

Shakerag Elementary School

Martin Neuhaus, Principal
Ranee Nagler, Area Superintendent

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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 – Decrease number of students scoring in Level 1 (does not meet expectations) on the math section of the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) in Grades 1-5

Results – Decreased the total number of students scoring Level 1 (went from eight students to six students), while increasing the total number of students tested in grades 1 through 5 (686 to 706). Nineteen students were identified as at-risk for not meeting expectations based on their individual performance on 2007-08 CRCT. All of these students received additional classroom support, assistance through the Early Intervention Prevention (EIP) program or with an instructional paraprofessional or were served through special education accommodations/strategies. Out of the 19 students identified, 13 met or exceeded expectations on the math section of the CRCT.

Objective – Increase the percentage of fifth grade students scoring in Level 3 (exceeds expectations) on CRCT in reading

Results – We decreased the percentage of fifth grade students scoring in Level 3 (went from 56.3% of students (85/151) to 50% of students (76/152). Although we were the only school in Fulton County to have all our fifth grade students meet/exceed expectations in reading, our overall exceeding percentage decreased. We will continue to utilize Literacy Stations in all grades, allowing for more small-group instruction while also improving the effectiveness of our reading instruction. Also, we will use more CRCT review practice at school and encourage the use of online resources/COACH Books at home. We will analyze our small-group instruction and focus on improving reading strategies for our fifth grade students.

Objective – Increase the percentage of third through fifth grade students scoring in Level 3 (exceeds expectations) on CRCT in math

Results – Our overall percentage of third through fifth grade students increased 10% (69% to 79%) The third grade percentage of students in Level 3 increased 15%, fourth grade increased 9%, and fifth grade increased 5%.

Objective – Create a consistent writing program utilizing 6+1 Traits for all students

Results – Throughout the year, students met writing standards on classroom performance assessments based upon the 6+1 Traits of Writing program. On the fifth grade writing assessment, we increased the percentage of students meeting/exceeding standards by 2% (from 95% off all fifth graders to 97% of all fifth graders).

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.

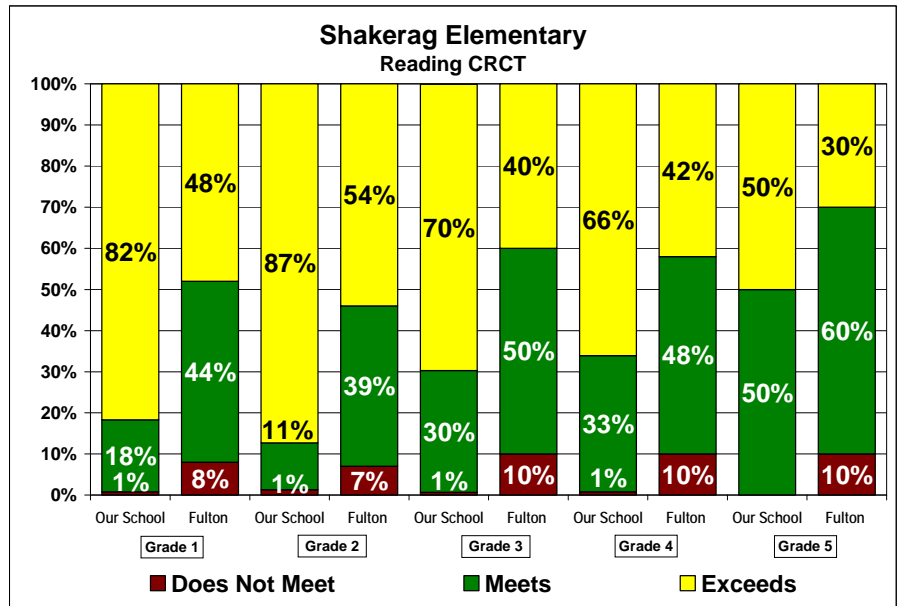
2008-09 Academic Achievement

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests

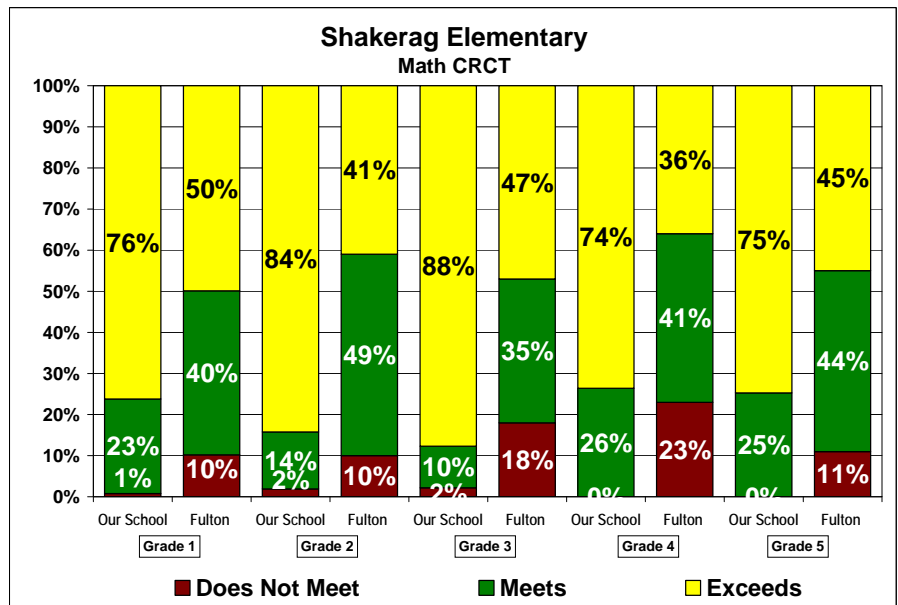
The Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) are given in grades one through eight. The test measures specific skills included in the Georgia core curriculum that are considered essential for continued academic progress.

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



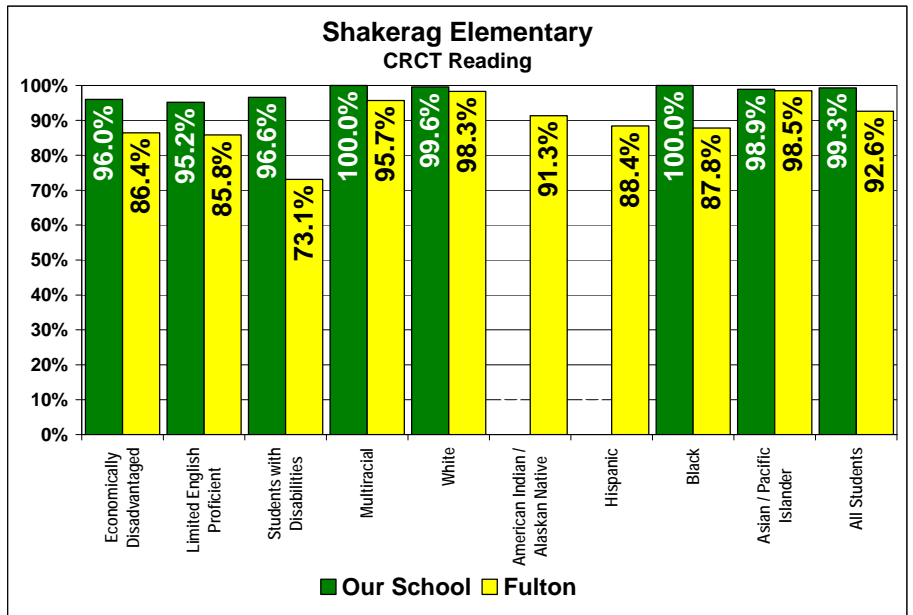
Math Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages



Reading Achievement –

Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

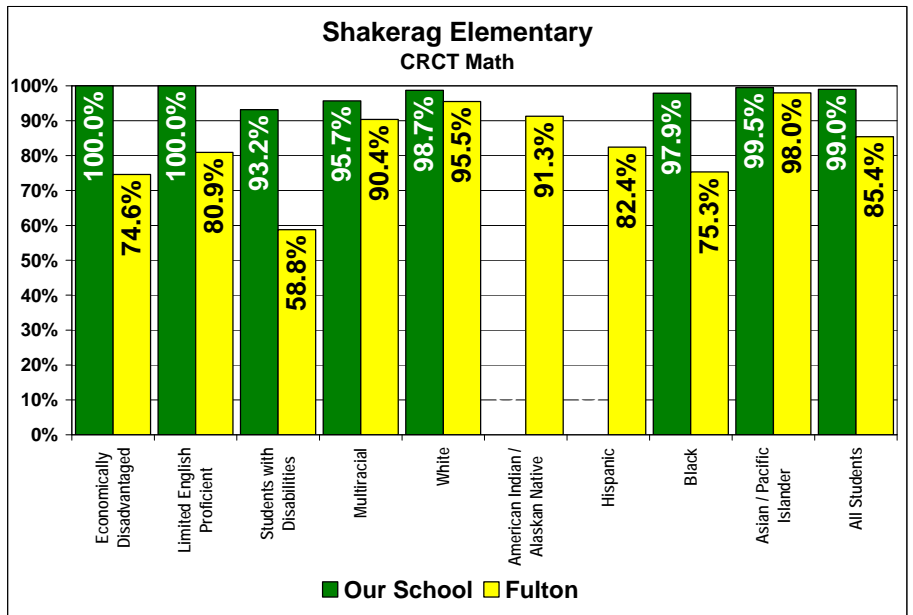
(no data is shown if our school has less than 10 students in a specific demographic category)



Math Achievement –

Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

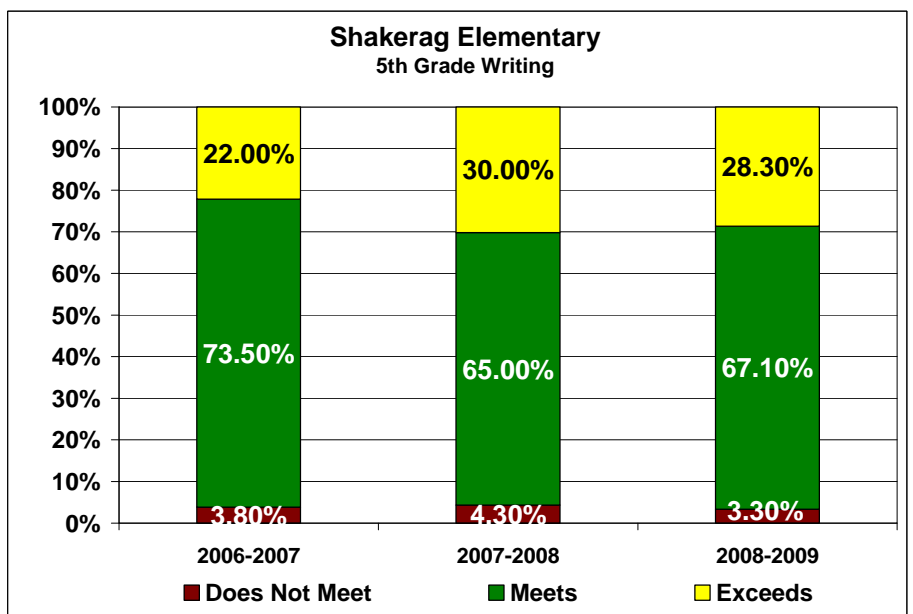
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Grade Five Writing Assessment

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

- Platinum Award from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement for the Highest Achievement category. Shakerag Elementary is the only school in Fulton County to win this award each of the four years it has been awarded.
- State Superintendent's Distinguished Achievement Award in grade 2 reading
- State Superintendent's Distinguished Achievement Award in grade 2 English/language arts
- State Superintendent's Distinguished Achievement Award in grade 2 math
- State Superintendent's Distinguished Achievement Award in grade 3 reading
- State Superintendent's Distinguished Achievement Award in grade 5 reading
- PTA Phoebe Apperson Hearst award winner
- PTA Connect with Council award winner
- PTA Golden Apple award for school volunteerism
- State student Reflections contest winner
- PTA Platinum level membership award winner
- Health M'Powers Healthy School award recipient
- Golden Fox Puppet Theater for third through fifth grade
- 12 Shakerag students were selected for Fulton County's Youth Orchestra program

Other Notable Achievements

- 100% staff PTA participation
- Great Schools Rating – earned 10 out of 10
- Get Smart About Culture Parent participation program
- Shark Sharing program that provides quarterly financial and material support to various charities, including our Adopt-A-Family program for the holidays
- Annual Salute to America program presented by our third grade students to honor Veteran's Day
- PTA-sponsored Science Force provides hands-on science labs for all students
- PTA-sponsored annual Artists' Day for students to experience and learn about multiple kinds of art
- 90% of fourth and fifth grade students participate in band or orchestra programs
- Partnered with Northview High School to provide high school mentors for our students

**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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