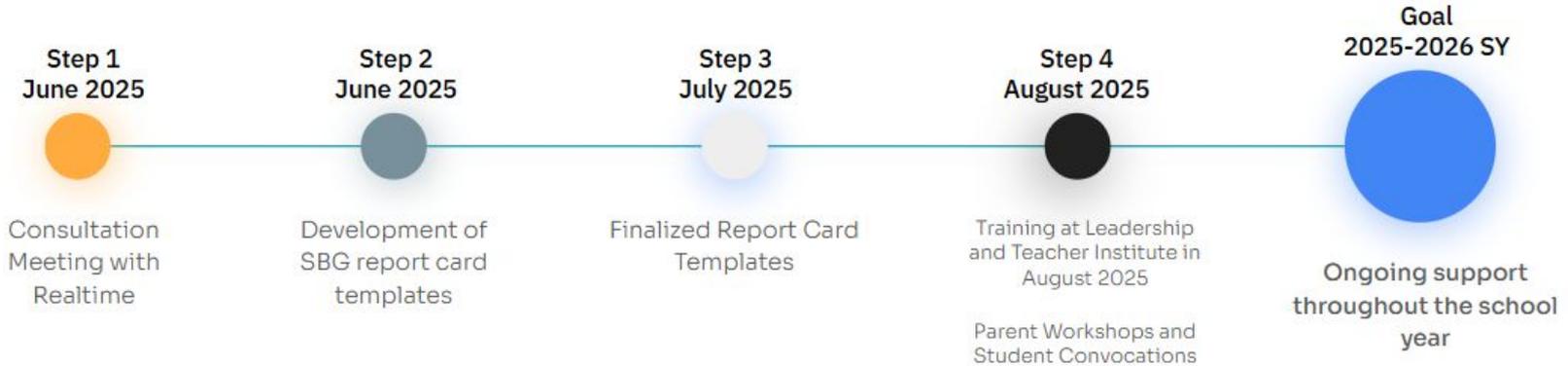
- Kindergarten to 8th Grade will shift to trimesters for the 2025-2026 SY
- Logistical Implications
 - Revised School Calendar
 - Impacts previously approved parent/teacher conference dates
 - BOT approval on 6/23

Benefits include...

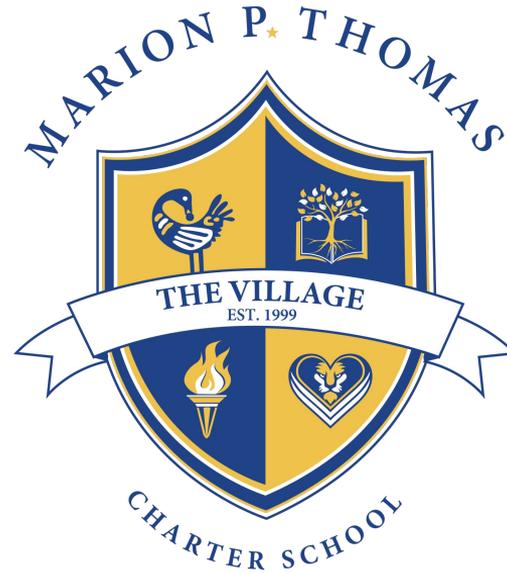
- Longer instructional block (re-teaching and re-assessment)
 - Approximately 60 days
- Allow for flexibility in pacing and alignment
- Students have multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery over time
- More meaningful progress reporting



Project Timeline



NJGPA



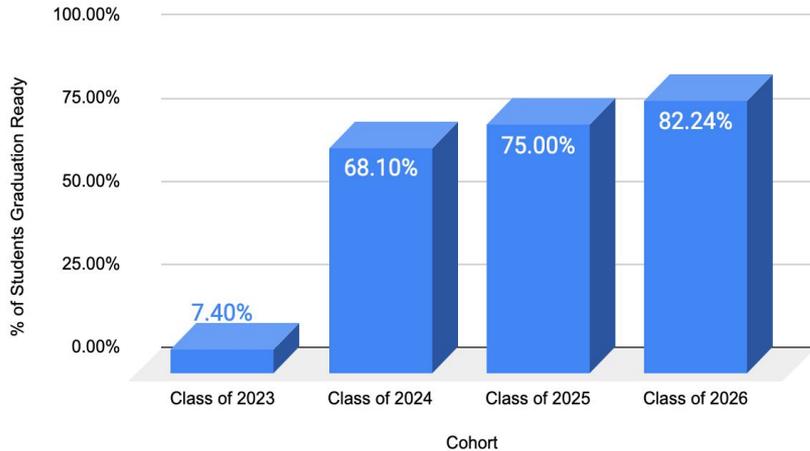
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NJGPA - Four Year Trend

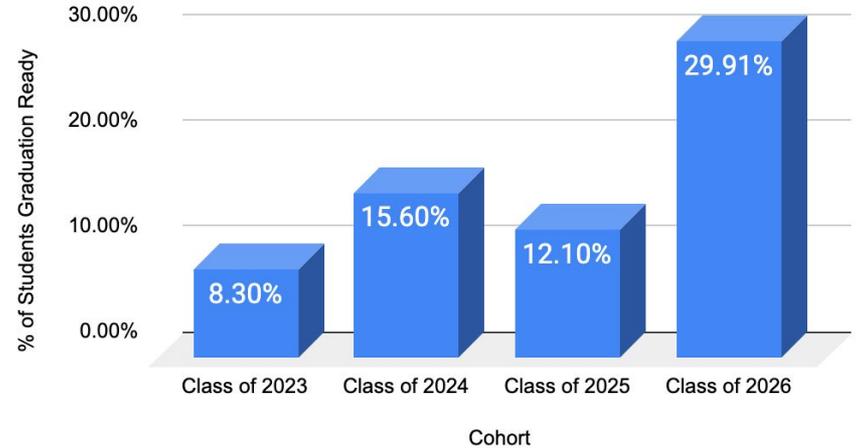


NJGPA - ELA Four Year Trend



****Surpassed state graduation readiness of 80.7%**

NJGPA - Math Four Year Trend



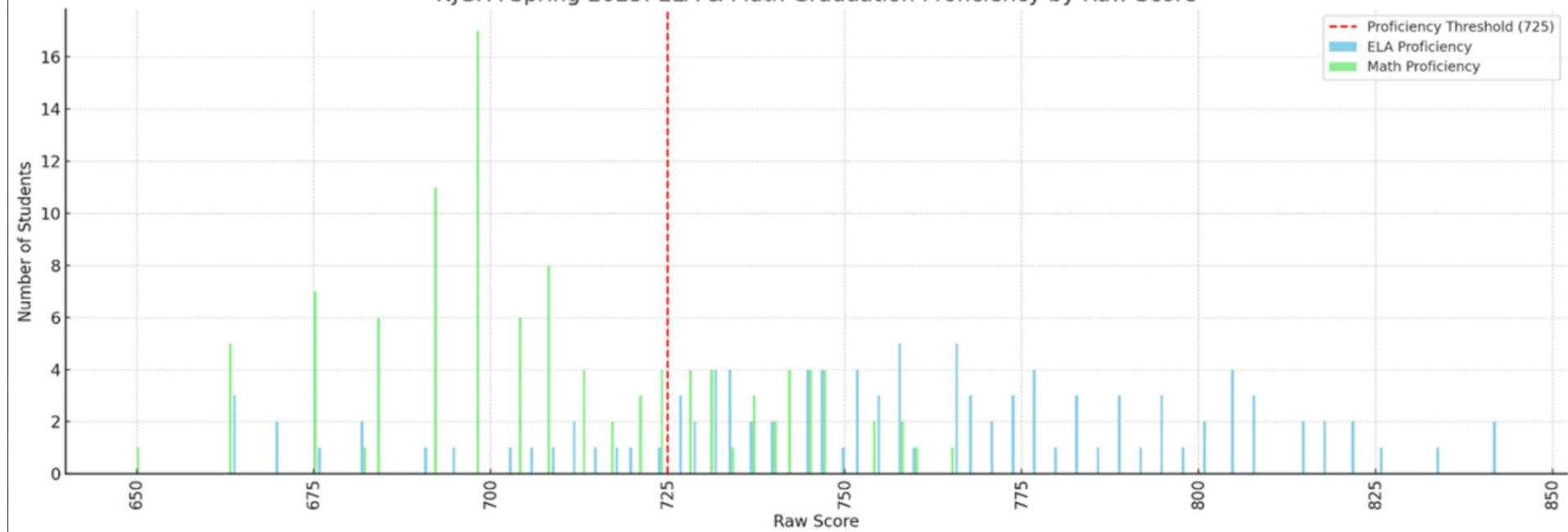
Did not surpass state graduation readiness of 58.0%



NJGPA - Four Year Trends



NJGPA Spring 2025: ELA & Math Graduation Proficiency by Raw Score



Celebrations and Highlights





Sankofa Academy Class of 2025





STEAM Academy Class of 2025





PAC Academy Class of 2025





High School Class of 2025



Thank you for listening!



Kindergarten



English Language Arts



Diving into K-ELA



Kindergarten NJSLS – Literacy Overview

<p>Foundational Skills (RF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Follow print● Recognize letters/sounds● Decode simple words	<p>Reading Literature (RL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ask/answer questions● Retell stories● Identify characters, setting	<p>Reading Informational Text (RI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Identify topic/details● Ask questions● Make connections
<p>Writing (W)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Use drawings/words● Tell stories/facts● Focus on topic	<p>Speaking & Listening (SL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Join conversations● Ask/answer questions● Describe people, places	<p>Language (L)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Age-appropriate grammar● Explore word meanings● Apply writing conventions



Diving into K-ELA



Translating NJSLS for Report Cards: Reading Domain

Step 1: Start with the NJSLS Language	Step 2: Combine & Simplify Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ “Retell familiar stories including key details.”◆ “Identify the main topic and key details of a text.”◆ “Identify characters, settings, and major events.”◆ “Compare and contrast key details in two texts on the same topic.”	<p>Group standards by theme (e.g., comprehension, comparison)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Focus on what students do with texts● Use consistent action verbs: <i>retells, identifies, compares</i>



Diving into K-ELA



Translating NJSLS for Report Cards: Reading Domain

<p>Step 3: Use Student and Parent-Friendly Language</p>	<p>Step 4: Align with Observable Behaviors</p>
<p>Reword for clarity and accessibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ “Retells stories with important details”✓ “Identifies the main idea and details”✓ “Names characters, setting, and key events”✓ “Compares key details in two texts”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure report card language matches classroom evidence✓ Aligned with read-aloud discussions✓ Matches independent reading tasks✓ Supports formative assessment and conferencing

Kindergarten



Mathematics



Diving into K-Math



Kindergarten NJSLS – Mathematics Overview

<p>Counting and Cardinality (CC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know number names and the count sequence.• Count to tell the number of objects.• Compare numbers.	<p>Operations and Algebraic Thinking (OA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.	<p>Number and Operations in Base Ten (NBT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with numbers 11–19 to gain foundations for place value.
<p>Measurement (M)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe and compare measurable attributes.• Work with money.	<p>Data Literacy (DL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classify objects and count the number of objects in categories	<p>Geometry (G)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and describe shapes (squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, spheres).• Analyze, compare, create, and compose shapes.



Diving into K-Math



Translating NJSLS for Report Cards: Mathematics Domain

Step 1: Start with the NJSLS Language	Step 2: Combine & Simplify Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ “Retell familiar stories including key details.”◆ “Identify the main topic and key details of a text.”◆ “Identify characters, settings, and major events.”◆ “Compare and contrast key details in two texts on the same topic.”	<p>Group standards by theme (e.g., comprehension, comparison)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Focus on what students must be able to do with word, numbers, picture, objects● Use consistent action verbs that push students to the actual skill that “shows the math”



Diving into K-Math



Translating NJSLS for Report Cards: Mathematics Domain

Step 3: Use Student and Parent-Friendly Language	Step 4: Align with Observable Behaviors
<p>Reword for clarity and accessibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ "Counts to 100 by ones and tens."✓ "Counts starting from any number you know."✓ "Writes numbers 0-20, matches numbers to objects."✓ "Counts up to 20 things, even in different shapes."✓ "Counts each object one time in the right order."✓ "Identifies with group has more, less, or the same."✓ "Compares numbers 1-10 using number symbols."	<p> Ensure report card language matches classroom evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Align with Lessons taught, independent practice, and exit tickets❑ Express what mastery is, looks like, sounds like.❑ Be measured through formative, summative and benchmark assessment.