

Findley Oaks Elementary School

Steve Curry, Principal
Ranee Nagler, Area Superintendent

5880 Findley Chase Drive, Johns Creek, GA 30097
770-497-3800 • www.findleyoakselementary.org

Key Results from 2008-09 School Improvement Plans

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 – To improve student writing in the area of Voice. Voice is the expression of the author’s unique personality and approach to a subject; that aspect of writing which expresses his/her engagement with the topic and which ultimately engages the reader in the composition.

Results – Findley Oaks Elementary School students achieved their goal of increased success in the area of voice in their writings, continuing and building upon strong performances on unit writing assessments and the state writing assessment.

Objective – To improve student writing in the area of Ideas. The ideas in a composition comprise the primary message, the content and theme of a composition, and together with the supporting details, they develop and enrich the theme.

Results – Findley Oaks Elementary School students achieved their goal of increased success in the area of Ideas in their writings. As in the area of Voice, students demonstrated strong performances on unit writing assessments and on the state writing assessment.

Objective – Reduce the number of students in grades 3, 4 and 5 who have not exceeded expectations on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT).

Results – The objective was achieved. Ten percent of identified students increased their performance on the reading portion of the CRCT, moving from “Meets Expectations” to “Exceeds Expectations.”

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.

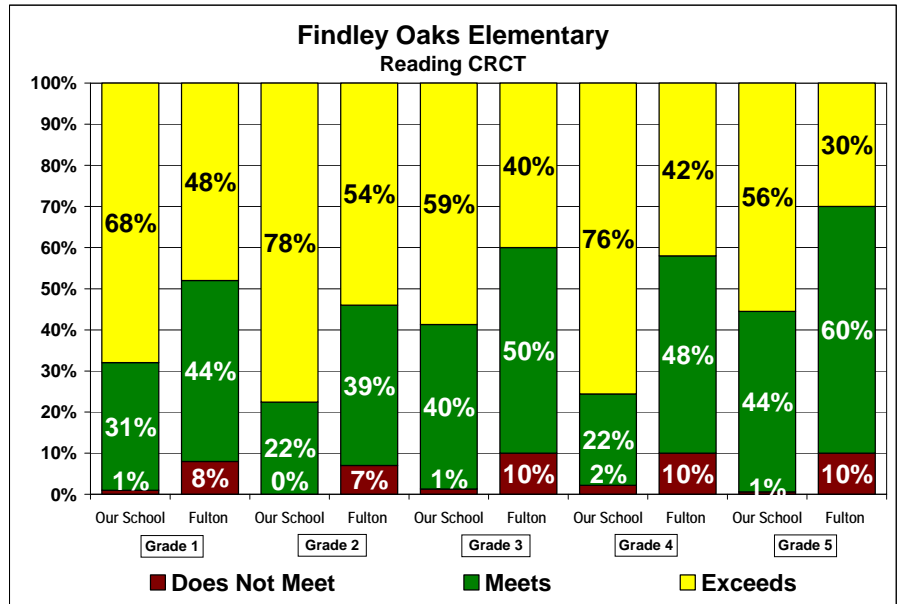
2008-09 Academic Achievement

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests

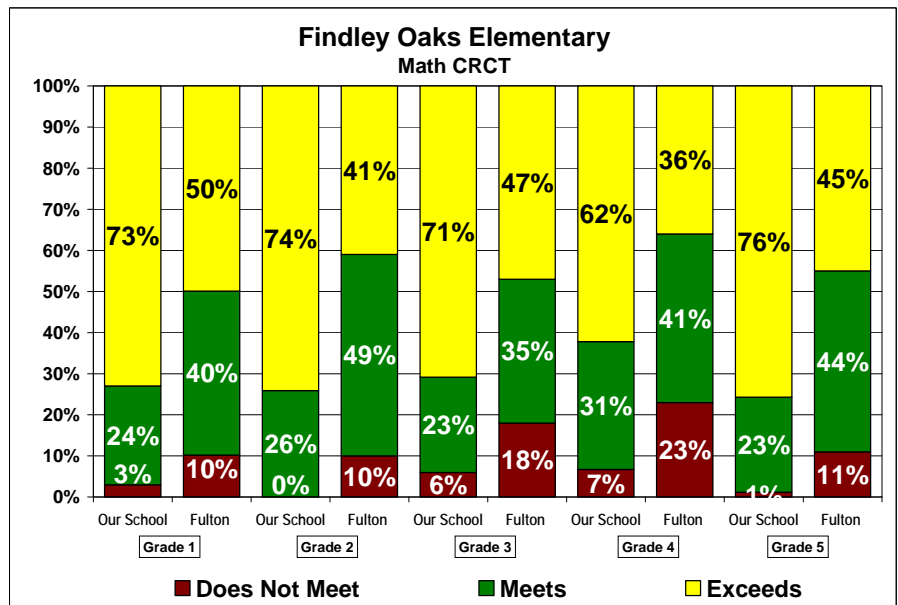
The Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) are given in grades one through eight. The test measures specific skills included in the Georgia core curriculum that are considered essential for continued academic progress.

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



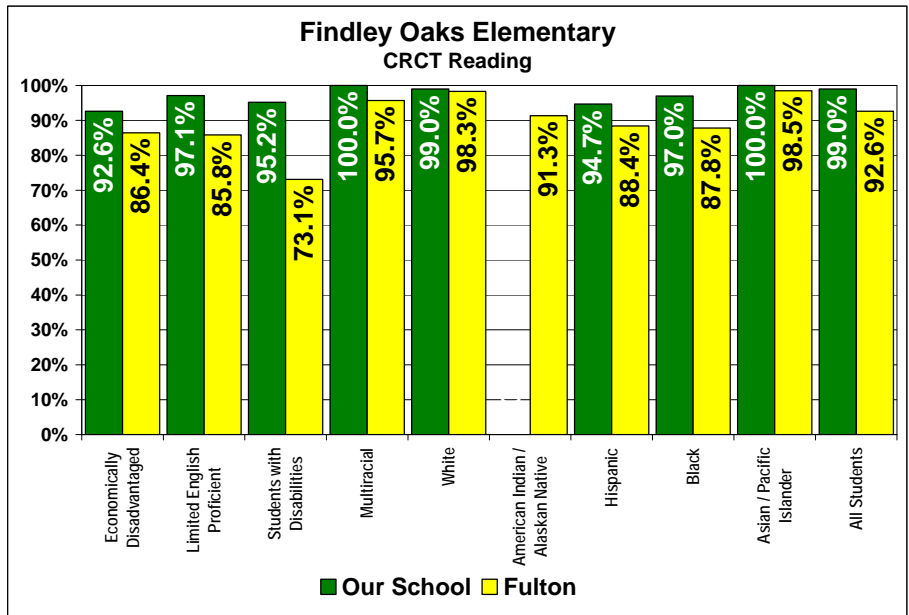
Math Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages



Reading Achievement –

Separated by Our School’s Student Demographics

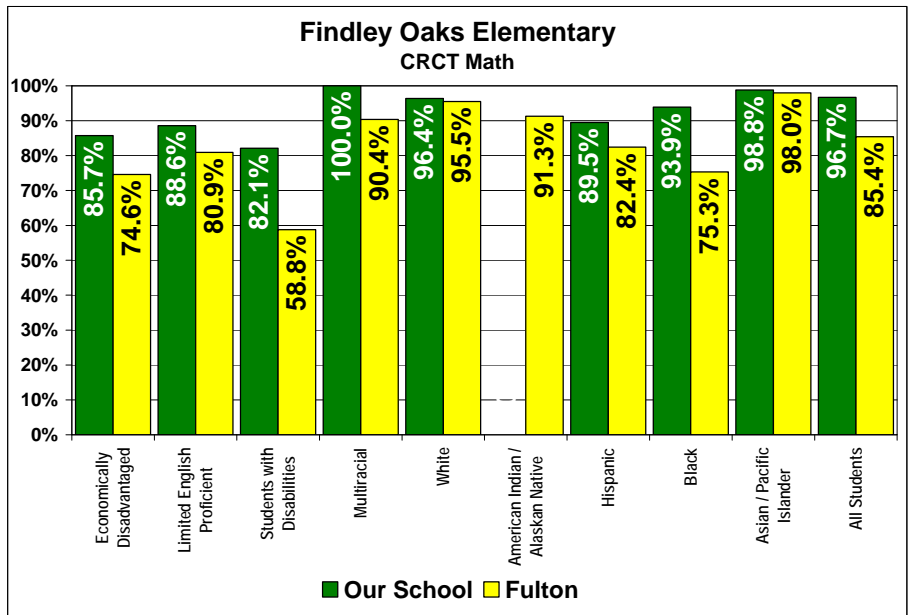
(no data is shown if our school has less than 10 students in a specific demographic category)



Math Achievement –

Separated by Our School’s Student Demographics

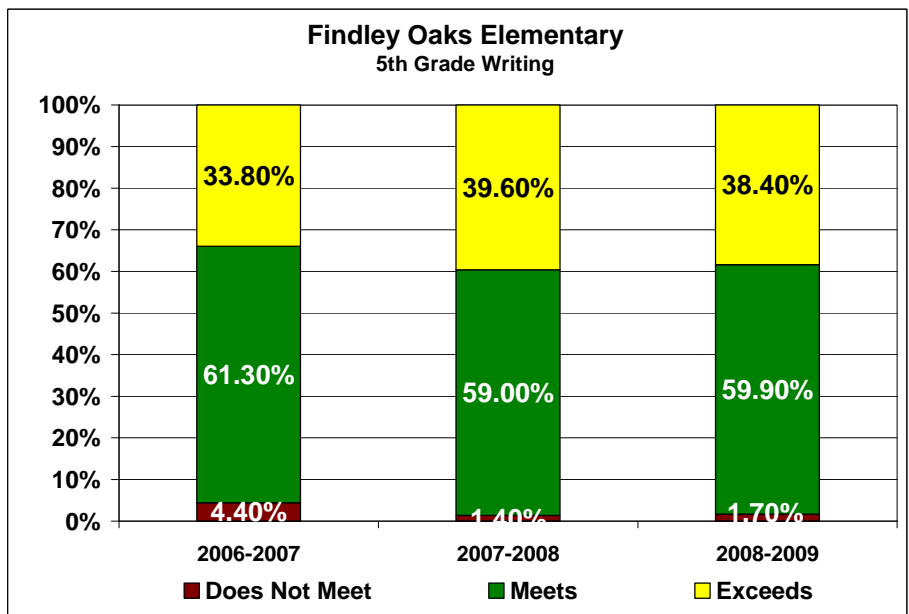
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Grade Five Writing Assessment

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 the Gold Award from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement for having the highest percentage of students meeting and exceeding academic standards
- Received the Georgia State Superintendent's Achievement Award for first grade performance on the math portion of the CRCT
- Named Exemplary Elementary School Media Center by Georgia Board of Education
- As part of a focus on science education, hosted space shuttle astronaut Duane "Digger" Carey for two school assemblies
- Thirty-five members of our business and professional community visited Findley Oaks on Special Events Day to share their insights into professional life. This was in support of our efforts to Connect Life With Learning.
- Held an International and Fine Arts night featuring the cultural diversity of our community, and showcasing the artwork of each of our students
- Six students were recognized by the North Fulton Council for their Reflections art submission. One student participated at the state level.
- The Findley Oaks PTA received the Outstanding Local Unit award, the Model PTA award, the Connect With Council award, the Visionary Pin and Certificate, the Platinum Membership certificate, and the Oak Tree membership certificate from the North Fulton Council of PTAs
- Peer tutoring program pairs upper grade students with younger students who would benefit from weekly assistance in content areas
- Findley Oaks is an Evergreen School
- The Science Force hands-on science program conducted parent-led science labs at all grade levels
- As part of our PTA sponsored reading program, students read collectively over 1,700,000 pages during the year
- Findley Oaks received the Golden Apple award for volunteer participation in our school
- The Student Environmental Club promotes environmental awareness through school-wide recycling and attention to our campus environment
- Participated in a partnership with Northview High School to provide high school student mentors who helped in classrooms and worked with students
- Findley Oaks is a Heart Safe School as designated by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's "Project S.A.V.E."

Other Notable Achievements

- Named an Energy Star school by the Environmental Protection Agency
- Recipient of Lowe's outdoor education grant
- Findley Oaks faculty participated in the first annual Johns Creek Relay for Life
- Participated in a winter coat drive to benefit less fortunate members of our community
- Student Council and PTA conducted a mid-winter canned food drive to benefit less fortunate members of our community
- Through a partnership with our PTA and community, we were able to install interactive whiteboards in our fourth grade classrooms, complementing the boards already in place in the fifth grade

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

Equal opportunity agency. Compliance Coordinator. 404-763-4585. TTY 1-800-255-0135

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