

**Gaston County Schools
Operations Committee
Monday, September 8, 2025**

MINUTES

The Operations Committee met on Monday, September 8, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in the Central Office Board Room, 943 Osceola Street, Gastonia, NC. The Committee Members in attendance were: Dot Cherry and Tod Kinlaw. Chairman Brent Moore and Lee Dedmon were absent and excused. Dot Cherry chaired the meeting.

Additional attendees included: BOE Chairman Josh Crisp, Superintendent Dr. Morgen A. Houchard, Attorney Sonya McGraw, Associate Superintendents Gary Hoskins and Tonya Kales, Executive Director Beth Suber, Assistant Superintendent Bessie Harvey, Chief Communications Officer Todd Hagans, Chief Technology Officer Curtis Poplin, Chief of Staff Tom Nencetti, Executive Directors Kevin Doran and Bryan Denton, and Board Clerk Cindy Beck.

Ms. Dot Cherry called the meeting to order at 8:28 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

Approval/Correction of the Minutes

The August 4th, 2025, Minutes will be held for the October Meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

State Budget Update

Associate Superintendent Gary Hoskins presented the State Budget Update. The Budget Proposal was approved by Governor Stein on March 19th, the NC Senate on April 14th, and the NC House on May 16th. At this time, Mr. Hoskins advised that the comprehensive Budget has not been finalized, and the Mini Budget is in place based on House Bill 125.

Mr. Hoskins presented that there were no salary increases at this time. However, the Mini Budget did provide for experience step increases for teachers. The state scale did not change for step increases.

Mr. Hoskins reported that Health insurance increased to \$8,500 from \$8,095. Retirement increased from 24.05% to 24.67%

Mr. Hoskins continued by giving an update on the \$7 million cut in low-wealth funding. Mr. Hoskins also reminded the Committee that the General Assembly approved an increase in State Appropriations for the Opportunity Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve. Mr. Hoskins reported that \$200 million was the increase for 2024-2025, and an increase of \$600 million for the Opportunity Scholarship Grant Funds or tuition of private schools, regardless of an applicant's family income.

Mr. Hoskins noted that the General Assembly reconvenes on the week of September 22nd and one week each month thereafter to review the Budget.

(View Presentation)

Operations Updates

Assistant Superintendent Bessie Harvey presented the following updates on the Retaining Wall at Stuart W. Cramer High School.

- Notice to proceed 8/28/25
- Construction Start Date 9/1/2025,
- Pre-Construction Meeting 9/4/2025
 - Expectations/Safety/Monitoring
 - Contact/Roles and responsibilities
 - Notification sent (neighbors and Carolina Thread Trail)
- Expected substantial completion date 2/26/26
 - Athletic schedule to accommodate construction schedule
 - Alternate baseball schedules are being developed with Schedule A/B
 - Non-conference games are scheduled away
 - Conference games 1st week in March

Ms. Harvey then presented the information for the installation of the Emergency Responder Communication Coverage System (ERCCS) in 28 schools with inadequate emergency responder radio coverage (VIPER & UASI systems).

Ms. Harvey reported that the four vendors submitted proposals. Harris Communications was selected from the bidding process.

Ms. Harvey presented the information on the trash removal at All GCS Locations. Weekly (or more frequent) solid waste collection and removal at all school sites. Roll-off containers provided as needed (billed separately).

(View Presentation)

Strategic Plan Discussion

Chief of Staff Tom Nencetti presented the information on the Gaston County Schools Strategic Plan 2030 as a draft. Mr. Nencetti shared that the District information has been carefully curated to help align the entire District with a shared vision.

Mr. Nencetti presented SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) Goals– Academics that Build Pathways to Student Success, Sustainable Financial Stewardship, Efficient & Responsive Operations, Comprehensive Student Support, Talent and Workforce Development, Effective Communications/Public Relations, and Technology Goals.

Mr. Necetti advised that the next steps with the Strategic Plan would be to gather input from Board Members, Teachers, Principals, Assistant Principals, Staff, Students, Parents, and Community Leaders.

(View Presentation)

Legal Updates

Attorney Sonya McGraw presented the information on House Bill 959, which created a new requirement for School Boards to have a policy prohibiting students from displaying wireless devices or having them turned on during instructional time (with few exceptions) and to establish consequences for violations.

Chairman Crisp advised that further review from the Board and Board Policy Committee will be needed.

(View Presentation)

2024-2025 State Data Results

Associate Superintendent of Academic Services, Tonya Kales, and Chief Accountability Officer, Kelly Cunningham, presented the official end-of-year results for the **2024-2025 school year**.

Ms. Kales and Ms. Cunningham provided an overview of the North Carolina Accountability Model and highlighted key data points from the State Accountability results. She noted that the information would be framed using the 3 C's: Clarity, Context of the Accountability Model, and Candor.

(View Presentation)

Other Business and Discussion

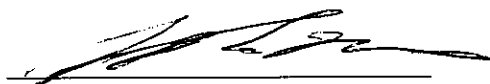
The next Operations Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2025, in the Central Office Board Room beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Adjournment

All business being conducted, the meeting was adjourned.

The Operations Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Approved:



Brent Moore, Chairman

Date Approved: 10-6-25

Board of Education **Operations Committee Meeting**

Central Office Board Room
September 8, 2025

Operations Committee Agenda

- Call to Order
- Review and Approve Minutes
 - **August 4th, 2025**

State Budget Update

Gary Hoskins
Associate Superintendent and CFO

State Budget Update

Biennial Budget Proposals 2025-2027

- Governor Stein - March 19th
- NC Senate - April 14th
- NC House - May 16th



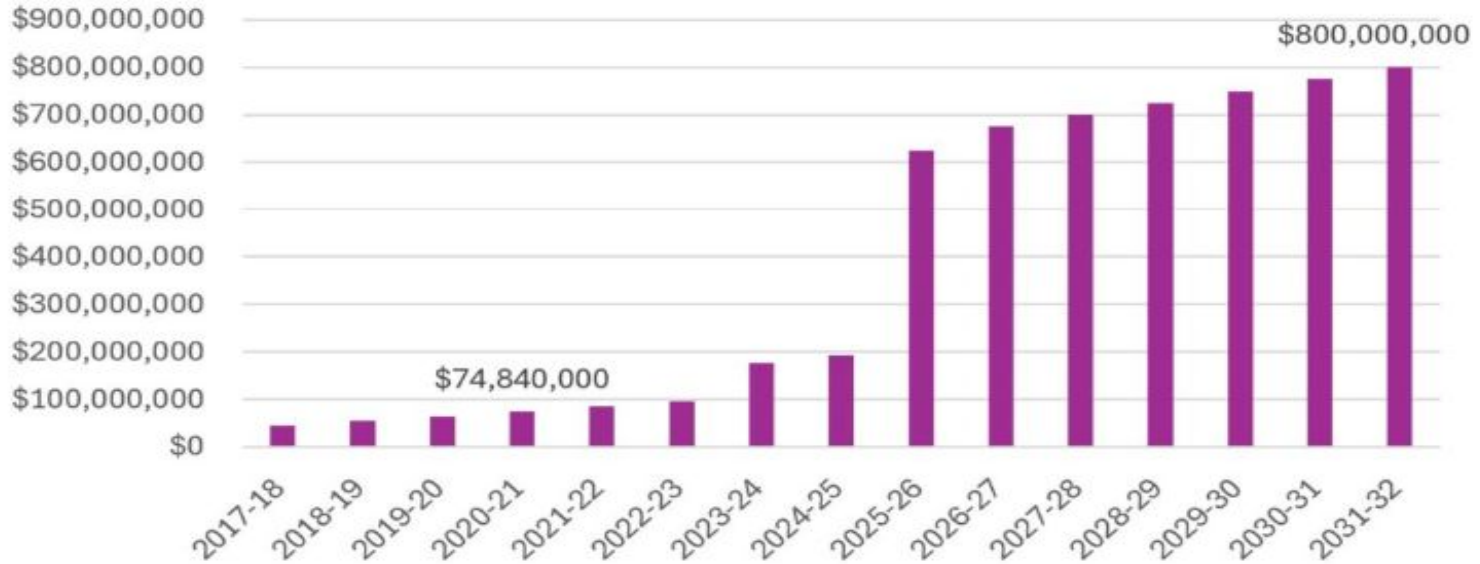
State Budget Update

“Mini” Budget - House Bill 125

- Signed by Governor Stein - August 6th
- Funded State base budget
- No salary increases at this time
- Provided for experience steps for teachers
- Health insurance \$8,500 / Retire. 24.67%

State Budget Update

Increase in State Appropriations for the Opportunity
Scholarship Grant Fund Reserve



Data analysis by EdNC

State Budget Update

Legislative Calendar

- General Assembly reconvenes - the week of September 22nd and one week each month thereafter
- Conference Committee - SB 257
 - Senators Overcash and Alexander
 - Representatives Torbett and Loftis

Operations Update

Bessie Harvey

Assistant Superintendent of Operations

Operations Updates

Stuart Cramer Wall

- ▶ Notice to proceed 8/28/25
- ▶ Construction Start Date 9/1/2025,
- ▶ Pre-Construction Meeting 9/4/2025
 - ▶ Expectations/Safety/Monitoring
 - ▶ Contact/Roles and responsibilities
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 - ▶ Conference games 1st week in March

Contract Discussions

- Emergency Radio Project
Harris Communications
- Playground Mulch (Amendment #1)
Mulch Life
- Trash Removal
Republic Services

Emergency Radio Project

Historical Context

- ▶ Gaston County Government funded and ordered a building study about three years ago with MCA to assess needs
- ▶ Last year, MCA was introduced to our team as a sole source integrator
- ▶ Through months of questions and negotiations, GCS determined it was in our best interests to place the project out for bid

Emergency Radio Project

Bid Process



Project: Emergency Responder Communication Coverage System

Bid Opening: Thursday, July 24, 2025

Scoring Matrix Assessor's Name: _____

Respondent / Company Name	IFB Submission Instructions Complete IFB Package	Section 1: Proposed System inc. Design Drawings, Components, (Typical Plan, Not Full Design)	Section 2: Proposed Timeline inc. Milestones, Tasks, etc.	Section 3: Price & Fees, Cost Controls	Section 4: Maintenance/ Warranty	Section 5: Parts/Components inc. % off MSRP and Product Datasheets	References & Experience w/ Similar Sized Projects	Optional: Remote Monitoring	NC Debarment Check and NC Secretary of State Registered Agent Check	Insurance Requirements Met	Required Submittals Included	TOTALS
	10 pts	20 pts	10 pts	30 pts	10 pts	10 pts	10 pts					

Emergency Radio Project

Current State (Bid Award)

- ▶ Four (4) vendors submitted bids
- ▶ In consideration of all costs including extended coverage and support, the recommendation is to award the bid to Harris Communications

Project budgeted at \$5.2 Million, lowest bid \$2.8 Million

Savings of \$2.4 Million

Contract Recommendation

- Motion to Recommend All Contracts for Approval at the Next Regular Board of Education Meeting



THANK
YOU

Strategic Plan Discussion

Tom Nencetti
Chief of Staff

Gaston County Schools Strategic Plan 2030



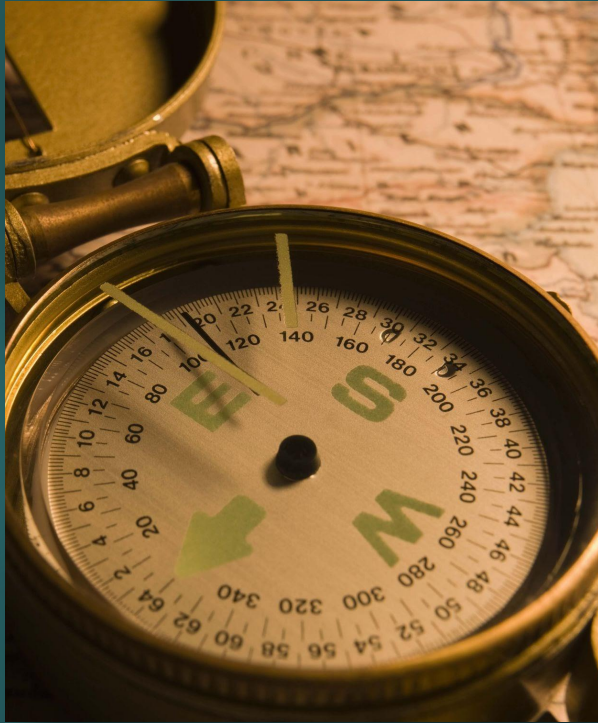
September 8, 2025

What is the purpose of a Strategic Plan?



- Align the entire district around a shared vision
- Set clear priorities
- Provide a transparent framework for decision-making
- Accountability

Gaston County Schools Strategic Plan 2030



What work has been done?

What are our next steps?

What is your part?

Gaston County Schools Strategic Plan 2030

Inspire. Learn. Succeed.
Gaston County Schools
Strategic Plan 2030

Strategic Plan Key Terms & Definitions

Term	Definition
Vision	A forward-looking statement that describes what the district aspires to become in the future. It provides inspiration and a sense of direction.
Mission	A clear statement of the district's purpose — why it exists and what it seeks to achieve for students, staff, and the community.
Core Values	The principles and beliefs that guide decisions, actions, and behaviors across the district.
Priority	Broad themes that identify where the district will direct its attention and resources (e.g., Academics, Operations, Student Support, Human Resources).
Goal	A specific, high-level statement of what the district intends to accomplish within each priority area.

Vision

Mission

Core Value

Priority

Goal

**What work
has been
done?**

Inspire. Learn. Succeed.

**Gaston County Schools
Strategic Plan 2030**



Inspire. Learn. Succeed.Gaston County Schools
Strategic Plan 2030**Vision**

To inspire success
and a lifetime of
learning.

**Mission**

To provide innovative
educational
opportunities for all
students in a safe and
nurturing learning
environment.

DRAFT

Core Values



Excellence - We promise an outstanding educational experience for all students, creating pride in our community.



Integrity - We commit to building trust through transparency, honesty and respect.



Community - We commit to fostering connections grounded in trust where all feel like family, celebrate together, and thrive in high expectations.



Innovation - We embrace new solutions to address the challenges facing our students, staff and community.

Priorities

(Page 2)

Academics that Build Pathways to Student Success	Empower all students to identify, explore, and achieve their career and life goals through high-quality instruction and individualized support.
Sustainable Financial Stewardship	Ensure the strategic and transparent use of financial resources to support high-quality education and maintain long-term fiscal sustainability.
Effective Operations	Maintain efficient and responsive operational systems that provide a safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment for all students and staff.
Comprehensive Student Support	Foster a safe, welcoming, and inclusive school environment by expanding access to comprehensive services that promote students' academic, social, emotional, and physical well-being.
Talent and Workforce Development	Attract, develop, and retain a high-quality workforce by cultivating a culture where every employee feels valued, supported, and empowered to grow professionally.
Engaged Communication and Partnerships	Provide effective school communications / public relations that contributes to promoting and protecting the image of Gaston County Schools.

SMART Goals

Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Relevant

Time Bound

 Academics that Build Pathways to Student Success		
 Empower all students to identify, explore, and achieve their career and life goals through high-quality instruction and individualized support.		
Goals	By 2030, Gaston County Schools will:	Data Source
A.1	Increase Grade Level Proficiency (GLP) from 48.4% to 70%* *Note: Goals will be revised based on new baseline numbers if new EOGs/EOCs are implemented based on revised standards	NC End of Grade and End of Course assessments
A.2	Increase the percentage of schools meeting or exceeding growth from 71% to 75%	NC Department of Instruction Accountability Model
A.3	Reduce the number of low-performing schools from 15 to 4 or fewer	NC Department of Instruction Accountability Model
A.4	Increase the NCDPI 4-year cohort graduation rate from 88.8% to 91%	NC Department of Instruction Accountability Model
A.5	Increase the percentage of students meeting the EL progress indicator from 33% to 48%	WIDA Access (Measure of Developing English Language) for English Language Learners
A.6	Increase ACT/WorkKeys composite percentile from 47% to 62% (an increase of 15 percentage points)	ACT/WorkKeys Composite from the NC Accountability System

Priority

Talent and Workforce Development Attract, develop, and retain a high-quality workforce by cultivating a culture where every employee feels valued, supported, and empowered to grow professionally.

SMART Goal (Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant Time bound)

Goal 1: By 2030, decrease the teacher attrition rate from 15.5% in 2024 to 10% or lower and decrease the number of teacher vacancies on the first day of school from 67 in 2024 to fewer than 20 (less than 1%) by 2030.

Continuous Improvement Cycle

The model for improvement consists of three main questions:

What problem are we trying to solve?

What change might we introduce and why?

How will we know that a change is actually an improvement?

Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Cycle

1. PLAN

Select a change practice to test.
Select measures and develop a data collection plan.

2. DO

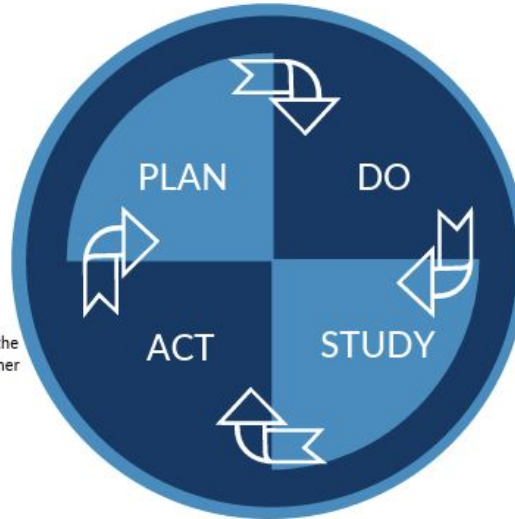
Implement the change practice.
Collect data to inform improvement.

3. STUDY

Collectively examine data to inform improvement.

4. ACT

Based on data study, make improvements to the change practice, take steps to scale the change practice, and/or choose to try another change practice.



Gaston County Schools Strategic Plan 2030

What are our next steps?



Next Steps - Stakeholder Feedback

Teachers

Principals

Assistant Principals

Staff

Students

Parents

Community Leaders

Stakeholder Engagement List

Stakeholder Group	Priority	Meeting Date	Status
Students	High	Date	In progress
Teachers & School Staff	Critical	Date	In progress
Families & Caregivers	High	Date	Not Sched...
Community Partners	Low	Date	Not Sched...
School Board Members	Critical	Sep 8, 2025	Scheduled
Principals	Critical	Sep 16, 2025	Scheduled
Assistant Principals	High	Date	Not Sched...
District Staff	High	Date	Not Sched...

What is your part? Board Feedback

Section 1: Overall Impressions

1. On a scale of 1–5, how clear and understandable is the Strategic Plan?
(1 = Not clear at all, 5 = Very clear)
 2. How well do you feel the Strategic Plan reflects the needs and priorities of students in our district?
(1 = Not at all, 5 = Very well)
 3. In your opinion, how aligned is the plan with the district's mission and vision?
(1 = Not aligned, 5 = Very aligned)
-

Section 2: Priorities & Goals

4. Which goal or priority in the plan do you feel is the most important for our district to focus on first? (Open response)
 5. Are there any goals or priorities missing from the Strategic Plan that you believe should be included?
(Open response)
 6. On a scale of 1–5, how realistic and achievable do you believe the goals in the Strategic Plan are?
(1 = Not realistic, 5 = Very realistic)
-

Section 3: Implementation & Impact

7. How confident are you that the Strategic Plan will have a positive impact on student learning and success?
(1 = Not confident, 5 = Very confident)
 8. What challenges do you think the district may face in successfully implementing this plan?
(Open response)
 9. In your view, how should the district measure success as the plan is implemented?
(Open response)
-

Section 4: Final Thoughts

10. Do you have any additional comments, suggestions, or concerns about the Strategic Plan?
(Open response)



THANK
YOU

Legal Updates

Sonya McGraw
Board Attorney

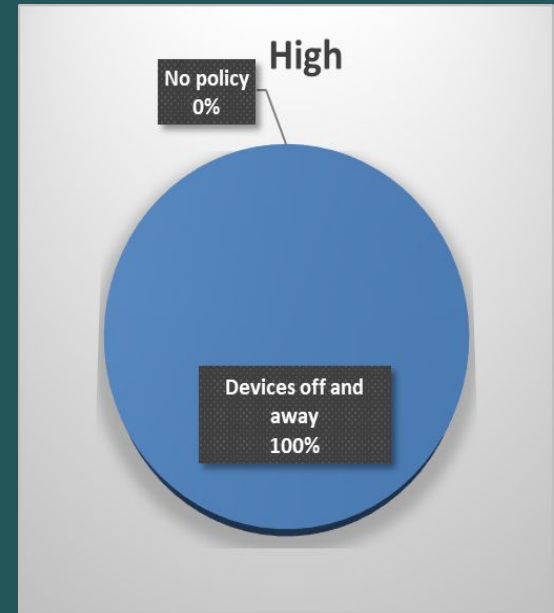
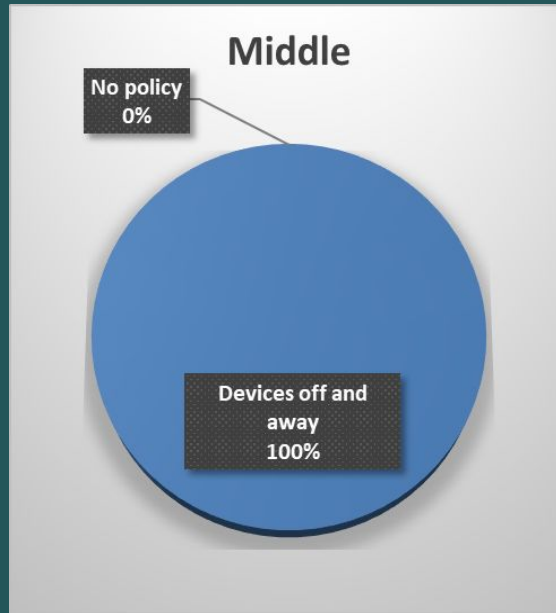
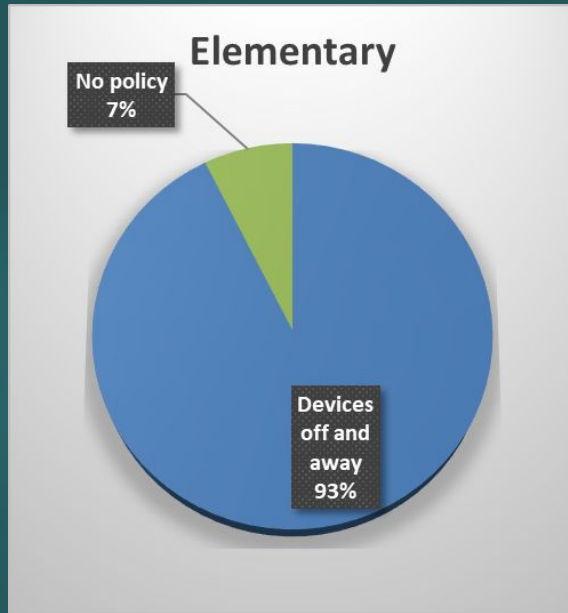
Cell Phone Policy

- **Cell Phone Policy** Current GCS
Policy 4318-Use of Wireless
Communication Devices

Cell Phone Policy

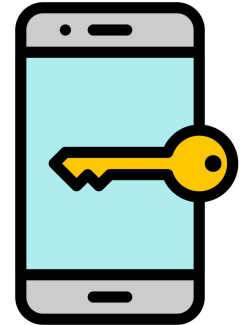
- HB 959- Created a new requirement for school boards to have a policy prohibiting students from displaying devices or having them turned on during instructional time (with few exceptions) and to establish consequences for violations

Current Policy in place by School Level



Cell Phone Policy

Next Steps



2024-2025 State Data Results

*Tonya Kales - Associate Superintendent
Kelly Cunningham - Chief Accountability
Officer*

North Carolina Accountability Model



Elementary/Middle School	High School
End-of-Grade (EOG) Test Proficiency • Reading Grades 3–8 • Math Grades 3–8 • Science Grades 5 and 8 End-of-Course (EOC) Test Proficiency • Math I English Learner (EL) Progress EVAAS Growth	End-of-Course (EOC) Test Proficiency • English II • NC Math 1 • NC Math 3 • Biology English Learner (EL) Progress ACT/WorkKeys (combined) Math Course Rigor Cohort Graduation Rate EVAAS Growth

Achievement Levels on State Assessments



NP	NOT PROFICIENT	
Level 3	GRADE LEVEL PROFICIENT (GLP)	
Level 4		COLLEGE AND CAREER READY (CCR)
Level 5		

Looking Back: 2024–2025 Academic Goals

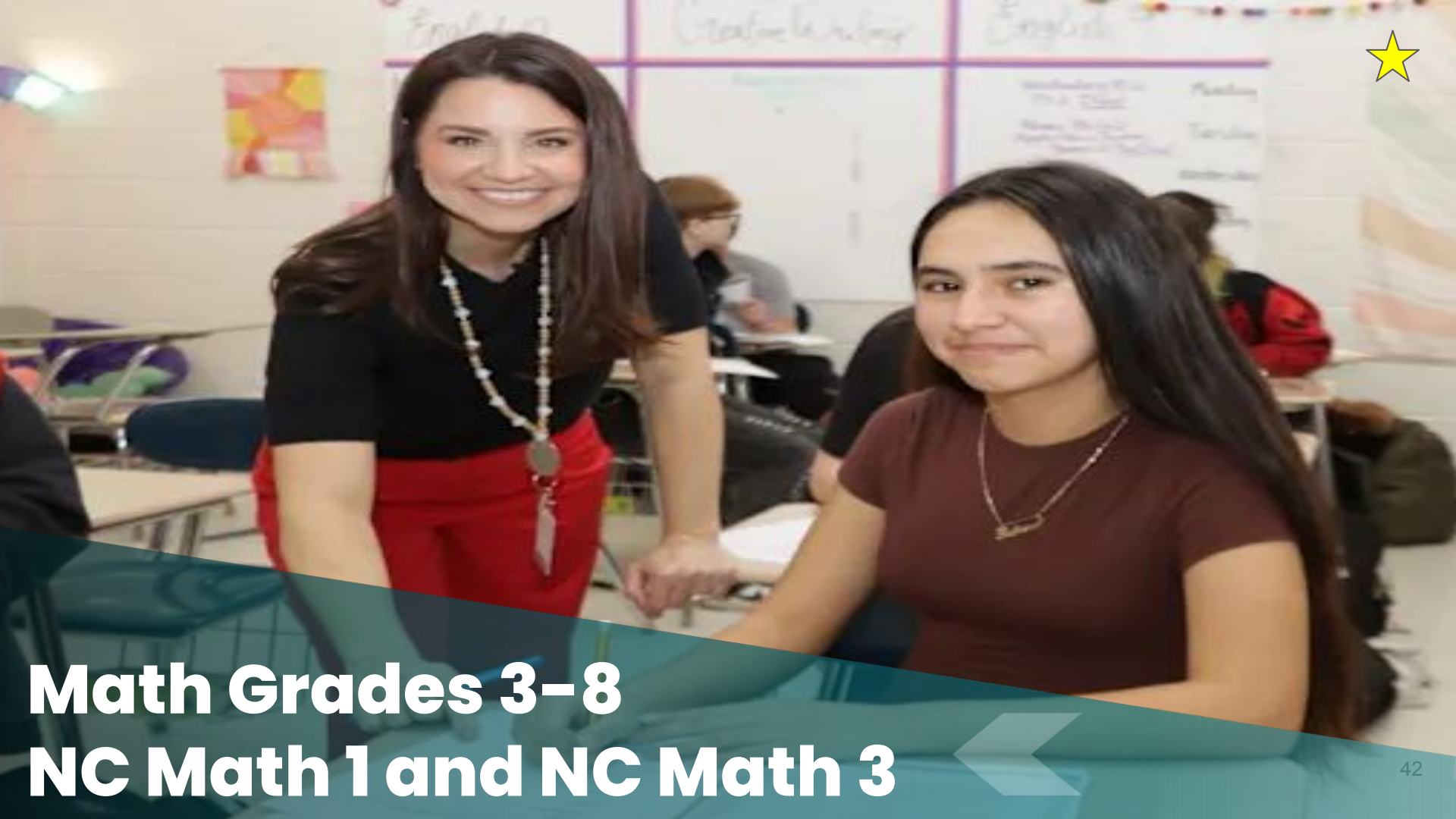


- 
- A thick red arrow pointing to the right, positioned to the left of the first goal.
- Increase the number of students that achieve grade level proficiency (GLP)
 - Increase the number of schools that meet/exceed growth
 - Decrease the number of schools identified as low performing based upon student proficiency and growth

Achievement Levels on State Assessments



NP	NOT PROFICIENT	
Level 3	GRADE LEVEL PROFICIENT (GLP)	
Level 4		COLLEGE AND CAREER READY (CCR)
Level 5		



Math Grades 3–8

NC Math 1 and NC Math 3

Math Grades 3–8



	Percent of Students	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	49.8	+2.3

Grades 3–8 Math

Levels 3, 4 or 5 (Grade Level Proficient/GLP)



Test	2023–2024 Percent Level 3, 4, 5	2024–2025 Percent Level 3, 4, 5	Pct. Pt. Change Level 3, 4, 5
Math 3	54.0	57.1	+3.1
Math 4	46.3	50.6	+4.3
Math 5	47.2	49.0	+1.8
Math 6	49.6	50.6	+1.0
Math 7	45.5	46.5	+1.0
Math 8	43.1	44.9	+1.8

Grades 3–8 Math



Comparative Performance

	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Gaston	49.8	+2.3
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance–Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		

NC Math 1 Middle School



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	>95	0.0

NC Math 1 – Middle School



Comparative Performance

	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	>95	0.0
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		

NC Math 1 High School



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	38.9	-6.8

NC Math 1 – High School



Comparative Performance

	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	38.9	-6.8
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		

NC Math 3 High School



	Percent of Students	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	59.1	+5.8

NC Math 3 – High School



Comparative Performance

	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	59.1	+5.8
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		



MATH COURSE RIGOR HIGH SCHOOL



Math Course Rigor



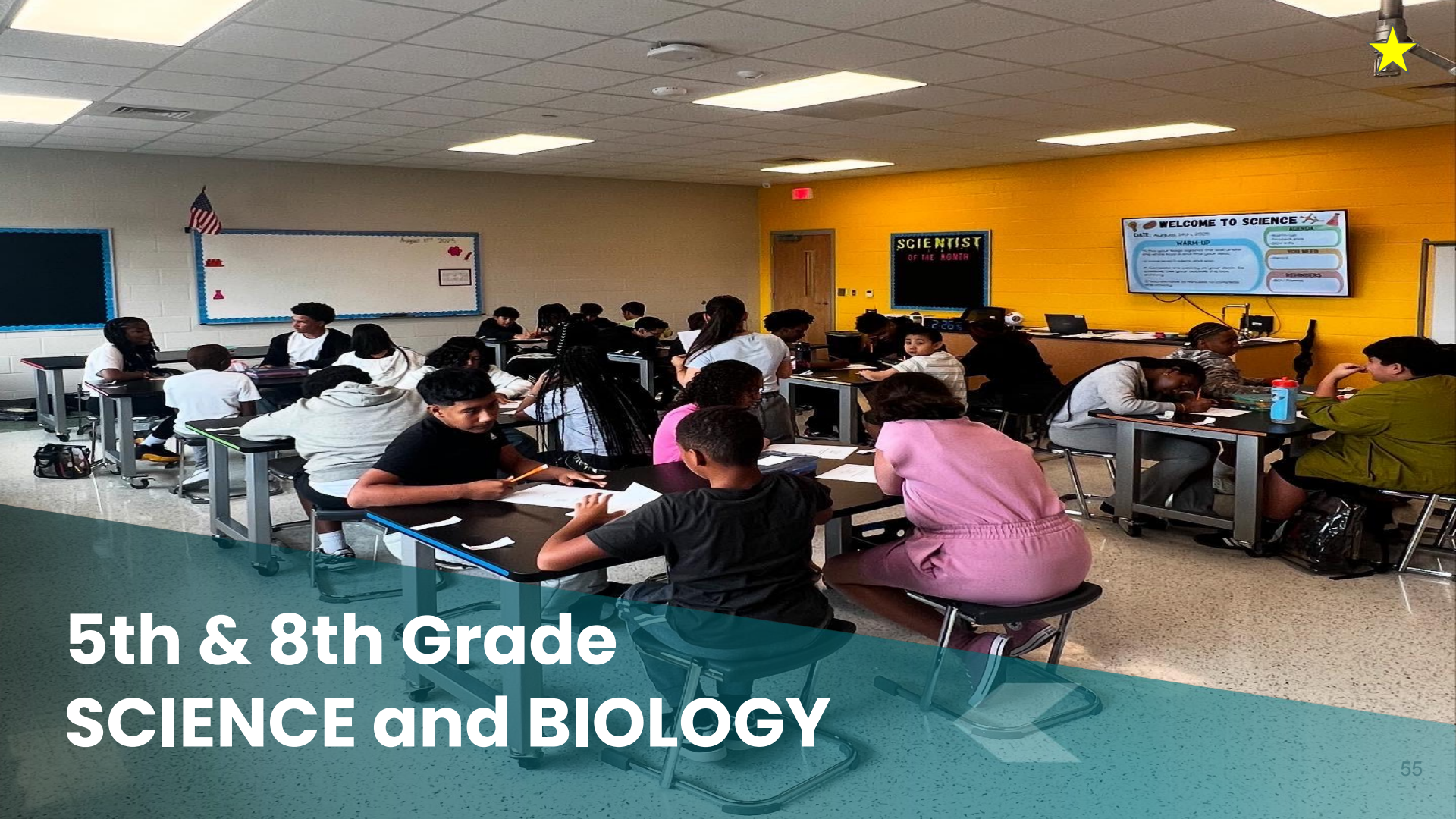
	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Percentage of 12th Grade Students who Take & Pass NC Math 3	>95	0.0

Math Course Rigor

Comparative Performance



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	>95	0.0
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		



5th & 8th Grade SCIENCE and BIOLOGY

Grade 5 Science – NEW TEST



	Percent of Students
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	55.4

Grade 8 Science – NEW TEST



	Percent of Students
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	53.0

Grade 5 & 8 Science

Comparative Performance



	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency
Gaston	
NC	
Durham	
Onslow	
Alamance-Burlington	
Cabarrus	
Union	

Biology – NEW TEST



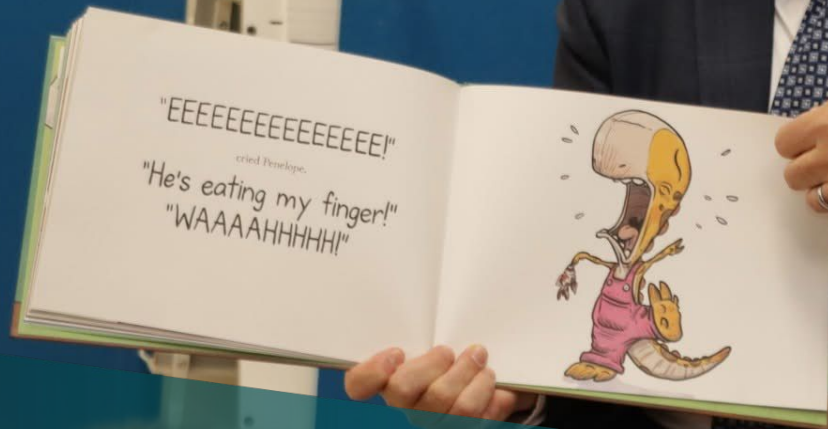
	Percent of Students
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	41.2

Biology

Comparative Performance



	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency
Gaston	41.2
NC	
Durham	
Onslow	
Alamance-Burlington	
Cabarrus	
Union	



Reading Grades 3–8 & English

II

Grades 3–8 Reading



	Percent of Students	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	45.3	+1.8

Grades 3–8 Reading

Levels 3, 4 or 5 (Grade Level Proficient/GLP)



TEST	2023–2024 Percent Level 3, 4, 5	2024–2025 Percent Level 3, 4, 5	Pct. Pt. Change Level 3, 4, 5
Reading 3	39.9	37.0	-2.9
Reading 4	45.6	50.6	+5.0
Reading 5	42.8	44.1	+1.3
Reading 6	43.1	44.9	+1.8
Reading 7	44.3	45.8	+1.5
Reading 8	45.	49.9	+4.5

Grades 3–8 Reading

Comparative Performance



	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Gaston	45.3	+1.8
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance–Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		

English II – High School



	Percent of Students	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency (GLP)	51.8	–1.0

English II

Comparative Performance



	Level 3, 4 or 5 Grade Level Proficiency	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	51.8	-1.0
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		



ACT and WORKKEYS

ACT – High School



	Percent of Students	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Composite ACT Score of 17 or Higher	45.8	+14.9



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	45.8	+14.9
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		

WorkKeys – High School



	Percent of Students	Change from 23–24 to 24–25
Silver Certificate or Higher	55.9	-5.7

WorkKeys

Comparative Performance



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	55.9	-5.7
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		



English Learner Progress



English Learner Progress



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
English Learner Progress	33.0	+6.4

English Learner Progress

Comparative Performance



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	33.0	+6.4
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		

Looking Back: 2024–2025 Academic Goals



- Increase the number of students that achieve grade level proficiency (GLP)

 Increase the number of schools that meet/exceed growth

- Decrease the number of schools identified as low performing based upon student proficiency and growth



Academic Growth

EVAAS Growth (Met or Exceeded)

EVAAS Growth Met or Exceeded
36 (71%) +16% from 23–24

2024–2025 Growth Status	Number (Percent) of Schools
Exceeded	14 (27%)
Met	22 (43%)
Not Met	15 (29%)
Total	51

In 2024–2025, five schools did not have growth data, as provided by EVAAS/NC (Bessemer City Primary, JB Page Primary, Springfield Primary, Warlick, and Webb Street) and are not included in the denominator.

Schools that Exceeded Growth



Catawba Heights ES

Costner ES

HH Beam ES

Hawks Nest ES

Pinewood ES

Sadler ES

Cramerton MS

Grier MS

Stanley MS

York Chester MS

Highland HS

South Point HS

Gaston Early College

Gaston Medical College

Schools that Met Growth



Belmont Central ES

Chapel Grove ES

Cherryville ES

Gardner Park ES

Kiser ES

Lowell ES

McAdenville ES

New Hope ES

North Belmont ES

Rankin ES

Robinson ES

Tryon ES

WA Bess ES

WB Beam Intermediate

Gaston Virtual Academy
(all levels)

Schools that Met Growth



Belmont MS

Bessemer City MS

Mt Holly MS

Southwest MS

Ashbrook HS

Cherryville HS

Stuart Cramer HS



School Performance Grades

School Performance Grades



80%

Proficiency

A: 85–100

B: 70–84

C: 55–69

D: 40–54

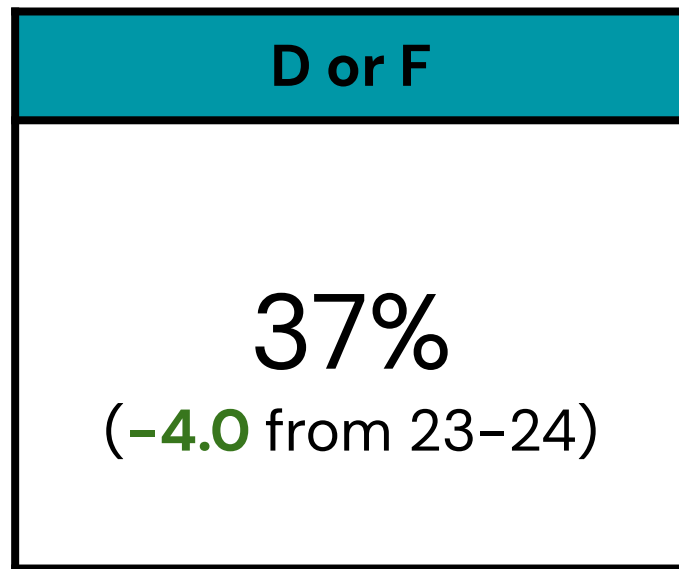
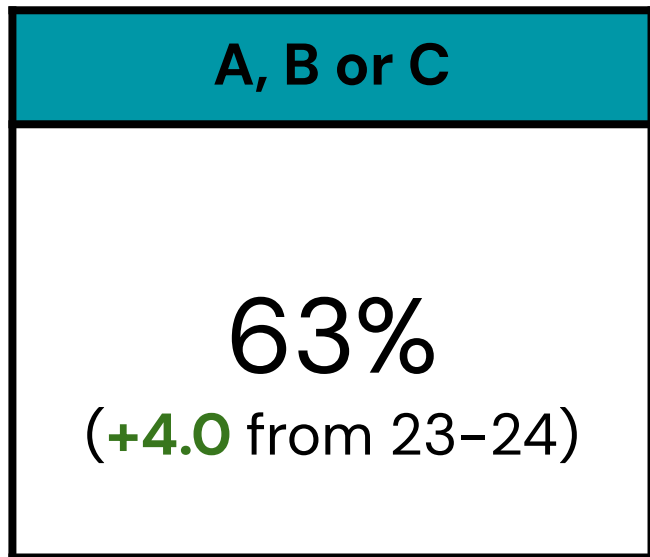
F: Less than 40

20%

EVAAS Growth



School Performance Grades



In 2024-2025, five schools are not included above. Three schools (Bessemer City Primary, JB Page Primary, Springfield Primary) receive the same letter grade as the school they feed the most students to. Two schools (Warlick and Webb Street) receive grades on an alternative model.

School Performance Grade



11 Schools Improved School Performance Grade

Belmont Central ES
Chapel Grove ES
Costner ES
HH Beam ES
Kiser ES
McAdenville ES

WA Bess ES
Sadler ES
Grier MS
Southwest MS
Ashbrook HS

Looking Back: 2024–2025 Academic Goals



- Increase the number of students that achieve grade level proficiency (GLP)
 - Increase the number of schools that meet/exceed growth
-  Decrease the number of schools identified as low performing based upon student proficiency and growth



State Designations



State Designations

Low Performing & Non-Low Performing Schools

A school in North Carolina is considered low-performing if it receives a School Performance Grade (SPG) of D or F and a growth status of "Met" or "Not Met". The State Board of Education identifies low-performing schools annually.

State Designations

Low Performing & Non-Low Performing Schools



2023-2024	2024-2025
19 Low Performing Schools	15 Low Performing Schools
Change from 2023-2024 to 2024-2025	
7 Schools Removed from the Low Performing List	
12 Schools Remained on the Low Performing List	
3 Schools Added to the Low Performing List	

Removed from Low Performing School Designation



Chapel Grove ES
Costner ES
HH Beam ES
Kiser ES
Sadler ES
Grier MS
Ashbrook HS

EVAAS Growth and School Performance Grades

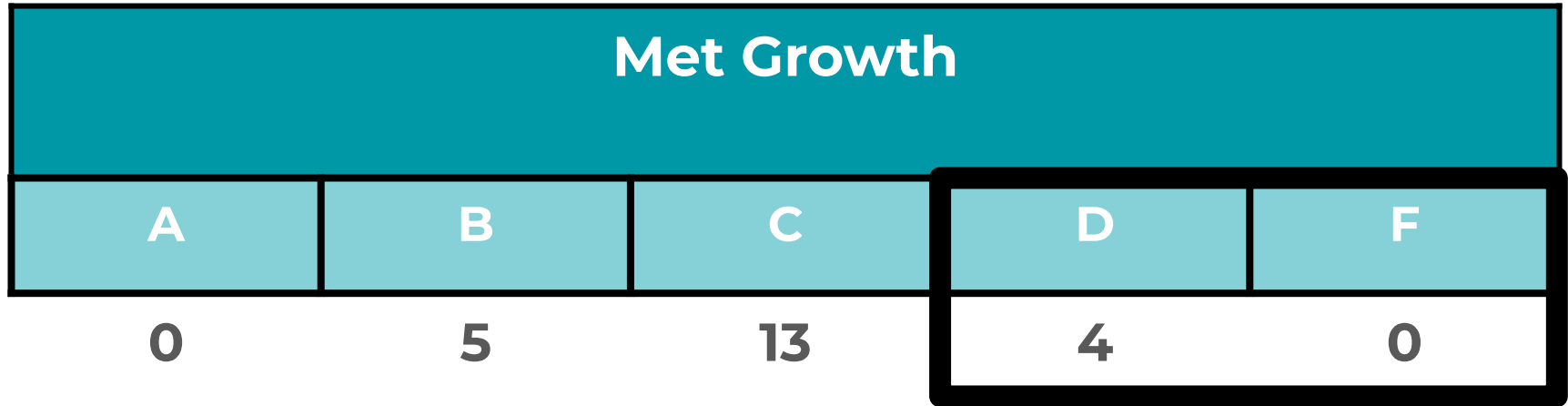


Exceeded Growth				
A	B	C	D	F
3	3	4	4	0

Not Low Performing

Note: In 2024-2025, two schools had an ALT_F school grade (Warlick and Webb Street).

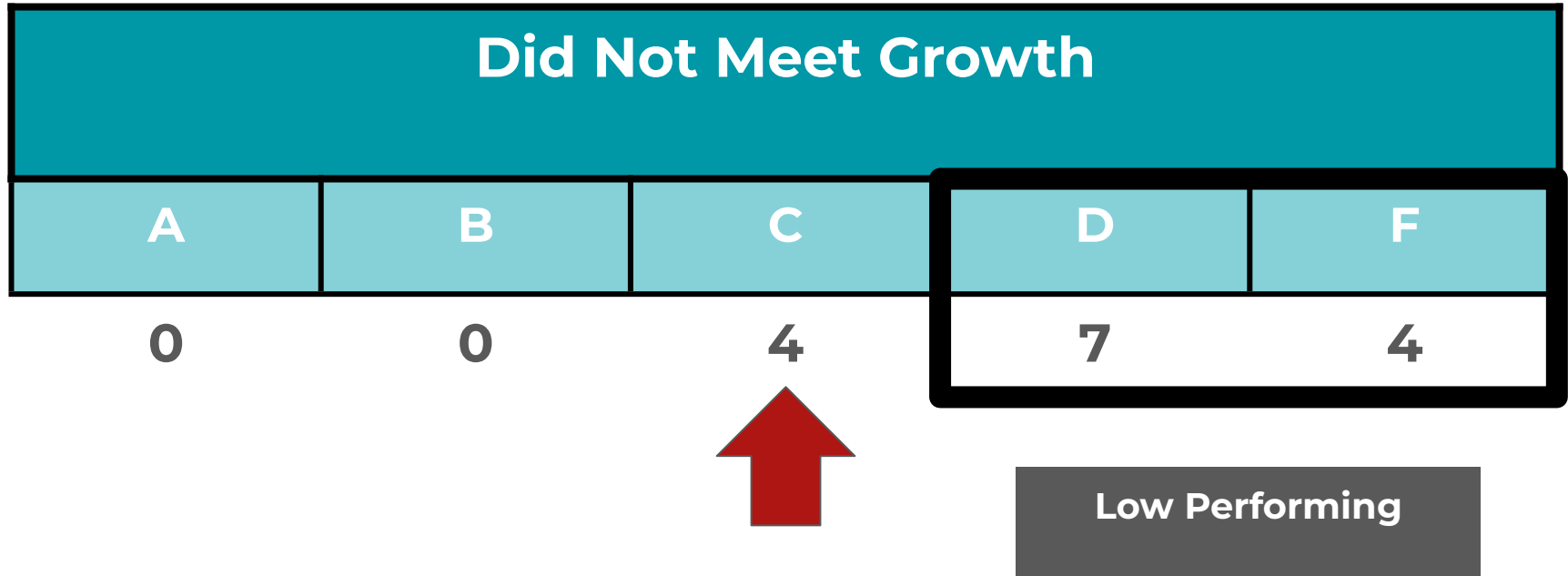
EVAAS Growth and School Performance Grades



Low Performing

Note: In 2024–2025, two schools had an ALT_F school grade (Warlick and Webb Street).

EVAAS Growth and School Performance Grades



Note: In 2024–2025, two schools had an ALT_F school grade (Warlick and Webb Street).

GOOD NEWS in GCS



2024-25 Academic Goals	Progress Towards Goals
● <u>Increase</u> the number of students that achieve grade level proficiency ● Increase the number of schools that meet/exceed growth ● Decrease the number of schools identified as low performing based upon student proficiency and growth	<u>Increases</u> in grade level proficiency: ○ 3rd Grade Math ○ 4th Grade Math ○ 5th Grade Math ○ 6th Grade Math ○ 7th Grade Math ○ 8th Grade Math ○ Math 3 ○ 4th Grade Reading ○ 5th Grade Reading ○ 6th Grade Reading ○ 7th Grade Reading ○ 8th Grade Reading

GOOD NEWS in GCS



2024-25 Academic Goals	Progress Towards Goals:
● Increase the number of students that achieve grade level proficiency ● <u>Increase</u> the number of schools that meet/exceed growth ● Decrease the number of schools identified as low performing based upon student proficiency and growth	● 71% (36) of our schools met or exceeded growth– 16% <u>increase</u> from the previous year.

GOOD NEWS in GCS



2024-25 Academic Goals	Progress Towards Goals:
• Increase the number of students that achieve grade level proficiency • Increase the number of schools that meet/exceed growth • <u>Decrease</u> the number of schools identified as low performing based upon student proficiency and growth	• 19 low performing schools to 15. A <u>decrease</u> of 4 schools. (7 removed and 3 added)



GRADUATION RATE

4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	88.8	+2.1

4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate



Comparative Performance

	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	88.8	
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		

5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate



	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	87.0	+1.1

5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate



Comparative Performance

	Percent of Students	Change from 23-24 to 24-25
Gaston	87.0	+1.1
NC		
Durham		
Onslow		
Alamance-Burlington		
Cabarrus		
Union		



Discussion



Thank you

Other Business

- Next Operating Committee meeting will be on **October 6th** at 8:30am in the Central Office Board Room
- Motion to **Adjourn**

Adjourn