

Hembree Springs Elementary School

Kalpana Raju, Principal
Robert Lynch, 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 – To improve reading skills for students in grades 1-5.

Results – Hembree Springs Elementary School achieved its overall goal of students improving their reading skills on the CRCT. In 2007-08, 94% of students in grades 1-5 met or exceeded expectations on the CRCT. In 2008-09, the percentage of students to meet or exceed expectations in these grades increased to 96%. The number of students in grade 1 who met or exceeded expectations increased 1 percentage point. The increase in second grade was an impressive 6%. Second grade also increased the number of students to exceed expectations by 5 percentage points. Ninety-five percent of third graders achieved meet or exceeds on the reading CRCT. Fourth grade showed a 4% increase in total reading and showed a 3% increase in students to score at the exceeds level. The number of students in fifth grade to score at the exceeds level increased by 12 points.

Objective – To improve math skills for students in grades 1-5.

Results – Math skills in grades 1-5 also showed an increase. In 2007-08, 88% of students in grades 1-5 met or exceeded expectations. In 2008-09, that number rose to 92%. With hard work, the number of students in first grade who exceeded grade level expectations increased by 4%. Second grade results showed that the number of students who met or exceeded expectations in math increased 10 percentage points. Ninety percent of third grade students scored in levels 2 or 3. Fourth grade students showed a 9% increase. In addition, the number of fourth grade students to exceed grade level expectations increased 13 percentage points. Fifth grade students also showed a dramatic increase in math. The percentage of students to meet or exceed expectations increased from 75% to 87%. Moreover, the number of students who scored in the exceeds category more than doubled from the previous year.

Objective – To improve written expression skills for students in grade 5.

Results – Hembree Springs has always recognized the value and importance of writing skills to a student's success in school and beyond. The focus on writing begins in kindergarten and is emphasized in all grade levels and across all subject areas. The fifth grade writing assessment results are evidence of our students' hard work. The percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations increased from 89% to 96%.

Objective – To improve reading skills for ESOL students in grades 1-5.

Results – ESOL students have also demonstrated an increase in their reading skills. The percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations on the reading portion of the CRCT increased from 88% in the spring of 2008 to 92% the following year.

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.

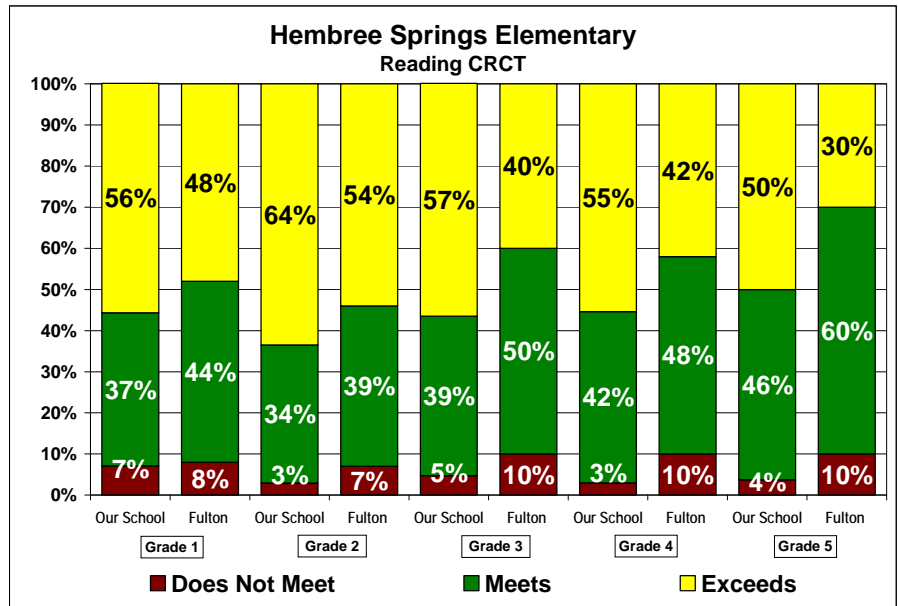
2008-09 Academic Achievement

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests

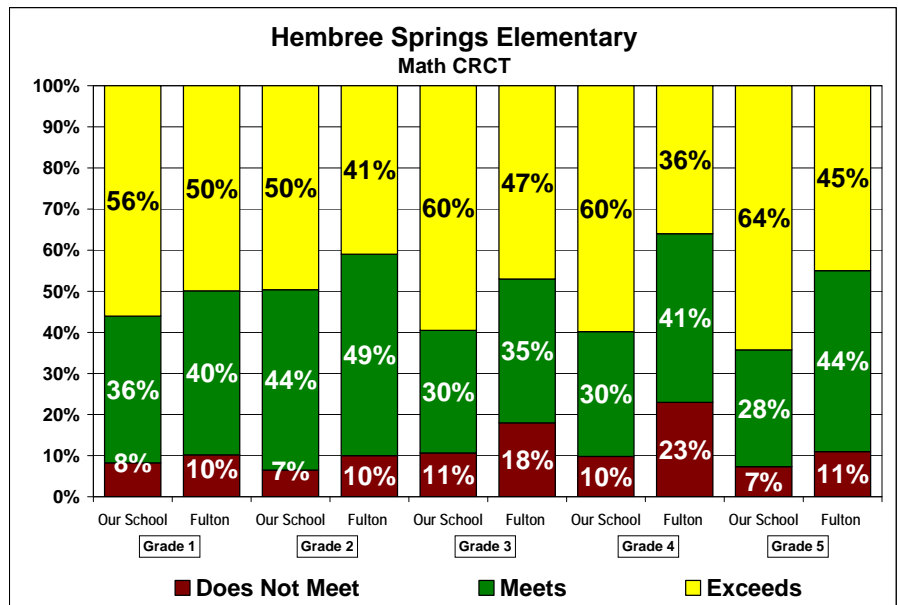
The Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) are given in grades one through eight. The test measures specific skills included in the Georgia core curriculum that are considered essential for continued academic progress.

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



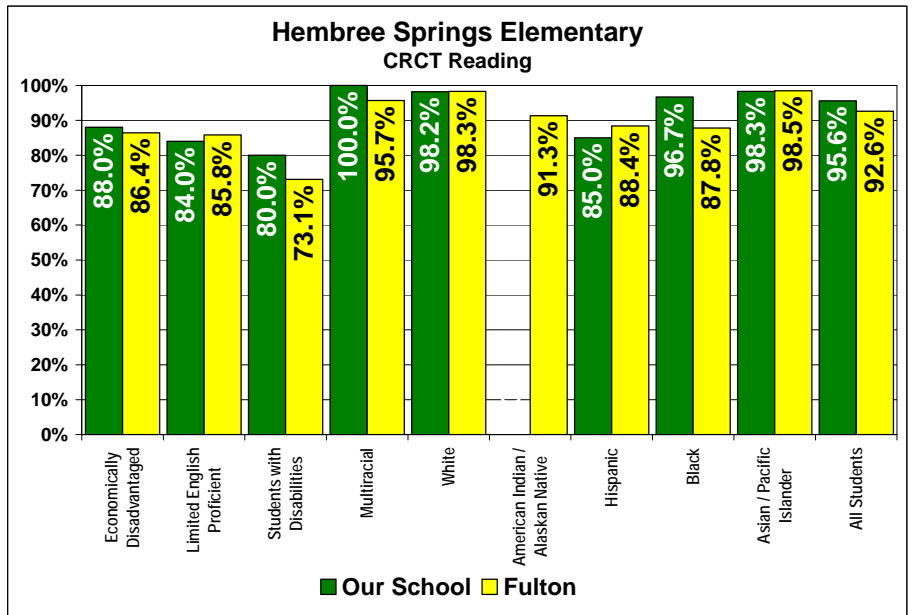
Math Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages



Reading Achievement –

Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

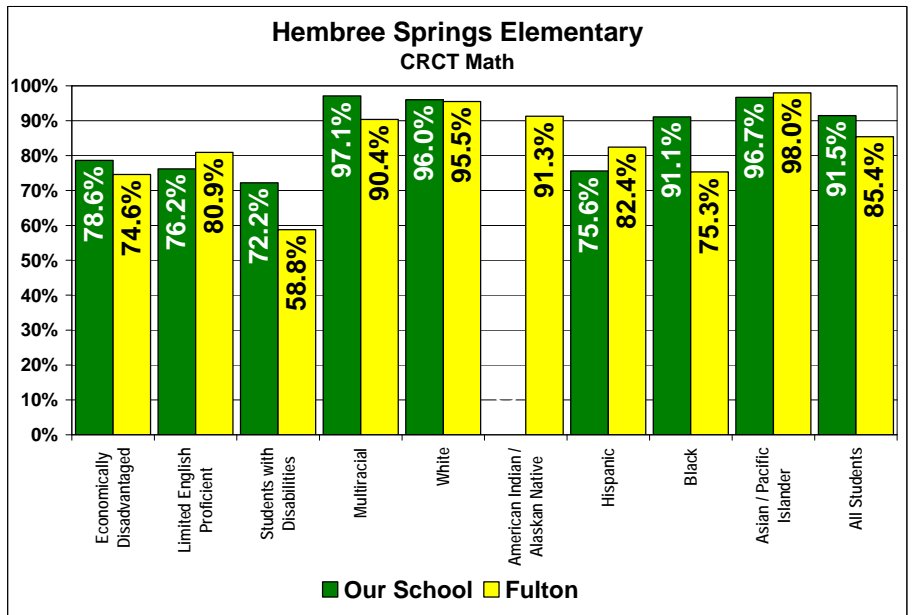
(no data is shown if our school has less than 10 students in a specific demographic category)



Math Achievement –

Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

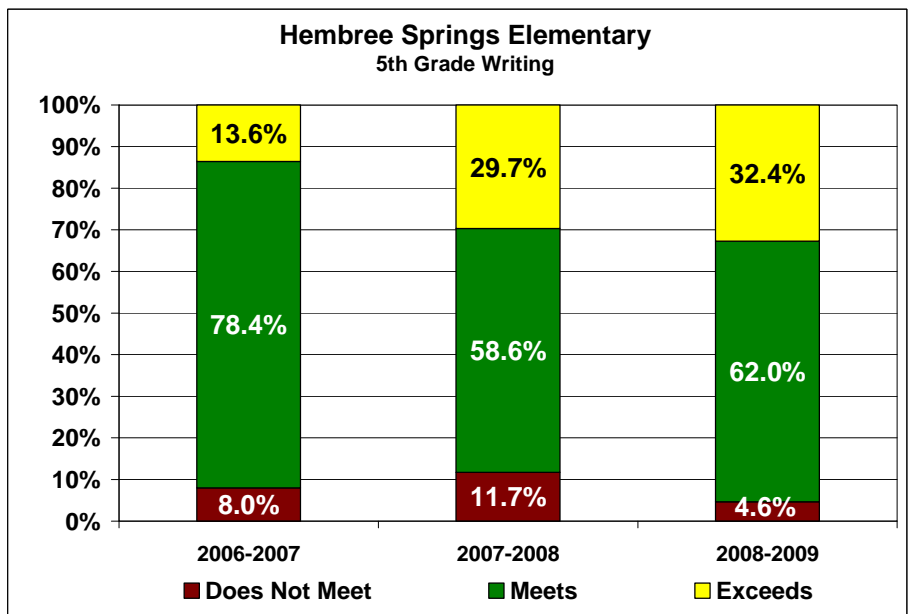
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Grade Five Writing Assessment

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

- Energy Star award from the Environmental Protection Agency
- Spelling Bee competition
- Geography Bee competition
- Reflections competition
- Science Fair
- Writing Fair
- Student book publishing fair
- Book clubs
- Golden Apple Award recipient
- 55% of staff with advanced degrees
- Junior Achievement partnership
- PTA-funded science laboratory
- Cultural arts fair
- Optimist Club – Oratory
- ESOL Summer Science Camp
- Partnership with UPS focused on student achievement
- Partnership with BB&T focused on community outreach
- Business partnerships with Wal-Mart, Shane's Rib Shack, Publix, Kroger and Sports-a-Rama

Other Notable Achievements

- \$5,000 Lowe's grant for an outdoor reading area
- \$1,000 grant from Wal-Mart for playground improvements

**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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