NJGPA Results: Spring 2026 Administration

Hawthorne Public Schools

Oct. 2026

NJGPA Overview



Why is the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment Adaptive (NJGPA-A) given?

- Confirms whether students are on track to graduate by measuring essential reading and math skills aligned to New Jersey's learning standards
- Gives families clear, consistent feedback on how their child is performing compared to statewide learning expectations
- Satisfies New Jersey's graduation assessment requirement while maintaining multiple pathways for students who do not pass, including retesting, approved substitute assessments, and the portfolio appeal process

Considerations for the Change in Graduation Ready Rates

- Transition from fixed-form to adaptive testing
- Alignment to new academic standards
- Updated performance level descriptors
- Redesigned test blueprints

Transition from fixed-form to Adaptive Testing



- Increased precision
- Adaptive tests target item difficulty to the student's ability level, producing more information and lower measurement error around the student's achievement level.
- Changes to the assessment platform and item structure
- The way questions were phrased and how the student interacts with the testing platform can impact their performance until they become familiar with the new formats.

Alignment to New Academic Standards

- Test is now directly aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English language Arts and Mathematics (NJSLS-ELA/M)
- The prior NJGPA was aligned to the PARCC evidence statements
- Shift Toward Higher-Order Thinking Skills
- The standards require deeper conceptual understanding, more complex problem solving, and enhanced application of knowledge.
- The revised NJSLS-ELA/M have shifted focus on some aspects of the standards and students are still adjusting to the newly implemented standards.

Redesigned Test Blueprints



Changes to the ELA assessment include:

- Moving from 2 → 1 writing tasks, not all students receiving the same types
- Greater emphasis on reading standards
- There are more passages for students to read and process on this assessment than the prior.

Changes to the Mathematics assessment include:

- Extended response items are no longer used on the assessment
- Reporting categories have been redesigned to provide more meaningful results at the student and LEA levels.

NJGPA-A Mathematics Recommended Cut Scores

NJGPA-A Scale: 300–650

- Scale Score Cut Point: 450
- Graduation Ready Cut Score: −0.450
- 2026 Graduation Ready rate: 60.3%
- 2025 Graduation Ready rate: 58.5%



The Passing Cut on the underlying proficiency scale is what will be held constant and what future administrations of the assessment will be compared to.

Mathematics: Proficiency-to-Scale Alignment Graduation Ready Cut $\theta = -0.450$ (Scale 450)

NJGPA-A ELA Recommended Cut Scores

NJGPA-A Scale: 300–650

- Scale Score Cut Point: 450
- Graduation Ready Cut Score: –0.335
- 2026 Graduation Ready rate: 75.1%
- 2025 Graduation Ready rate: 81.3%



The Passing Cut on the underlying proficiency scale is what will be held constant and what future administrations of the assessment will be compared to.

ELA: Proficiency-to-Scale Alignment Graduation Ready Cut θ = –0.335 (Scale 450)

Graduation Pathways – Class of 2027

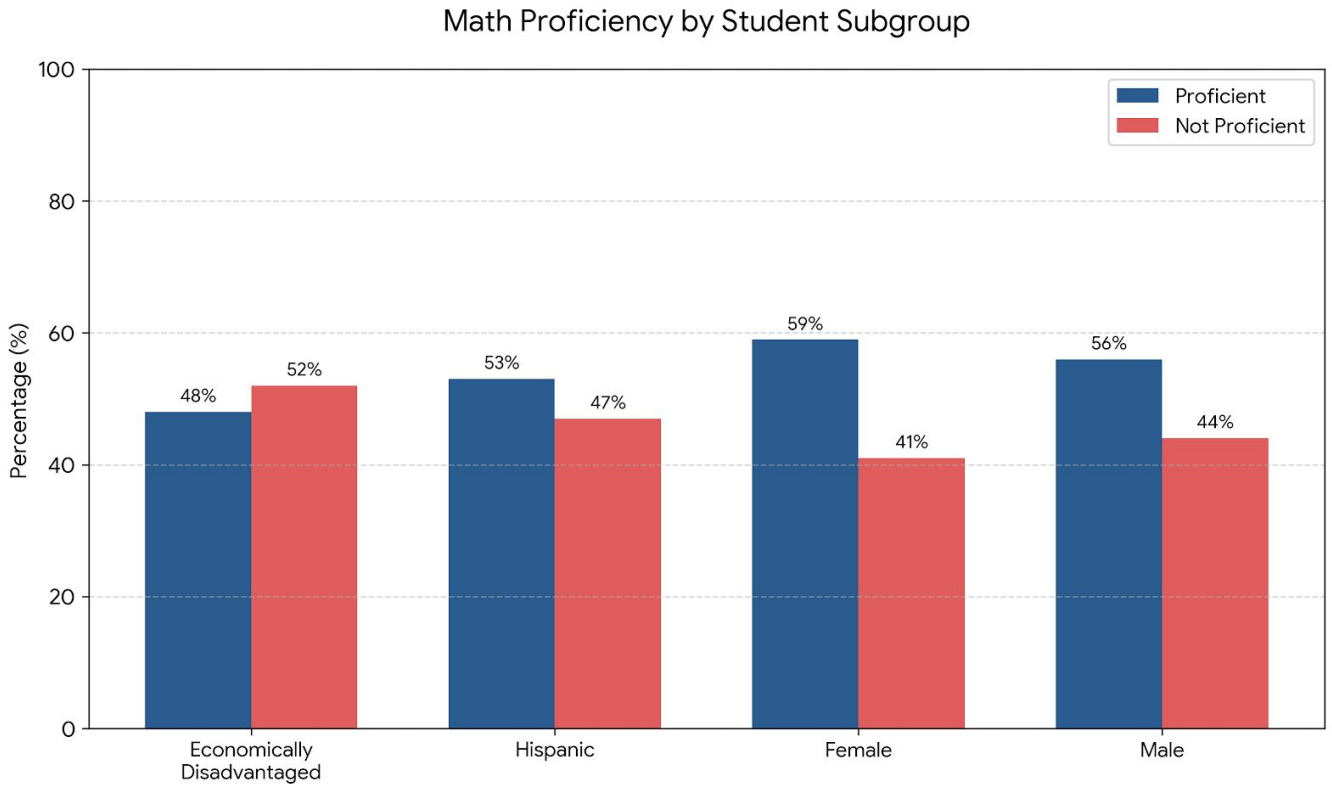
Students who took but did not demonstrate "Graduation Ready" performance can use the following pathways:

- Retest NJGPA-A - Students will test starting Oct. 13.
- The next administration of the NJGPA-A will occur October 13-28, 2026.
- Menu of Alternate Assessments
- The cut scores for the assessments will remain the same as they were for the class of 2026.
- Portfolio Appeals
- Submissions for the class of 2027 opens January 4, 2027.

Comparison of Hawthorne High School Spring 2026 NJGPA Administration - Percentages

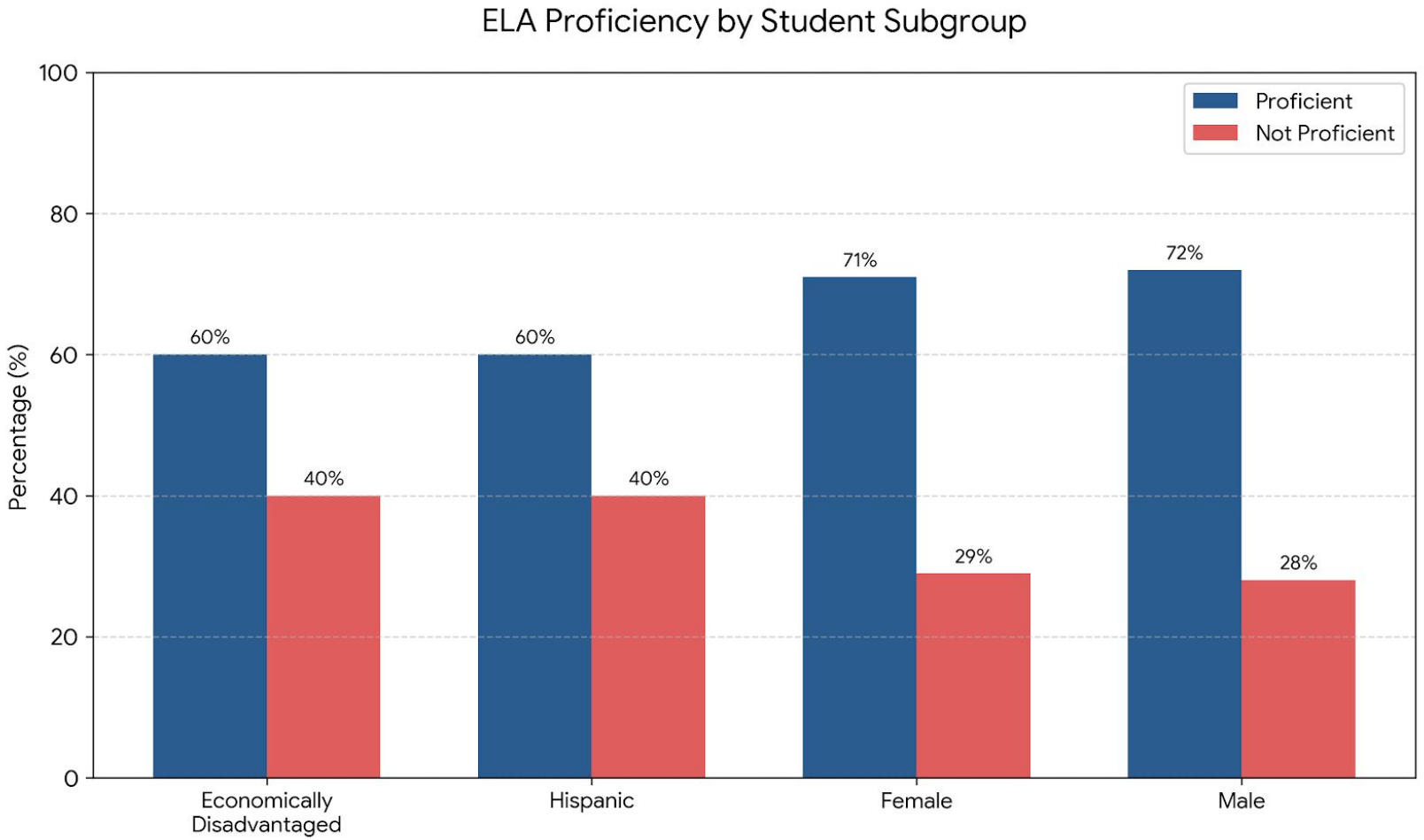
Content Component	Graduation Ready, HAWTHORNE	Not Yet Graduation Ready, HAWTHORNE	Graduation Ready, COUNTY	Not Yet Graduation Ready, COUNTY	Graduation Ready, STATE	Not Yet Graduation Ready, STATE
English Language Arts (ELA)	72	28	68	32	76	24
Math	57	43	52	48	61	39

Demographic Breakdown Math



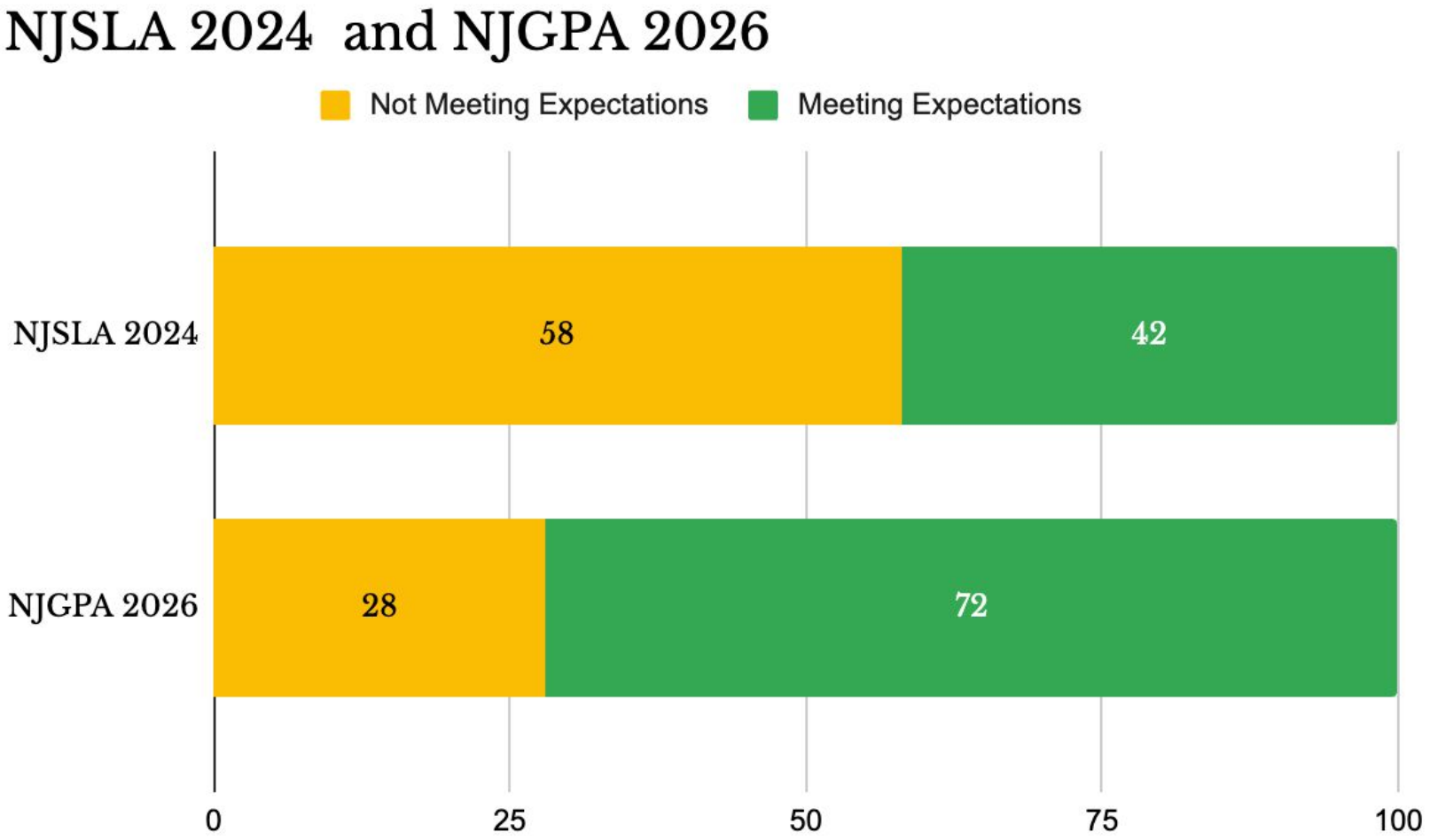
*Subgroup Populations Under 10 Are Not Portrayed As They May Be Identifiable.

Demographic Breakdown ELA



*Subgroup Populations Under 10 Are Not Portrayed As They May Be Identifiable.

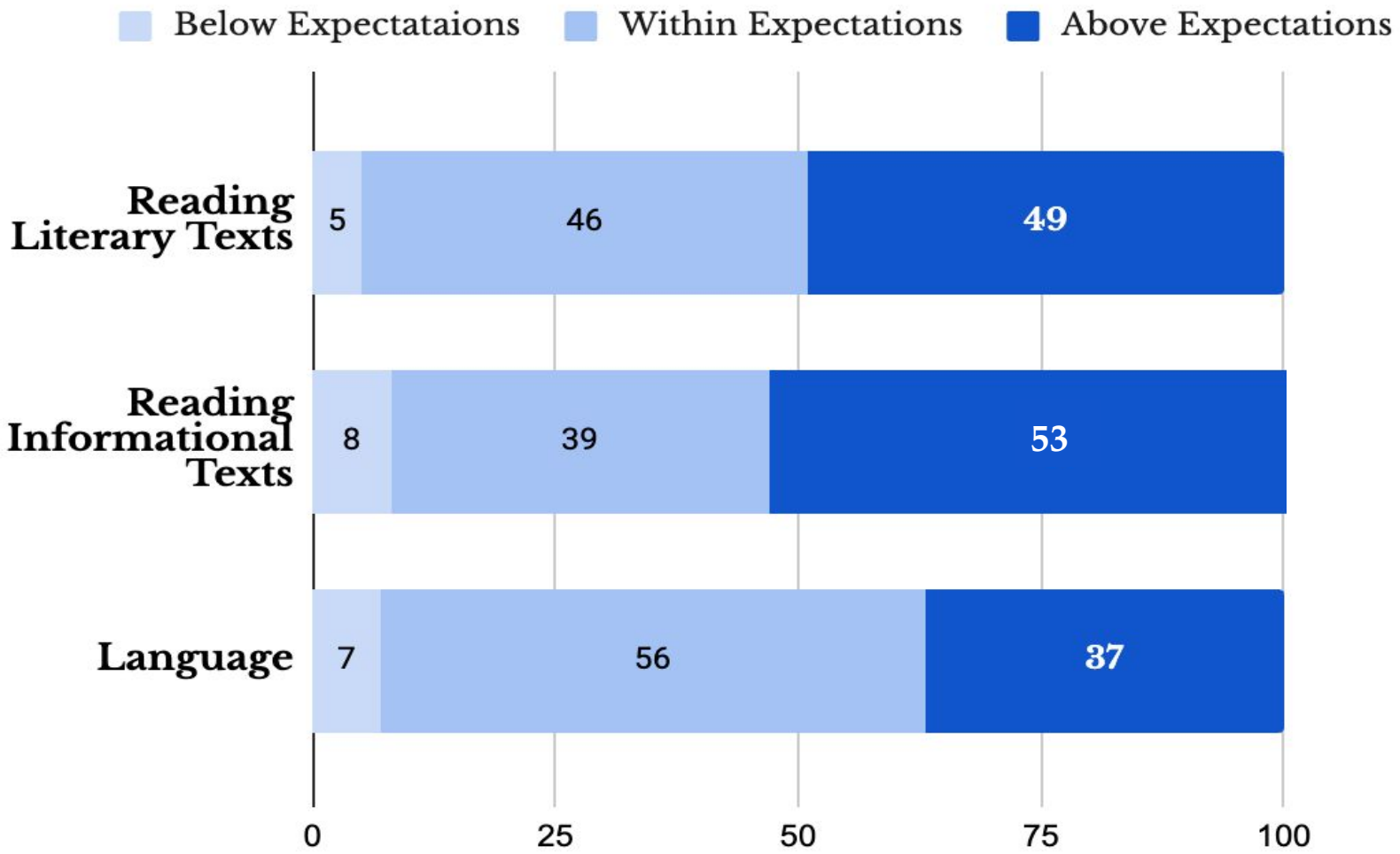
ELA Cohort Growth



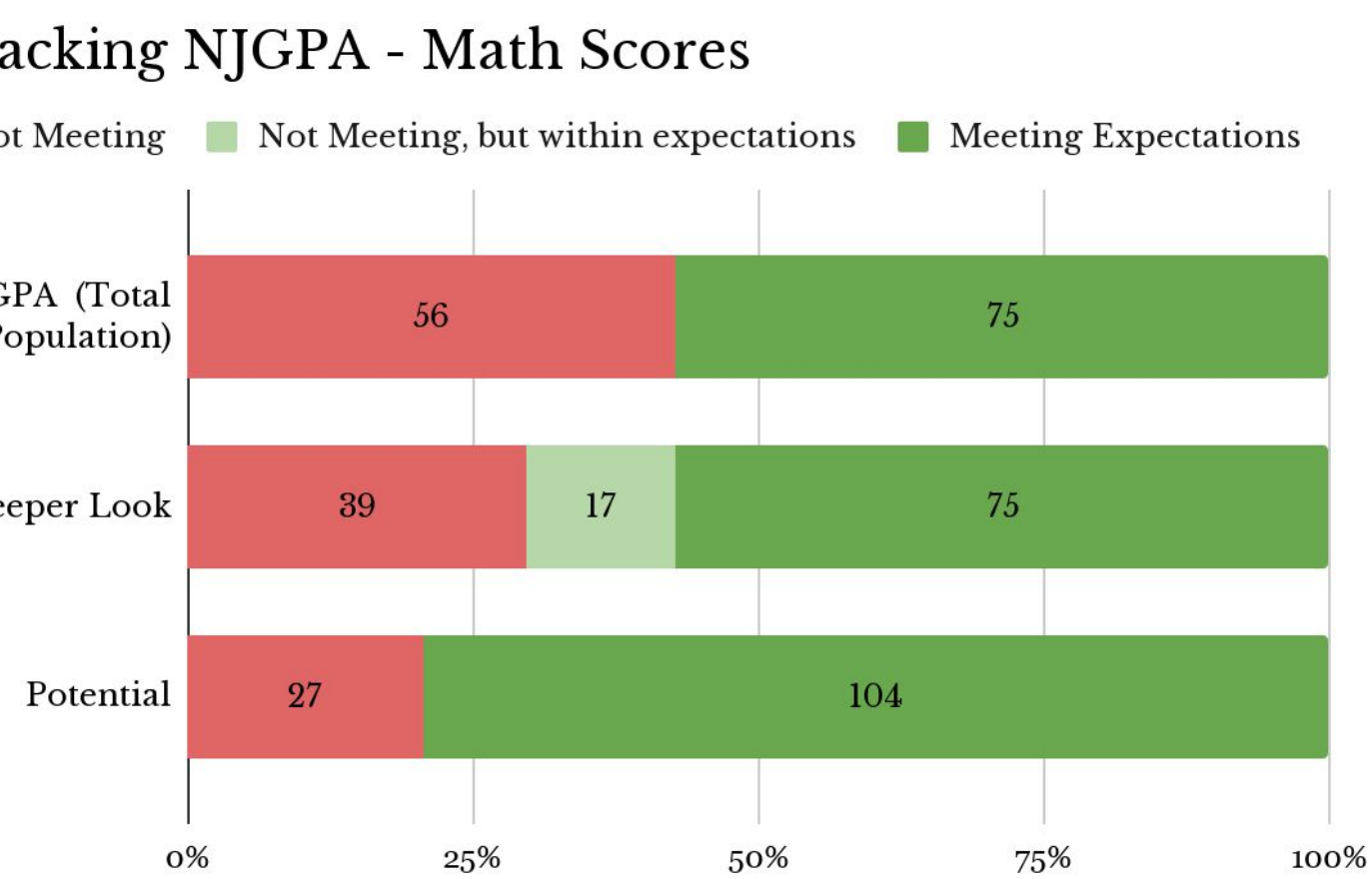
30% more students meeting expectations

24 students retesting this fall!

ELA NJGPA by Domain

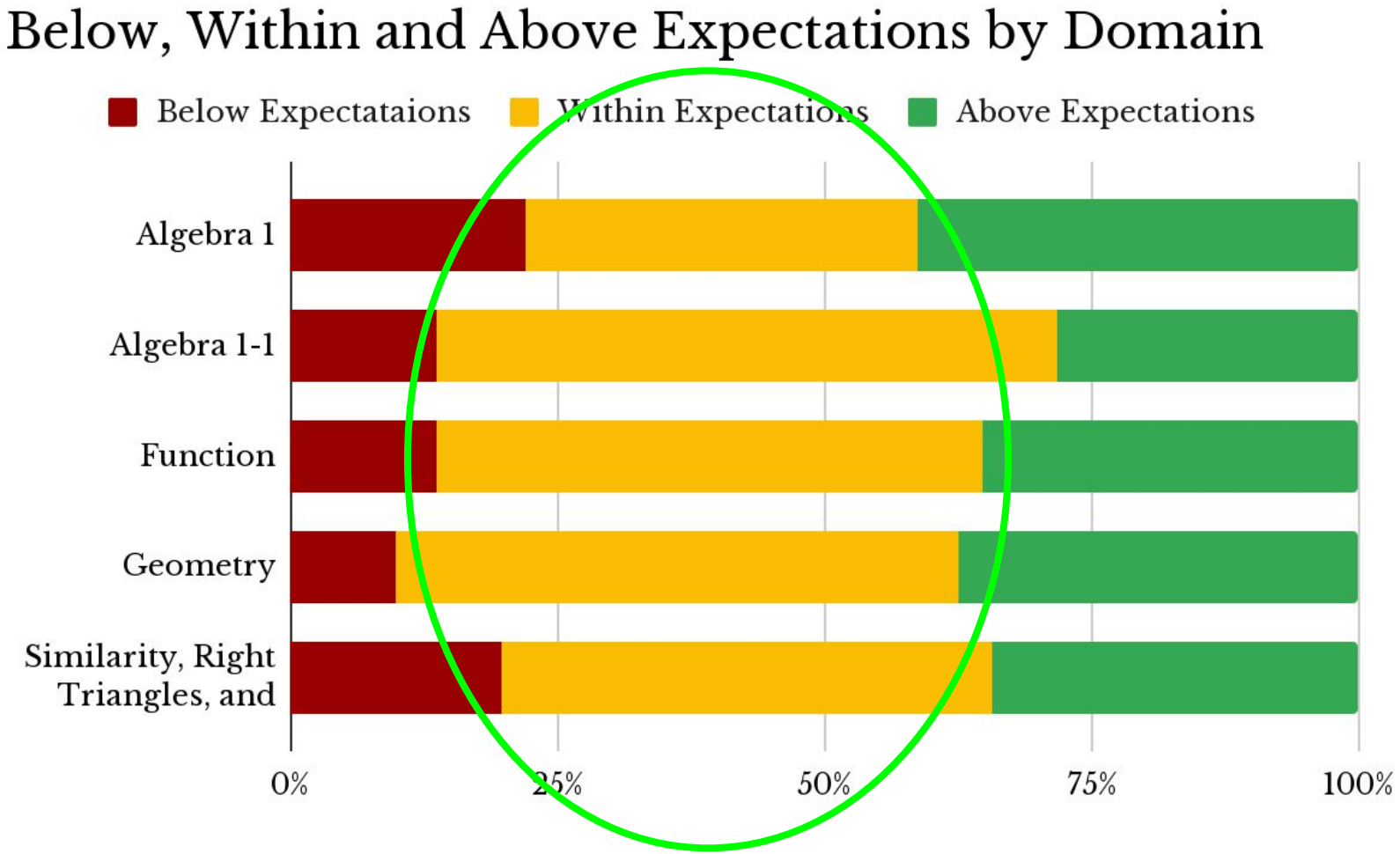


Math Overview



29 students retesting this fall

Math Overview



Math - Curriculum Connection

	Below the Proficiency Standard	**Within** the Proficiency Standard	**Above** the Proficiency Standard
Algebra	0%	40%	60%
Functions	0%	36%	64%
Geometry	0%	29%	71%

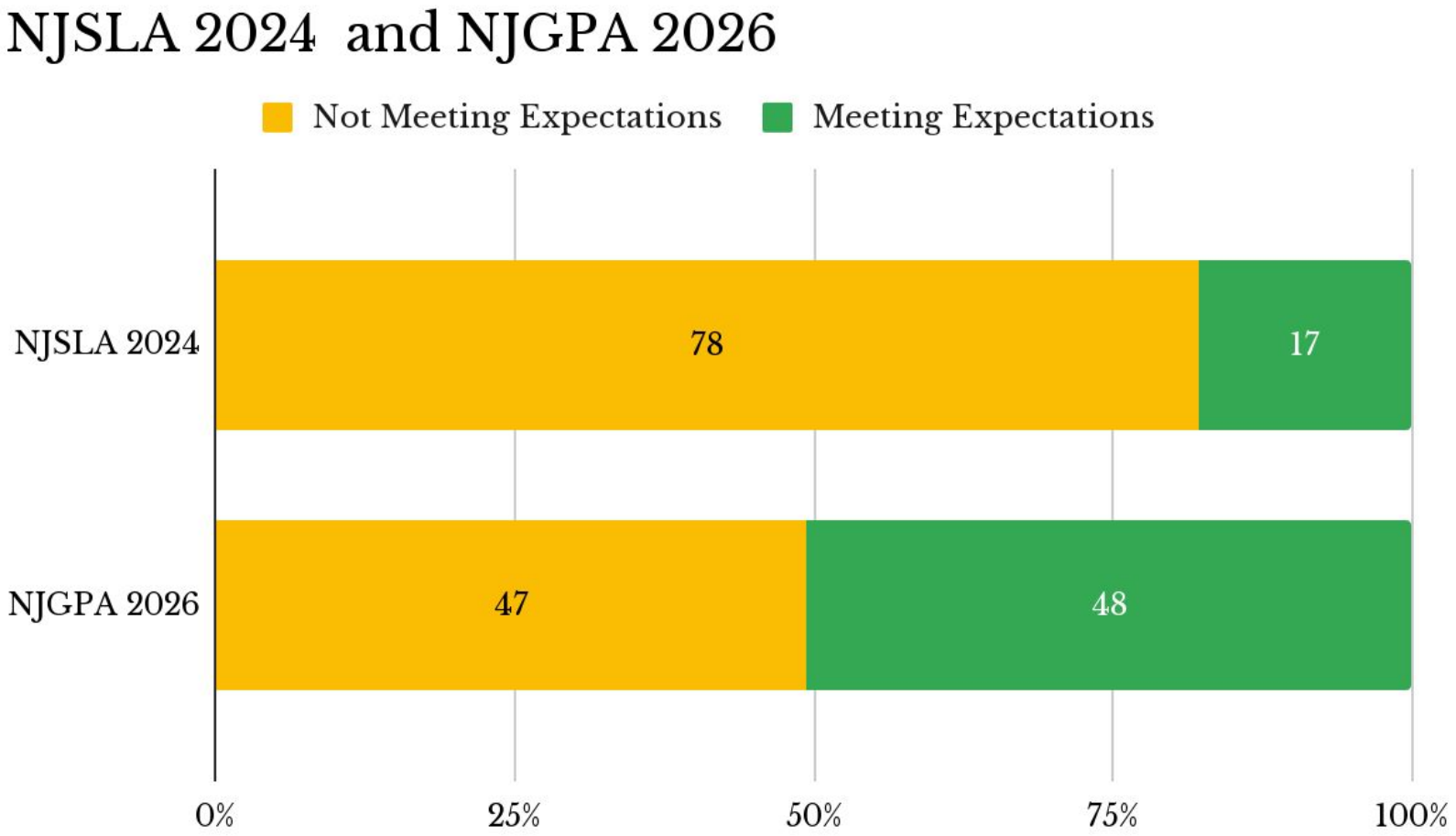
This is something to be proud of!

An area to examine our curriculum and how/when we are addressing these standards.

	G.C.A.2		G.CO.A.1	
	Proficient	Strength	Proficient	Strength
State	✓	−	✓	−
County	✓	−	✓	−
District	✓	+	⊖	=

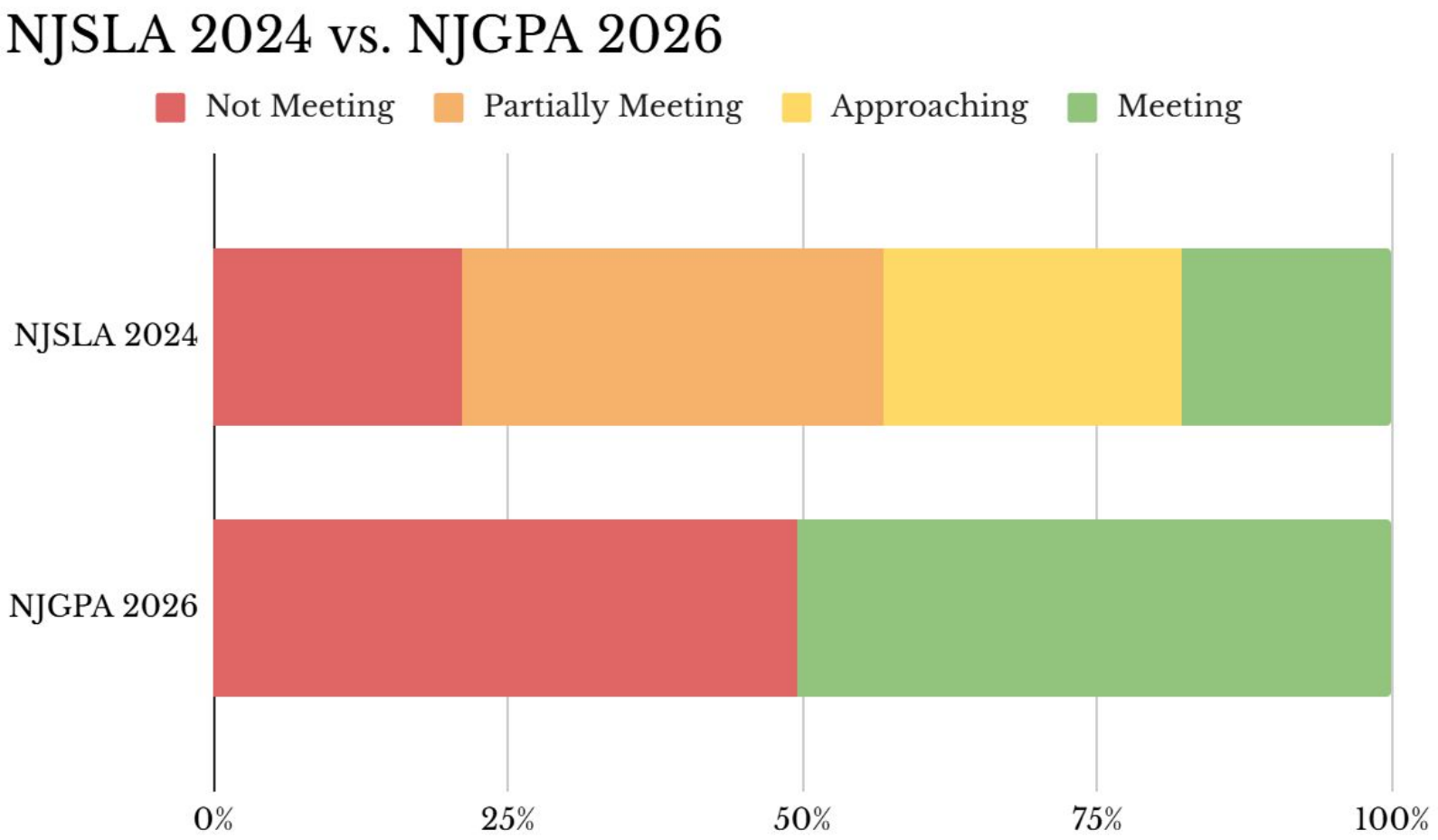
	1-2 Functions			
	F.IF.B.5		F.IF.B.6	
	Proficient	Strength	Proficient	Strength
State	✓	+	✓	−
County	✓	+	✗	−
District	✓	+	⊖	=

Math Highlights



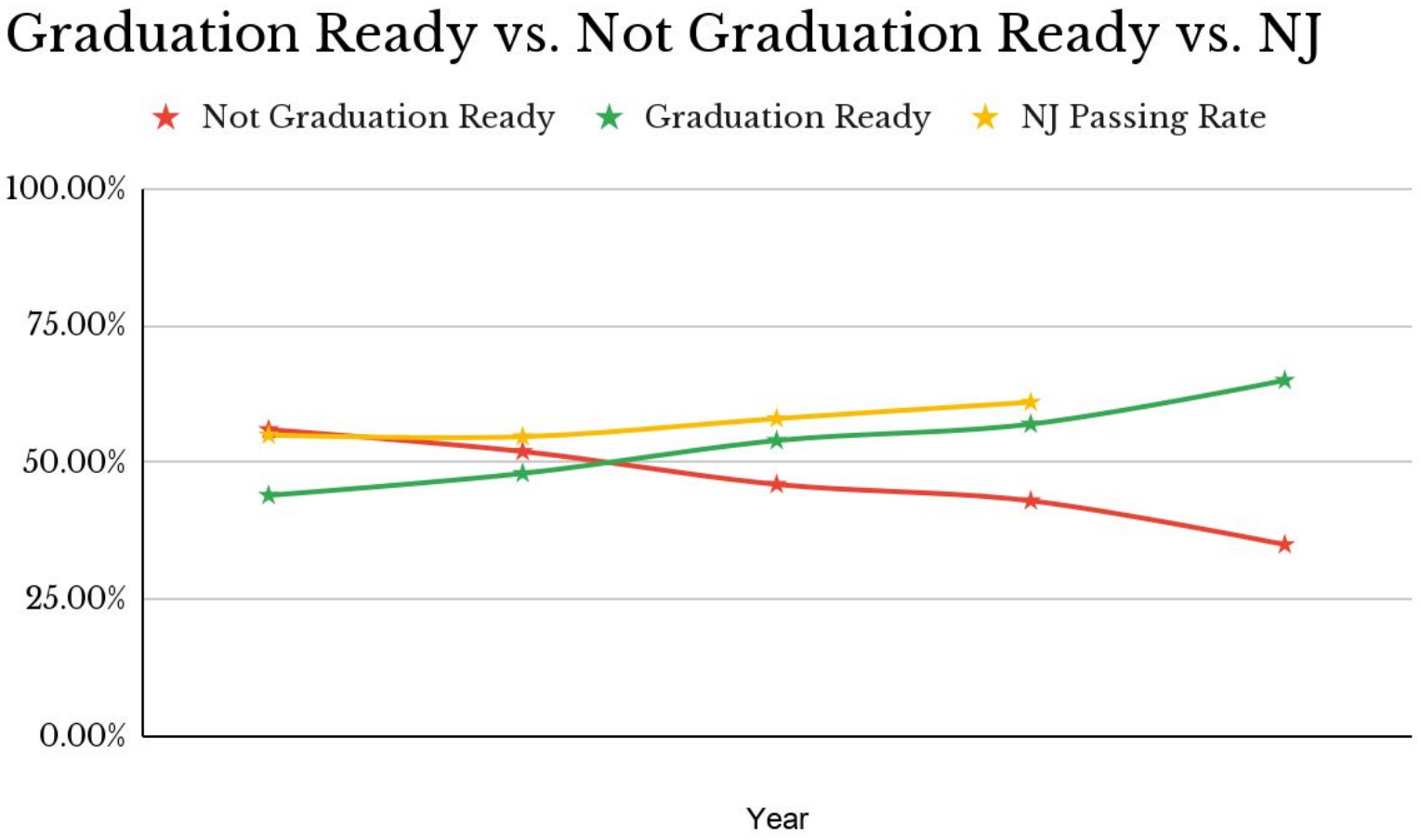
32% more students meeting expectations on the NJGPA (2026) than the NJSLA (2024).

Math Highlights



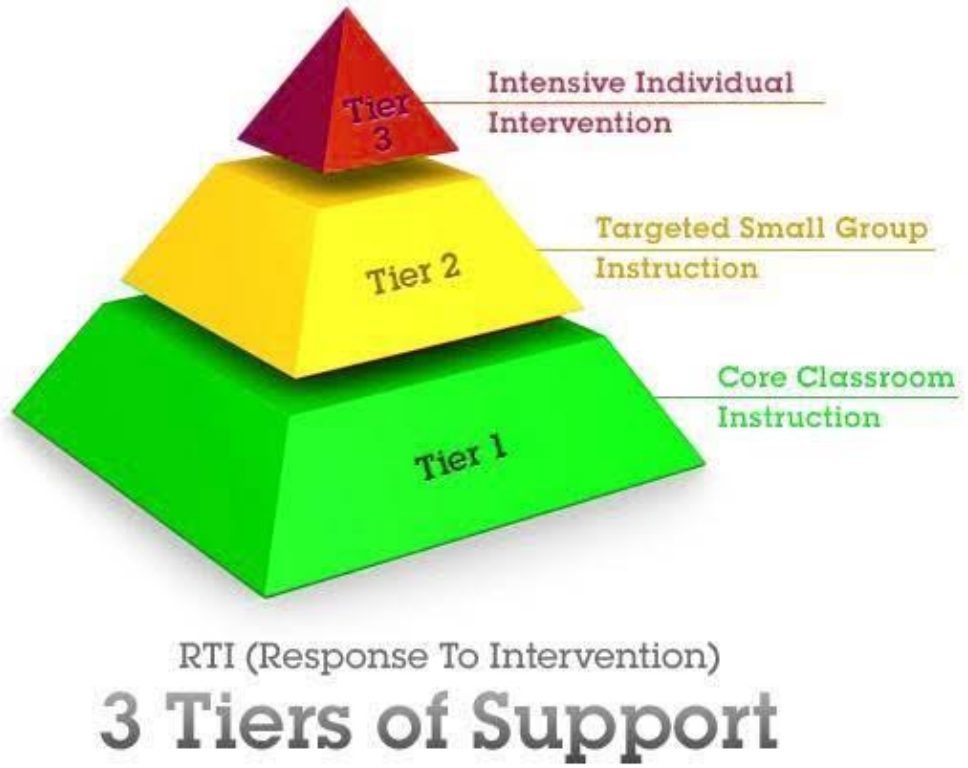
32% more students meeting expectations on the NJGPA (2026) than the NJSLA (2024).

Math Highlights Cont.



	# of students Not Meeting	# of Students Graduation Ready
2023	56%	44%
2024	52%	48%
2025	46%	54%
2026	43%	57%
2026 General Ed	35%	65%

Intervention Strategies



Core Instructional Components

Small Group Instruction	Student Engagement
Student Ownership	Data-Driven Instruction
Higher-Level Instruction	Choice & Learning Tasks
Scaffolded Supports	Extension Opportunities

SCHOOL SUMMARY

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total AP Students	77	77	134	103	123
Number of Exams	155	153	250	192	233
AP Students with Scores 3+	45	43	78	65	78
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+	58.44	55.84	58.21	63.11	63.41

AP Humanities Highlights

- **English** AP Consistent Success - 5 year span
  - **2026 Average Scores**
    - AP Seminar (*Grade 10*): **3.67**
    - AP Language (*Grade 11*): **3.55**
    - AP Literature (*Grade 12*): **3.75**

English Language and Composition	**1**	2	0	0	0	0	0
	2	3	3	5	1	3	1
	3	4	5	6	5	10	9
	4	6	3	3	2	7	8
	5	1		4	4	3	2
	Total Exams	16	11	18	12	23	20
	Mean Score	3.06	3	3.33	3.75	3.43	**3.55**

AP Humanities Highlights

Social Studies AP Success & Growth

2026 Average Scores

- AP Government (*Grade 12*): **3.25**
- AP US History (*Grade 11*): **3.57**
- AP Psychology (*Grades 11-12*): *Major growth last year, most recently getting close to that 3!*
- AP Human Geography (*Grades 11-12*): *Major growth, hit average of 3 in 2025*

United States History	1	3	2	3	0	0	0
	2	6	2	4	1	4	1
	3	4	7	4	4	4	5
	4	3	1	4	3	4	7
	5	1	2	1	1	1	1
	Total Exams	17	14	16	9	13	14
	Mean Score	2.59	2.93	2.75	3.44	3.15	**3.57**

AP STEM Highlights

AP Statistics

- 16.4% more students earned a 3+ score than in 2025

AP Environmental Science

- 80% of students earned a score of 3+

AP Computer Science

- Continuously Expanding our offerings
  - AP CS P
  - AP CS A
  - AP Cybersecurity

AP General/Seal of Biliteracy

Student Voice & Choice

Exposure driven by student choice and interest across various disciplines.

21 AP Courses Offered

Strong upward trend in participation numbers and course diversity at HHS.

Teacher Ownership

Continuous professional development and training provided by the College Board.

Micro-Learning Community (PLC)

Teachers teaching teachers — veteran and new AP educators collaborating and diving into data.

Statewide Certification

30 **Seals of Biliteracy**

28 Spanish•2 Albanian

Celebrating proficiency in English and another language in a statewide certification program.

This recognition is a result of our multicultural endeavor and our strong World Language Department's dedicated efforts.

21 Dual Enrollment with Seton Hall. 6 Credits are attainable for AP Spanish Class.

Closing

Thank you for your continued support. Please find below a link for the Assessment page of the NJDOE for further Parent Portal Information.

NJDOE Assessment Link