



Region 15 Board of Education

Board Retreat
Initial student performance and goal setting
August 10, 2026

2023-Present: Smarter Balanced Math: Percent of Students At/Above Proficient

Grade	2023	2024	2025	2026*	Change From 2025-2026	2026 Range
3	68	68	65	Embargoed		
4	66	66	68			
5	65	61	64			
6	50	63	54			
7	60	61	65			
8	55	61	54			

*2025-2026 Data is embargoed and is provide for view only access in executive session

2023-Present

Smarter Balanced ELA, Percent of Students At/Above Proficient

Grade	2023	2024	2025	2026*	Change From 2025-2026	2026 Range
3	60	56	55	Embargoed		
4	60	61	65			
5	68	62	64			
6	51	56	53			
7	58	59	59			
8	58	64	58			

*2025-2026 Data is embargoed and is provide for view only access in executive session

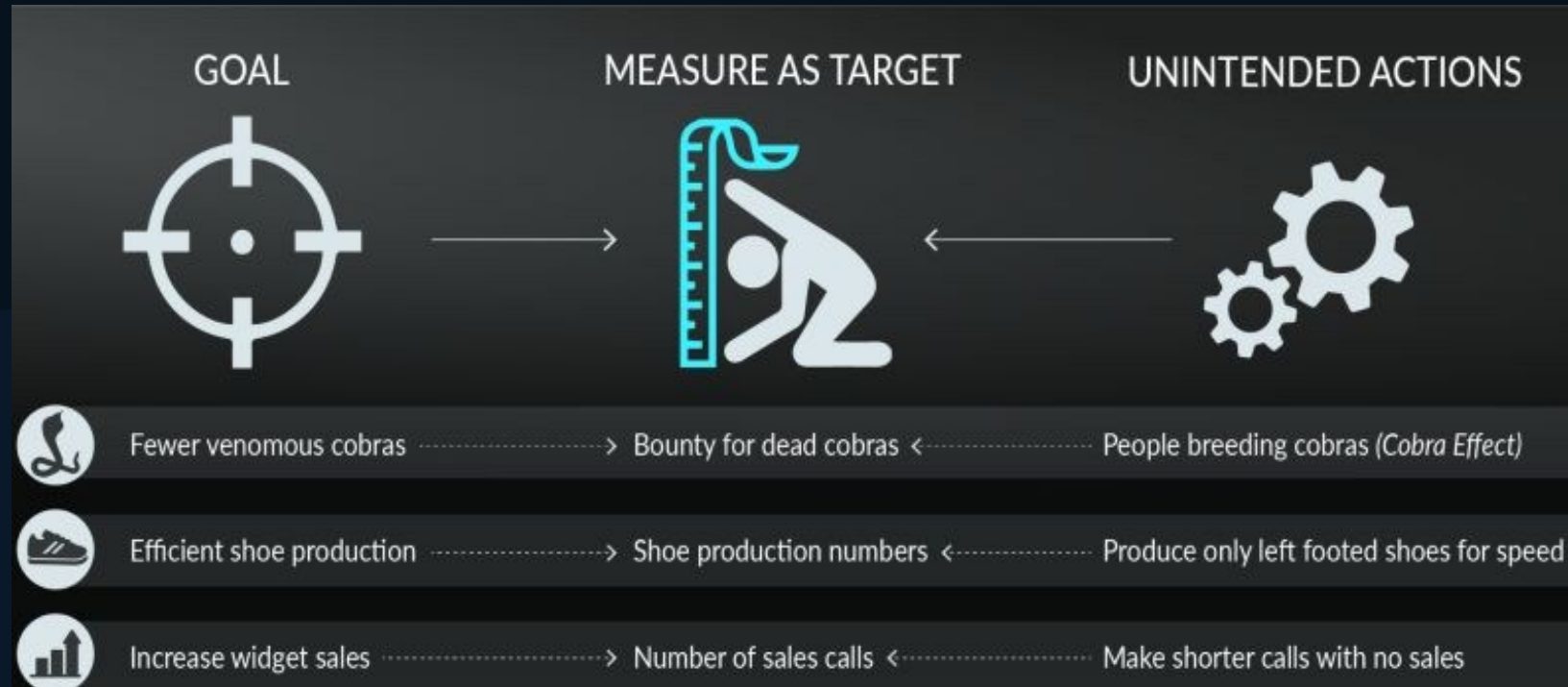
2023-Present

SAT/ NGSS Percent of Students At/Above Proficient

SAT	2023	2024	2025	2026*	Change From 2025-2026
Literacy	71	76	71	74	+3
Math	54	57	44	47	+3

NGSS	2023	2024	2025	2026*	Change From 2025-2026	2026 Range
5	69	65	67	Embargoed		
8	56	75	67			
11	52	66	65			

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Goodheart's Law

Goodhart's Law: "When a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure." Named after British economist Charles Goodhart in 1975, it means that when you use a number or metric to judge success, people will try to boost that number. In doing so, they ruin what the metric was meant to track.

Examples of Goodheart's Law in Education:

Student learning is difficult to measure, often leading to metrics that are easily manipulated or create unintended outcomes.

- **Graduation Rates:**
 - **The Metric:** The percentage of students who graduate high school in four years.
 - **The Goal:** Ensure schools are successfully educating and supporting students to completion.
 - **The Backfire:** Passing standards are lowered so struggling students do not fail. Teachers face pressure to give unearned "Ds" instead of "Fs." Credit recovery programs allow students to pass a class by clicking through a computer module in a single weekend
- **Attendance Rates:**
 - **The Metric:** Daily student attendance percentages.
 - **The Goal:** Maximize student engagement and instructional time.
 - **The Backfire:** Sick children are pressured to attend school, spreading germs to classmates. Schools offer prizes for "perfect attendance" rather than focusing on whether the students are mentally present or capable of learning while unwell.
- **Reading Goals and Book Counts**
 - **The Metric:** The total number of books a student reads per semester (often tracked via points programs).
 - **The Goal:** Foster a lifelong love for reading and improve literacy.
 - **The Backfire:** Students pick short, easy books far below their reading level just to flip through pages and claim points. They avoid thick, challenging books that they would actually enjoy because those books take too long to finish.
- **College Rankings and Selectivity Rates**
 - **The Metric:** The percentage of applicants a university rejects.
 - **The Goal:** Measure the elite status and academic prestige of a college.
 - **The Backfire:** Universities buy mailing lists to aggressively market to students who have no chance of getting in. This floods the school with applications, allowing them to reject more people and artificially look more exclusive in national rankings.

2024-2025 Smarter Balanced ELA Performance vs. Growth



2024-2025 Smarter Balanced Math Performance vs. Growth



Region 15 Board of Education

Updated Draft Goals: 2026-27

1. The Region 15 Board of Education is committed to ensuring that all state-measured performance metrics either sustain top-tier performance or show documented year-over-year progress toward higher student achievement and growth.

- The Board will demonstrate its commitment towards this goal by:
- Examining assessment data annually, and with more frequency and granularity in committee. The P&C Committee will provide more robust reporting to the full board on assessment and curriculum work.
- Assessing the adoption of data tools across the district and supporting professional development to increase the qualitative and quantitative usage of data tools.
- Ensuring that achievement gaps are identified, examined and that targets and specific plans for improvement are identified and implemented.
- Supporting and providing input on the creation of a dedicated student achievement page on the website as a point of reference for the community.

2. The Region 15 Board of Education is committed to maintaining a focus on the stewardship of our facilities:

- The Board will demonstrate its commitment towards this goal by:
- Communicating regular updates on ongoing school projects with a specific focus on the Gainfield and Pomperaug Elementary School projects. The public facing website will be maintained as the project progresses.
- Continuing support of district-wide capital planning
- Invest in proactive maintenance
- Continuing to update and maintain a 5-year capital plan.

3. The Region 15 Board of Education is committed towards presenting a robust budget process and transparent financial information to our communities:

- The Board will demonstrate its commitment towards this goal by:
- Providing Finance & Facilities updates at full board meetings that include incremental budget drivers and staffing needs that develop throughout the year.
- Tracking health of educational expense funds, including capital and special education contingency balances.

4. The Region 15 Board of Education will foster a school climate that supports and values the well-being of students and staff:

- The Board will demonstrate its commitment towards this goal by:
- Reviewing current structures for effectiveness and identifying opportunities for improvement.
- Defining and receiving an annual Student & Staff Wellbeing Report including student survey results, utilization of guidance and psychological services, and staff wellbeing indicators.

Region 15 Board of Education Strategies and Board Actions:

- Review: Interim measures of academic progress (IEB, NWEA, CBM, PSAT) are reviewed throughout the year, allowing the Board to monitor whether initiatives are producing as expected and understand areas of strength as well as challenges.
- Highlight district initiatives — Cliffs Notes of presentations from subcommittee meetings as they relate to Board goals.
- Consolidate resources on the website like we did for Bond and school construction initiative that streamline and synthesize student achievement data, Board goals, and the district's academic performance.

Related suggestions submitted by BOE members:

Questions or topics of interest that could be reflected in presentations or subcommittee reports:

- Address Long-Range Budget Planning and Sustainability: we should begin addressing significant budget challenges well before the formal budget development process begins each February. The compressed six-week budget timeline limits the opportunity to evaluate changes or discuss meaningful cost-saving strategies.
- We know we are facing pressure from healthcare costs, increasing special education expenditures, inflation and soon, a new construction bond. The district should engage in financial planning throughout the year rather than waiting until budget season. Increases exceeding 5% in three of the past four years raise important questions about the long-term sustainability of our current trajectory. Josh has already said several times that 5% increases every year are unsustainable, but I'm not sure how we get off that train. Let's devote more time in regular meetings to sharing the budget pressures that Josh and Joe have been sharing. Maybe this is part of the Finance committee report? Financials are reviewed every finance meeting.
- There's going to be a lingering issue this year over return on investment. We are third in the DRG in per-pupil expenditure, and routinely at the bottom of the DRG on assessment performance. How do we evaluate if the budgets the community approves are being used effectively?
- Assess the adoption of data tools across the district and will support professional development to increase the qualitative and quantitative usage of data tools.
- The Board will ensure the multi-year roofing project continues according to the anticipated schedule.
- The Board will continue to grow Capital Project and Special Education Contingency funds to absorb the risk of unexpected funding shortfalls.

** I want to acknowledge the administration has done their part in highlighting those pressures in weekend notes and in finance committee presentations. Question is now: what does the board do with that information?*

District Dashboard

Stamford Annual Report:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Q-KTKW37xub4FKxU4lU49nRaIVN9nYD1/view>

Groton Public Schools Data Dashboard:

<https://www.grotonschools.org/aboutus/data-dashboard>

Canyons District Utah Data Dashboard:

<https://reportcard.schools.utah.gov/District/OverallPerformance?StateID=&SchoolID=&DistrictID=186056&SchoolNbr=&SchoolLevel=K8&IsSplitSchool=0&schoolyear=2025>

Region 15 Example



Grade 3: Building a Strong Foundation

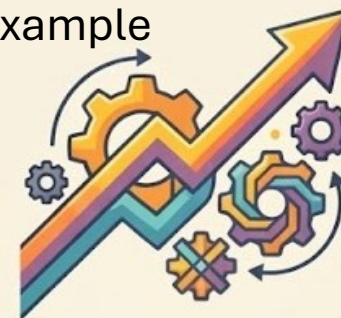
83% **88%**
ELA Proficiency Math Proficiency
Majority of Grade 3 students achieved Level 3 or 4 on the 25-26 SBAC, demonstrating high baseline mastery.



11 Perfect Math Scores
Significant group achieved the maximum possible scale score (2621) in Mathematics.



3 Perfect ELA Scores
Top-tier performance noted, with three students hitting the peak scale score of 2623.



Grade 4: Accelerating Academic Growth

29%
Surge in ELA Proficiency
Nearly 30-point percentage increase in students meeting or exceeding standards compared to LY.

18%
Increase in Math Proficiency
Continued year-over-year improvement evident, proficiency rising by 18% over previous results.

78% ELA / 76% Math Overall
Three out of four Grade 4 students are now performing at or above grade level in both core subjects.



Grade 5: Mastery and Multi- Disciplinary Success

36%
Increase in ELA Proficiency
Most significant ELA gains found in Grade 5, marking a 36% improvement over the previous year.



56%
Leveled Up in Math
Over half of the Grade 5 student body moved up at least one full proficiency level compared to Grade 4 scores.



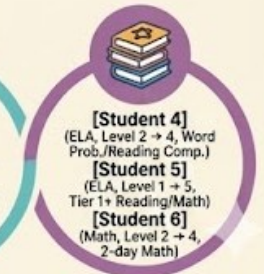
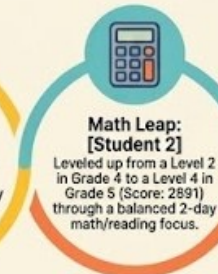
80% Science Proficiency
Academic excellence extended beyond core ELA and Math, with 80% meeting standards in Science.



The WIN Difference: Tiered Growth Success Stories

Moving from Level 1/2 to Level 3/4

Targeted WIN focuses like "5-day Reading" and "Math Extensions" helped many students bridge the gap to proficiency.



Timeline and Board presentations to support goals:

DATE	Presentation
Thursday, July 9, 2026	Special Meeting: Hearing Officer Approval: AD appointment
Tuesday, July 14, 2026	Residency Hearing Executive Session
Thursday, August 6, 2026	Architect Review (RFP) Zoom 6:00 p.m.
Monday, August 10, 2026	Board Retreat - Zoom 5:30 p.m.
Monday, August 24 & Tuesday August 25, 2026	Interview Architect - In Person Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2026	Board Retreat - Richard Lemons
Monday, September 28, 2026	Board Goals, Superintendent Goals
Monday, October 26, 2026	School Goals
Monday, November 9, 2026	Assessment Data
Monday, November 23, 2026	
Monday, December 14, 2026	Wellness/ Mental Health
Monday, January 11, 2027	Enrollment (include district comp class size), mid year
Monday, January 25, 2027	
Monday, February 8, 2027	ELA/ Math Update?
Monday, February 22, 2027	Budget Presentation
Wednesday, March 3, 2027	Budget Workshop
Monday, March 8, 2027	
Wednesday, March 17, 2027	Budget Workshop
Monday, March 22, 2027	
Wednesday, March 24, 2027	BOF Middlebury/Southbury & Public Hearing
Monday, April 5, 2027	Adopt Budget
Monday, April 26, 2026	
Tuesday, May 4, 2027	DISTRICT MEETING
Monday, May 10, 2027	
Monday, May 24, 2027	
Monday, June 14, 2027	