

Elkins Pointe Middle School

Vivian Bankston, 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 – Increase the percentage of Students with Disabilities who meet or exceed expectations in mathematics on the CRCT.

Results – Improvement initiatives were very effective for the total school and subgroups. The percentage of Full Academic Year students with disabilities who met or exceeded expectations increased from 29.6% to 44%. Teachers supported student achievement in math by offering before- and after-school help sessions and through “Lunch and Learn” remediation. Students with disabilities took part in Connections mathematics support classes and attended after-school academic programs. The Mathematics Instructional Coach supported the achievement of all students by organizing the “Lunch and Learn” sessions, scheduling students for Connections math support, delivering professional development workshops for math teachers, and by observing and coaching teachers.

Objective – Increase the percentage of English Language Learners who meet or exceed expectations in reading/English language arts on the CRCT.

Results – Performance in reading/English language arts continues to be an area of high achievement for the school. Full Academic Year English Language Learners improved their percentage of meets and exceeds expectation from 66.7% to 75.2%. All staff members contributed to this significant gain by implementing strategies learned during professional development. The course was designed to improve the reading and writing skills of English Language Learners through the curriculum in all subject areas.

Objective – Improve the percentage of all students who meet or exceed expectations on the Georgia Middle Grades Writing Assessment.

Results – Eighth grade students surpassed the target of 90% meeting or exceeding with a meets or exceeds rate of 94%. Satisfaction with this gain was tempered by a reduction in the percentage of students scoring in the “exceeds” category. Teachers will continue to use the writing pre-test to focus their instruction, but they will utilize different strategies for students in the meets and exceeds range of scores.

Objective – Increase the percentage of Hispanic students who meet or exceed expectations on the science section of the CRCT.

Results – Hispanic students improved their performance in science by 11 percentage points, raising the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations from 52% to 63%. We believe an increased emphasis on the vocabulary of science and the Georgia Performance Standards contributed to gains in science.

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.

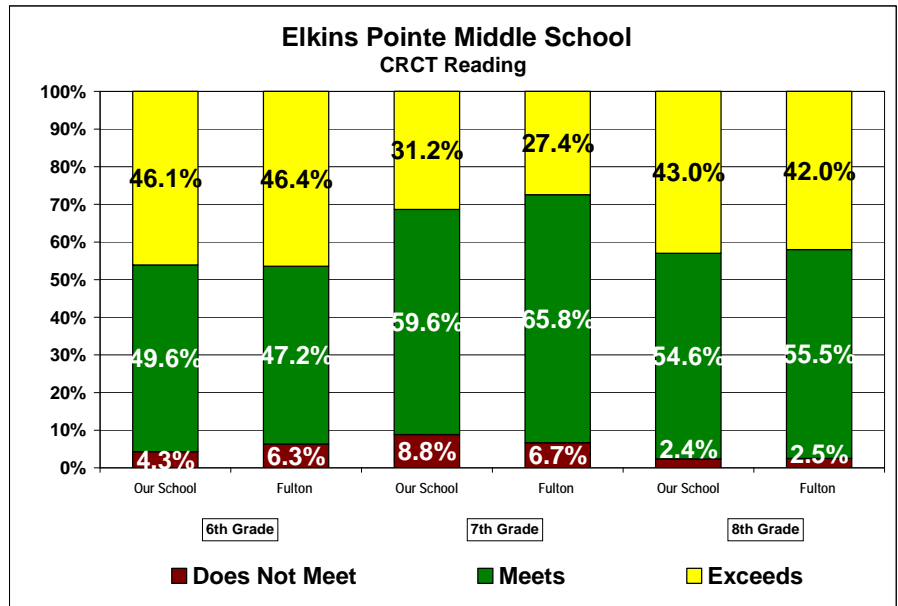
2008-09 Academic Achievement

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests

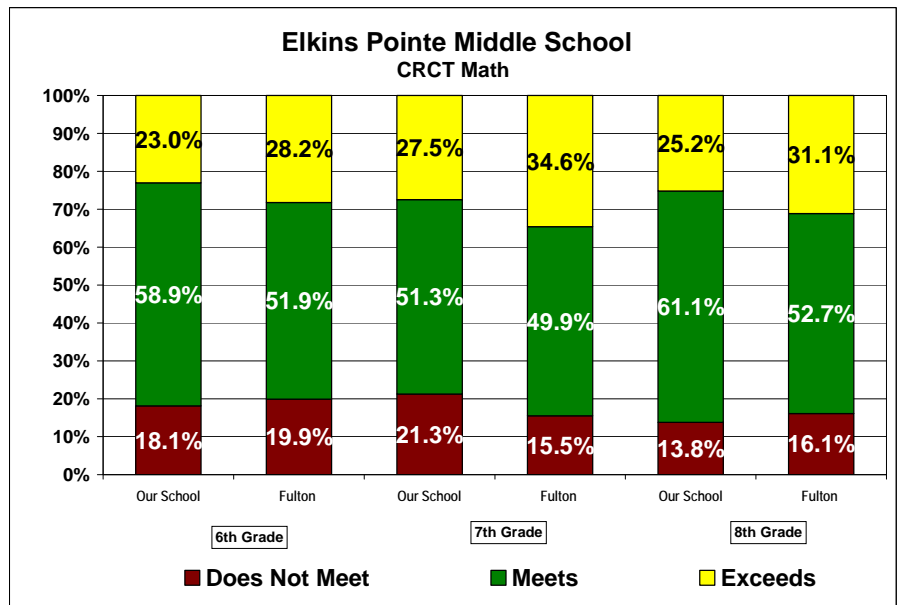
The Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) are given in grades one through eight. The test measures specific skills included in the Georgia core curriculum that are considered essential for continued academic progress.

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



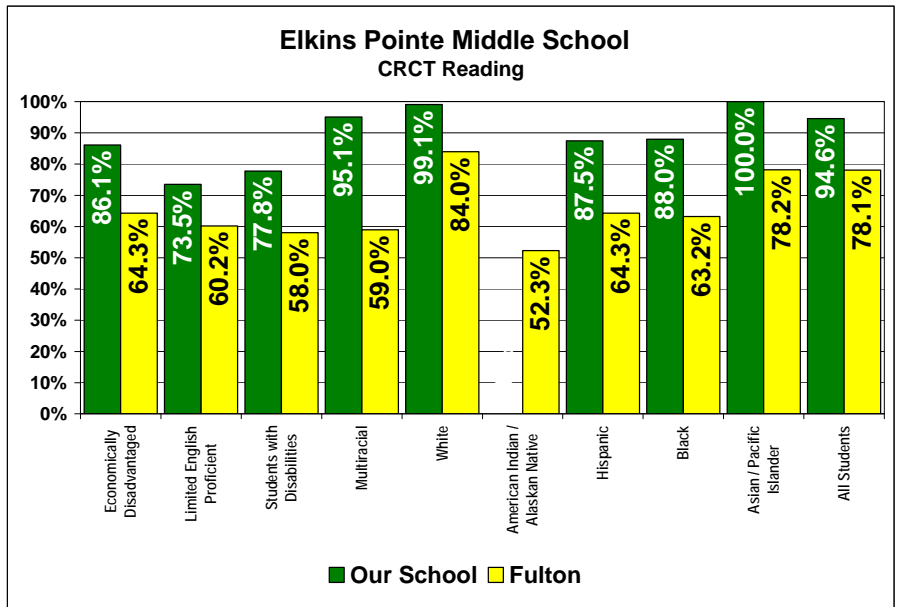
Math Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages



Reading Achievement –

Separated by Our School’s Student Demographics

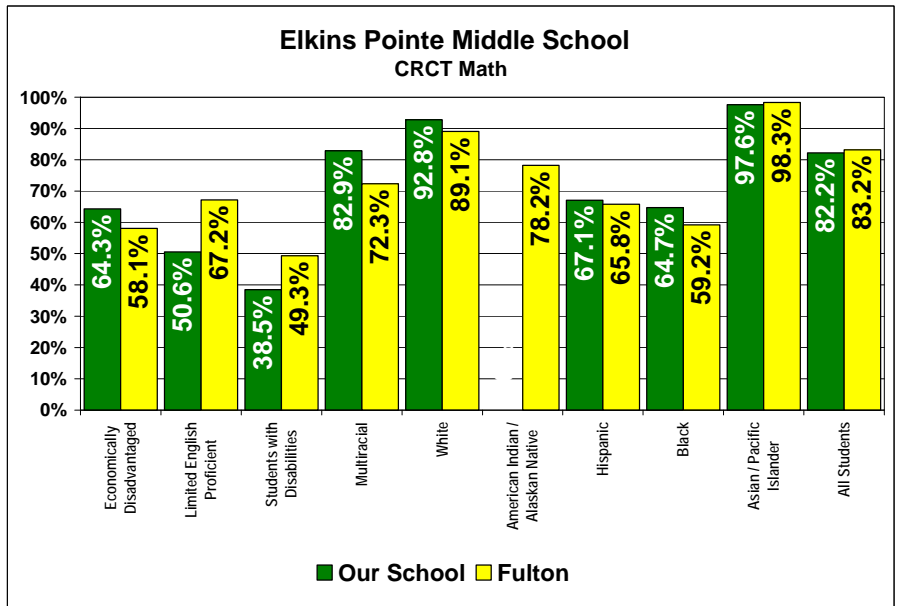
If there are fewer than ten students in a group, data is not shown for that specific demographic



Math Achievement –

Separated by Our School’s Student Demographics

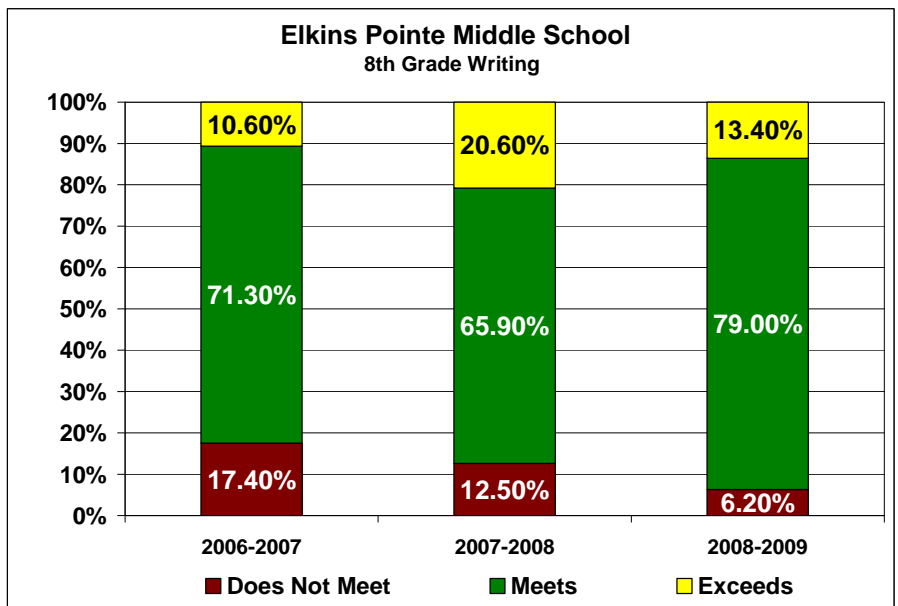
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Grade Eight Writing Assessment

Part of the Statewide Testing Program, this writing assessment consists of an evaluation of the student’s response to an assigned topic. The topic type may be narrative, persuasive, or expository.

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

- Eight students recognized as Roswell Rotary's students of the month
- Crazy Socks and Slippers Day, organized by a student, raised \$334.25 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association annual Walk of Hope. The same student was recognized by radio station Q100 as a Family Hero.
- Student clothing drive benefited North Fulton Community Charities.
- Media center hosted award-winning author Laurie Halse Anderson for a presentation to sixth and eighth grade students.
- Eighth grade student placed third at the Fulton County Spelling Bee, earning a spot at the state level District Bee.
- Students studying Japanese participated in a live, long distance video conference with pen pals at Hikarigaoka Jr. High School in Japan.
- Seventh grader qualified for the state level of the National Geography Bee by scoring in the top 20% in the country on the written test.
- Eighth grade students participated in the system 2009 Science Fair.
- At the Fulton County Schools Technology Fair, one student won first place and two students earned second place in their competition categories. One student went on to compete at the state level.
- Mathcounts team placed 16th out of 54 teams in the Metro Regional competition. Two students qualified to participate in the state competition.
- Sixth grader studying Japanese won second place in the "comical" category of an international *Nengajo* (New Year's) Contest.
- Science Olympiad Teams received 14 medals and 10 ribbons at the regional tournament. The school placed sixth out of 20 teams.
- Eighth graders studying Japanese achieved superior ratings in the Foreign Language Association of Georgia's Spoken Language Contest.
- Sixth grader won the 2009 Roswell Kiwanis Annual Art Contest for middle school and went on to compete at the district level.
- Two students were selected to participate in the Georgia Music Educators Association District V Honors Chorus and two sixth graders performed with the statewide Sixth Grade Honors Chorus
- Seventh grade student was selected to perform in Georgia Music Educators Association All-State Chorus
- Five students were selected to the District Middle School Honor Band and two eighth graders were selected to participate in the Georgia Music Educators Middle School All-State Band
- Bands, choruses and orchestras earned Superior ratings at the Georgia Music Educators Association District V Middle School Large Group Performance Evaluations.
- Eighth grade orchestra earned a first place for their performance at the Smoky Mountain Music Festival in Gatlinburg, TN.

Other Notable Achievements

- Media specialist was a recipient of the "Picturing America" award
- An eighth grade student received the Prudential Spirit of the Community Award and won a Certificate of Excellence for his project at the state level
- BP Fabric of America grant received to fund the "March Madness Reading Tournament"
- Yearbook won an "All American Award," the highest honor to date, from the National Scholastic Press Association. The publication also earned the distinction of being recognized in the "Gotcha Covered Look Book"
- A social studies teacher was selected as one of 50 educators in the country to participate in C-SPAN's 2009 Summer Educators Conference in Washington D.C.
- Volunteer efforts earned the fifth consecutive Golden Apple Award. The award is presented by the school system "in recognition of exemplary efforts to increase school volunteerism and community support for public education."

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

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