

PSAT 8/9

Karen Newton-Scott
Deputy Superintendent

March 10, 2026
Regular Board Meeting



Strategic Accelerators



**Student
Success in All Areas**

**The CSD Student
Experience: Preparing to
Lead a Better World**



**Building and
Sustaining an Engaging
and Inclusive Culture**

**The CSD Cultural
Experience: Connections,
Culture, and Community (C3)**



**Cultivating and
Retaining High-Quality
Professionals**

**The CSD Staff Experience:
From Hire to Retire**



**Organizational
Effectiveness and
Excellence**

**The CSD Sustainable
Experience: Future Ready
Classrooms**

What is the PSAT 8/9



- **PSAT** stands for Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.
- **PSAT 8/9** is a lower-level test than the PSAT/NMSQT (given to 10th and 11th graders) and the SAT.
- **Purpose:** It is used to establish a baseline for college and career readiness, practice skills for the SAT, and track student growth across their high school years.
- **Content:** The test covers reading, writing and language, and math. It is scored on a different scale than the PSAT/NMSQT.



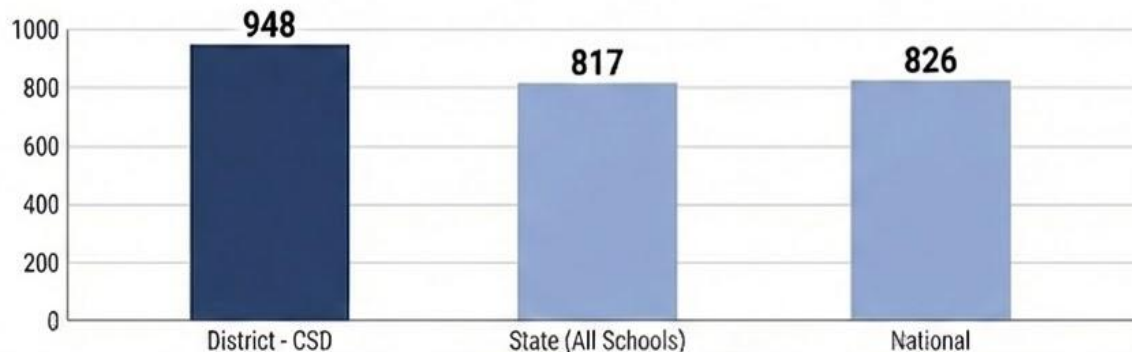
PSAT 8/9 Composite Results



8th grade PSAT 8/9 Result

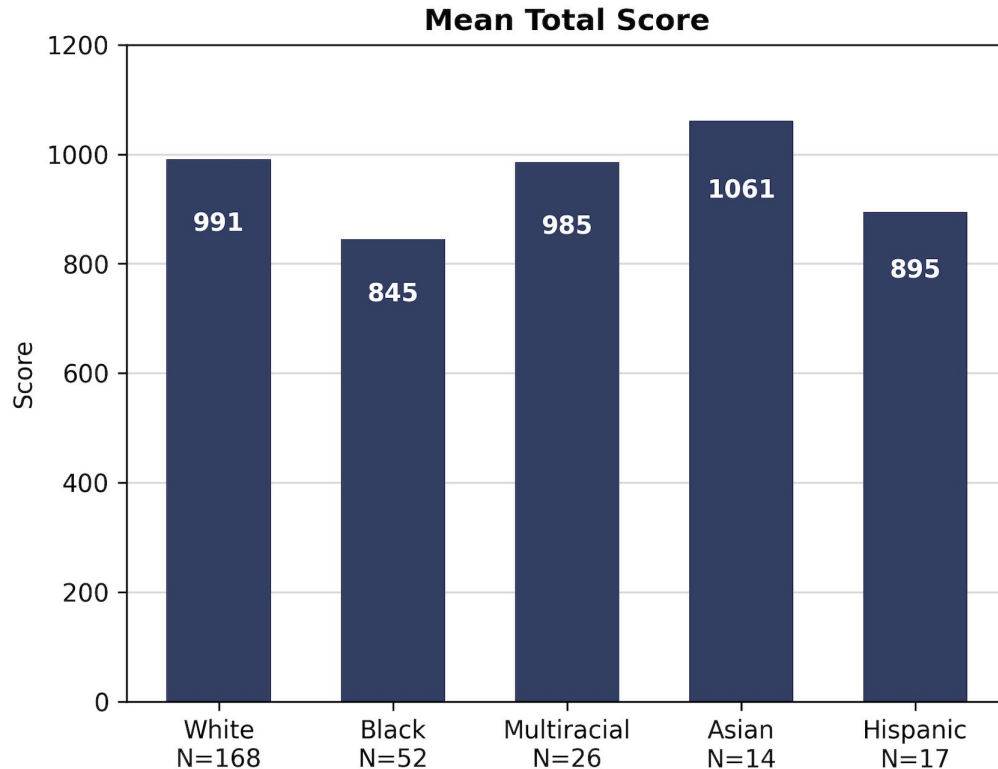
	Mean Total Score	# of Test Takers
District - CSD	948	404
State (All Schools)	817	63,119
National	826	709,573

Mean Total Score



- District mean total score of **948 significantly outperforms** both state and national averages.
- CSD scored **+131 points above** both the Georgia state average and **+122 points above** the national averages.
- Overall district performance reflects strong preparation and achievement on the PSAT 8/9.

PSAT 8/9 Composite Scores by Ethnicity



126 students did not report race

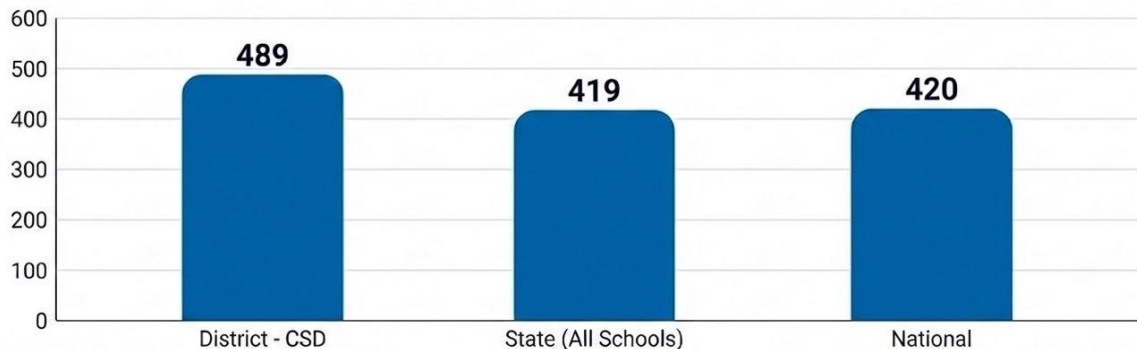
- All student groups performed above state and national averages.
- Students across the district are demonstrating stronger early college-readiness skills than typical benchmarks for 8th grade.
- Scores suggest students are building a strong foundation in literacy and mathematics, positioning them well for future PSAT, SAT, and advanced coursework success.

PSAT 8/9 ELA Results



Mean Evidence-based Reading and Writing Score

	Mean Reading & Writing Score	# of Test Takers
District - CSD	489	404
State (All Schools)	419	63,119
National	420	709,573

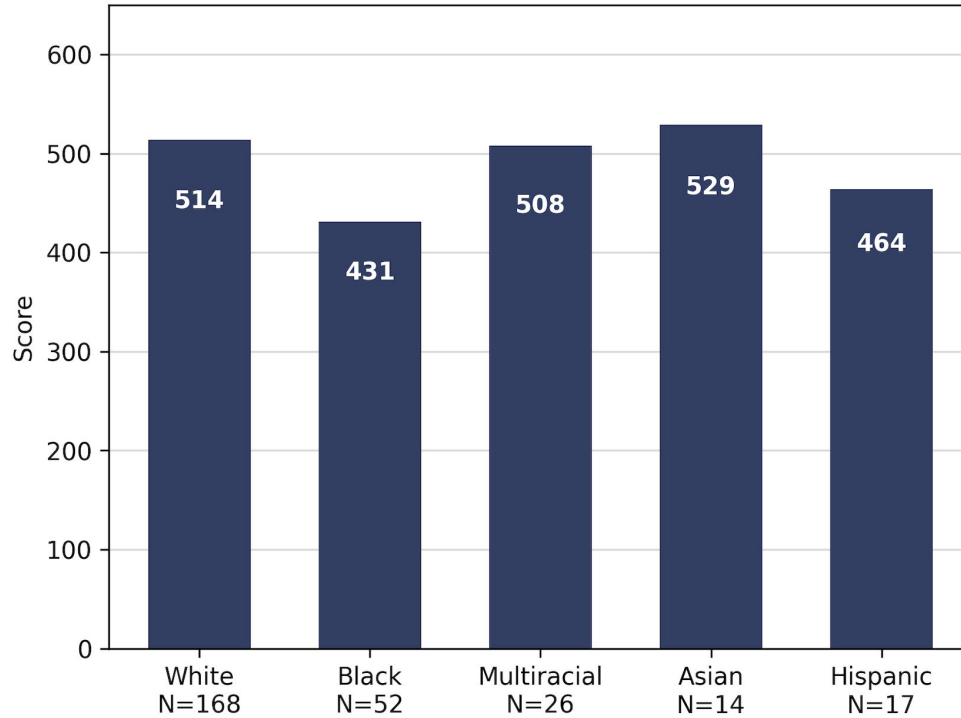


- Evidence-Based Reading & Writing score of **489**, outperforms both state and national averages.
- CSD scored **+70 points** above Georgia and **+69 points** above the national average.
- Evidence-Based Reading & Writing performance reflects strong preparation for postsecondary success.

PSAT 8/9 ELA Scores by Ethnicity



Mean Evidence-Based Reading & Writing Score



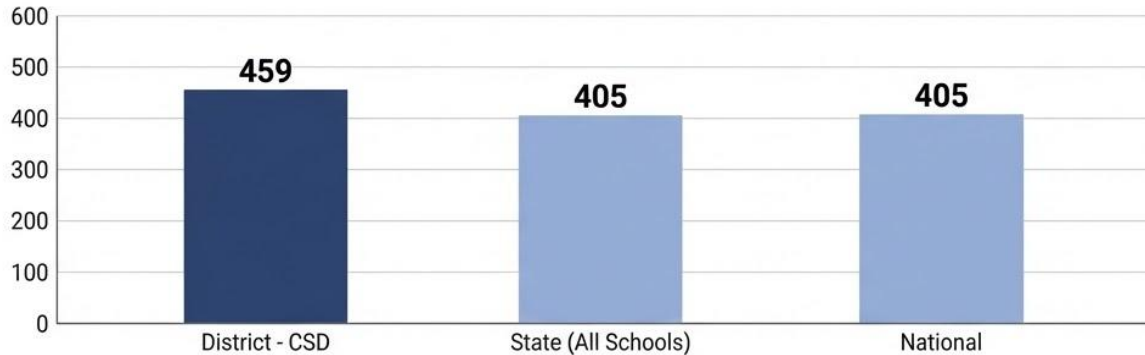
126 students did not report race

- All student groups perform above the state (419) and national (420) averages, demonstrating strong literacy readiness across the district.
- Where performance is slightly lower, we will continue strengthening our literacy efforts to build on current progress and increase achievement for all students.

PSAT 8/9 Math Results

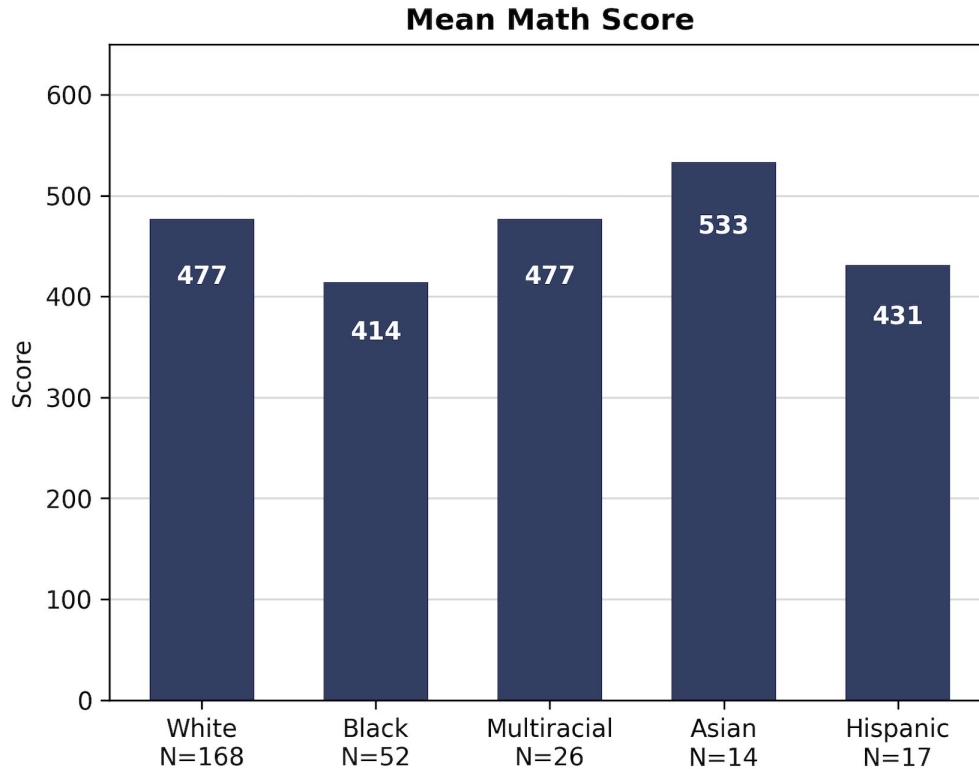


PSAT Math Results		
	Mean Math Score	# of Test Takers
District - CSD	459	404
State (All Schools)	405	63,119
National	405	709,573



- District mean Math score of **459 outperforms** both state and national averages.
- CSD scored **+54 points above** both the Georgia state and national averages.
- District performance reflects strong math preparation for postsecondary success.

PSAT 8/9 Math Scores by Ethnicity



126 students did not report race

- Every student group exceeds the state and national mean of 405, indicating strong math readiness across the district.
- Overall performance reflects a strong math foundation. This strong foundation positions students well for success in higher-level math courses.
- Strong math performance helps students develop analytical thinking, persistence, and reasoning skills that support success across academic subjects.

Next Steps

- Continue offering the **PSAT 8/9** to ensure all students have early, equitable access to college-readiness indicators and a consistent baseline before entering high school coursework.
- Use results to guide high school scheduling, including participation in **free AppleRouth SAT preparation** during the school day and which AP or advanced courses align with readiness levels.
- **Track longitudinal progress** by using PSAT 8/9 as the starting point and monitoring growth across future high school PSAT and SAT administrations to understand student trajectories over time.
- Strengthen school and teacher support in using the data by providing guidance on interpreting reports, identifying instructional priorities, and **aligning supports** within classrooms, PLCs, and MTSS structures.
- Leverage **SAT School Day on March 27** as the next milestone in the assessment continuum, reinforcing college readiness expectations and expanding access for all students.



