

Barnwell Elementary School

Elyse Arnett, Principal
Ranee Nagler, Area Superintendent

9425 Barnwell Rd., Johns Creek, GA 30022
770-552-4960 • www.BarnwellElementary.org

Key Results from our 2008-09 School Improvement Plan

Improvement plans, which outline current and ongoing school goals, are developed by each Fulton County school. These guide school administrators and teachers toward improving student achievement and overall school success.

Objective – Improve math proficiency in primary and intermediate grades (grades 1-5).

Results – Progress was measured by the percentage of students at each grade level who scored in the highest level on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT), Level 3, thus exceeding state expectations of performance.

Barnwell Elementary achieved its goal by increasing the percentage of students who exceeded expectations on the CRCT math in two of the five grade levels. Fifty-seven percent of second graders exceeded expectations, an increase of 10% over 2008, and 60% of fourth graders exceeded expectations, an increase of 19%, which represents a very impressive gain in a single year. In first grade, performance remained high where 71% of students exceeded expectations. In third grade, 67% of students exceeded expectations, as did 58% in fifth grade. We will continue to examine these scores and develop instructional strategies to expand the percentage of students who exceed state expectations.

Objective – Improve writing proficiency in primary and intermediate grades.

Results – The measure of successful performance was the percentage of students who scored at Level 4 or 5 (of 5 levels) on the Six-Traits writing rubrics in the specific areas of “Ideas” and “Organization.”

This objective was new for the 2008-09 year, so Barnwell had no prior years against which to compare students’ performance. Still, student performance was very strong, since 74% of students achieved our objective for both “Ideas” and “Organization” in their writing. We will continue to refine our instructional strategies to promote ongoing success.

Objective – Establish grade-level competencies and skills for students in the use of technology.

Results – The performance measure for this objective was based on the percentage of students meeting expectations on integrated technology projects. The results clearly indicate that most students (99%) met expectations. While this result is certainly excellent, it has been determined that students would be better served by a more rigorous set of expectations and by an expansion of the evaluation rubric by which performance is measured. Adjustments to our plan will be developed for 2009-10.

About this Report

The Fulton County School System uses a framework – called the **Value-Added Performance System** – that guides school leaders in raising student achievement by measuring academic growth as well as performance and by comparing or “benchmarking” against similar schools achieving excellent results.

The system helps answer the questions:

- **How effective are our schools?**
- **How much difference do our schools and teachers make?**
- **How much added value do our schools offer over other schools and school systems?**
- **How can we improve in order to better help each and every student reach his or her fullest potential?**

The Value-Added Performance System uses analytical tools to isolate data that reflects the school’s impact on student learning. It enables the school to focus on factors over which they have control to better focus improvement initiatives.

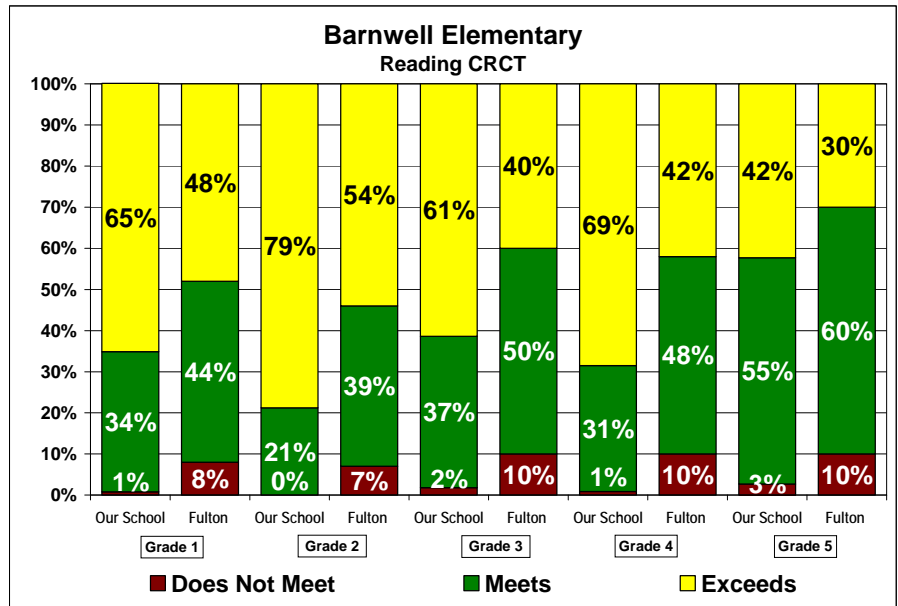
2008-09 Academic Achievement

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests

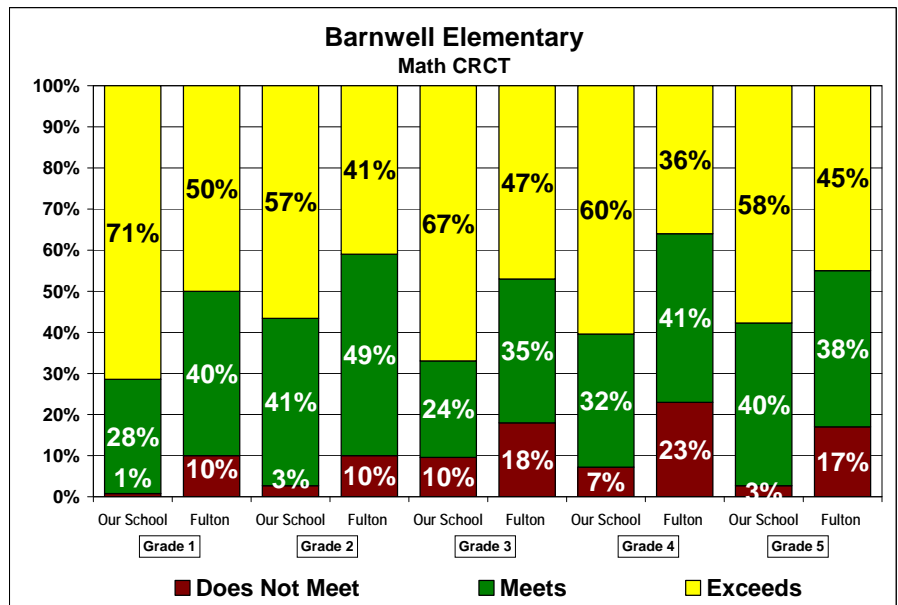
The Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) are given in grades one through eight. The test measures specific skills included in the Georgia core curriculum that are considered essential for continued academic progress.

CRCT scores are reported as levels. Level I indicates students do not yet meet expectations. Students scoring at Level 2 meet the state's expectations of being on grade level, and students at Level 3 exceed expectations, or are above grade level. Scores are reported by the percent of students in a school scoring at or above grade level.

Reading Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages



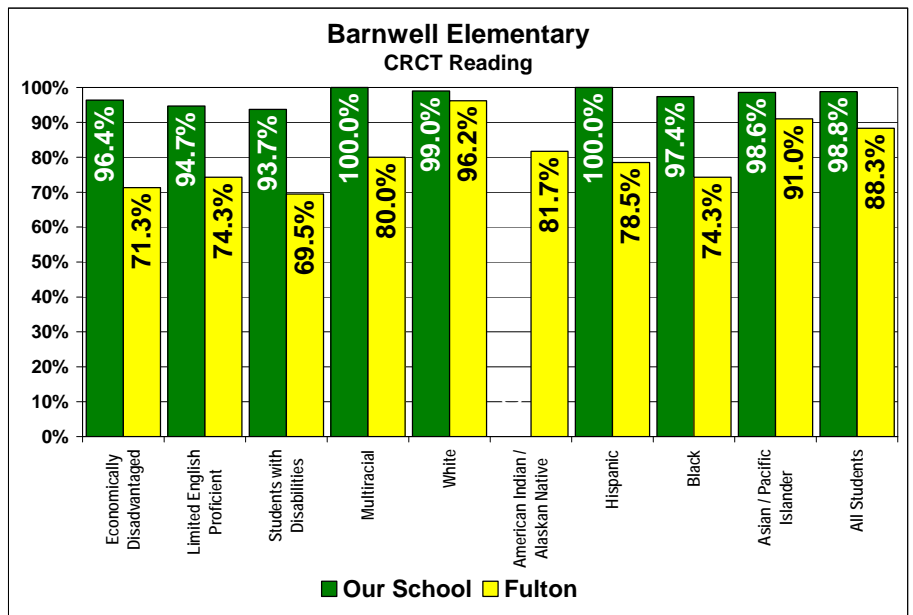
Math Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages



Reading Achievement –

Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

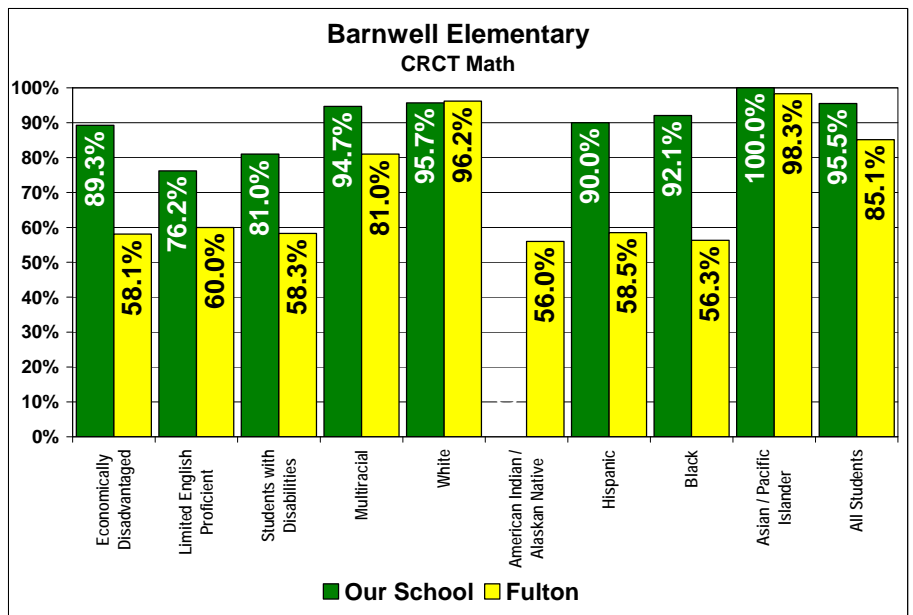
(no data is shown if our school has less than 10 students in a specific demographic category)



Math Achievement –

Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

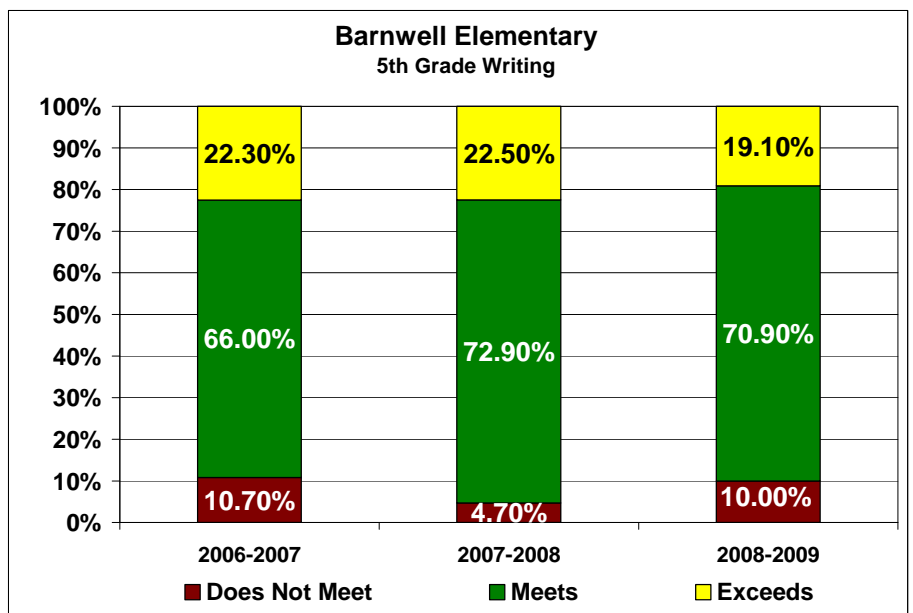
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Grade Five Writing Assessment

Part of the Statewide Testing Program, fifth grade students are assigned an essay topic in one of three genres: narrative, informational, and persuasive. Students are allowed approximately 120 minutes to write their essays. Papers are scored by trained raters using a standardized scoring system.

Similar to the CRCT, scores are reported as Does Not Meet, Meets and Exceeds Standards.



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2008-09 Highlights and Achievements

Academics and Activities

- Received a Silver Award from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement for the highest percentage of students meeting and exceeding standards
- Recognized with a district-level kindergarten winner in the Young Georgia Authors Writing Contest
- Awarded the Renzulli Learning Systems Award for technology usage
- Honored with a second place winner in the Fulton County Schools Technology Competition in Digital Photography for fifth-sixth grades
- Conducted a highly successful Family Math Night to promote the use of math activities at home and to reinforce instruction and increase student mastery of essential math skills
- Received Golden Apple award for school volunteerism
- Recognized by the North Fulton Council PTA Reflections contest, with two of our students becoming state winners
- Certified an Evergreen School by Keep North Fulton Beautiful
- Received The Evergreen Award for 2008-09
- Certified by the National Wildlife Federation for our School Yard Habitat
- Received a nomination for Georgia Art Educators Association Teacher of the Year
- Designated a Better Air School, partnering with the Clean Air Campaign
- Recognized for state level winners of River of Words International Art and Poetry Program
- Trained teachers in the use of the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) standards of instruction for English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students
- Established schoolwide standards of performance in technology to prepare our students to be 21st Century learners
- Honored by the selection of two Barnwell students to the Fulton County Honor Band
- Represented by two Barnwell students in the Fulton County Elementary Honor Chorus and eight students in the Fulton County Elementary Choral Clinic
- Participated in the Northview and Chattahoochee Combined Cluster Concert

Other Notable Achievements

- Recycled ink cartridges, tennis shoes, paper, cell phones, plastic water bottles and aluminum cans
- Raised money for organizations such as Jump Rope for Heart and the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Conducted a successful Coat Drive and a Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit Barnwell families
- Supplied holiday gifts for several Barnwell families through our Holiday Giving Tree
- Earned the Georgia PTA Visionary, Pacesetter and Early Bird awards
- Recognized as a Clean Air Campaign award winner
- Awarded the PTA Gold Award for Excellence
- Honored for having 100% of the faculty as PTA members

**This report was produced by the Fulton County School System
with the assistance of our school.**

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