

## Northview High School

Pamela H. Spalla, Principal  
Rande Nagler, Area Superintendent

10625 Parsons Road, Johns Creek, GA 30097  
770-740-7020 • www.northviewhigh.com

### 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** – Data will be collected in a baseline year to determine the correlation between waivers and student achievement in honors and Advanced Placement (AP) classes, with the data being used to better counsel students about course placement.

**Results** – Year-end data show the three-point variance to be effective in ensuring academic success of students participating in the various courses. With only seven of 143 students dropping to a lower-level class, and the high success rate of the students who stayed (especially on AP tests), it appears there is a high correlation between students waiving into higher classes based on our current waiver guidelines and successful achievement in those classes.

**Objective** – To improve student achievement by reducing the number of retained students by 25%.

**Results** – Planned programs such as Lunch Study, Academic Life Skills, Study Skills seminars, and our School Support Team (SST) helped reduce the number of retained students 48% – well beyond our goal of 25%. Programs implemented will be continued and honed in the coming year.

**Objective** – To reduce the number of freshmen failing one or more core classes by a total of 0.5%.

**Results** – Our most dramatic success story for this objective was the mid-year adjustment to the Integrated Advanced Algebra block class and increased assistance to the lowest performing ninth grade math students through an intensive support class. The ninth grade failure rate dropped from 8.9% to 3.7% – a 42% decrease in failures. Our overall percentage of freshmen failing one or more core classes dropped 0.1% from second semester in 2007-08 to second semester in 2008-09, which was less than our goal of 0.5%. However, this is still a positive step, especially considering the increase in the number of freshmen and the more rigorous course requirements.

### 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:

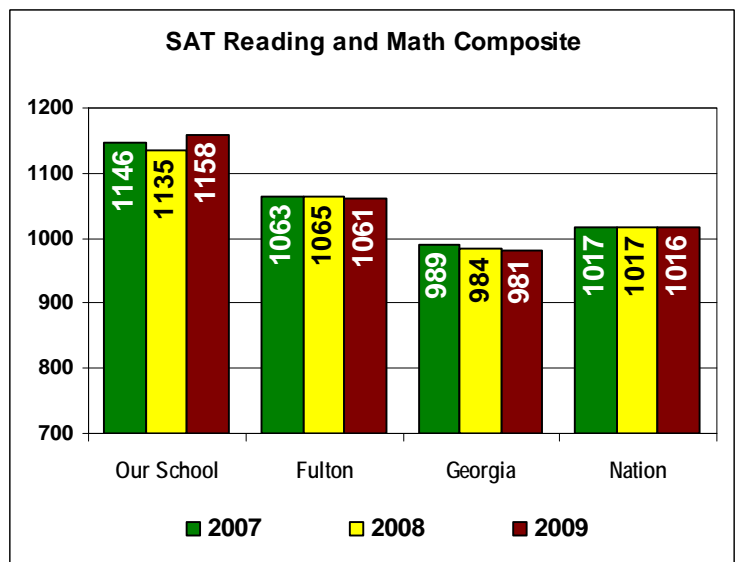
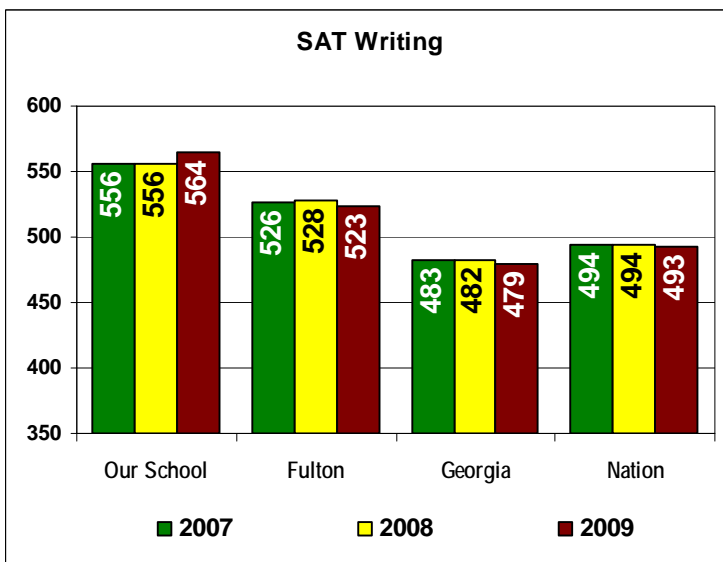
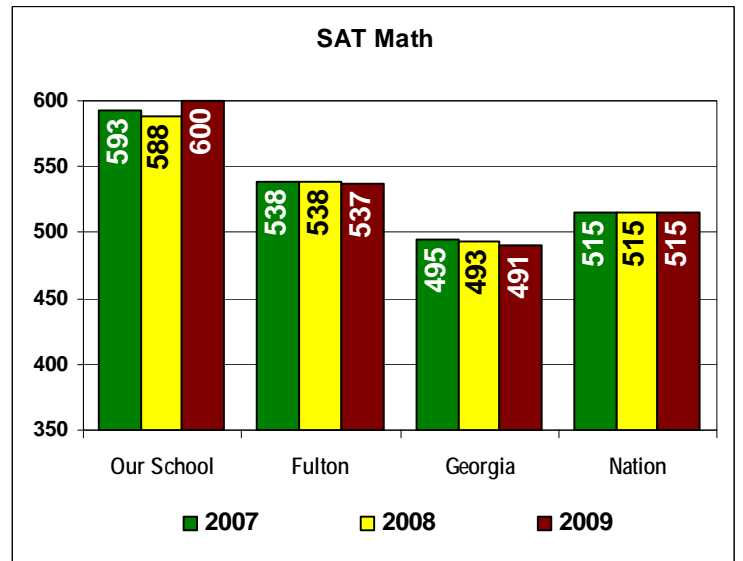
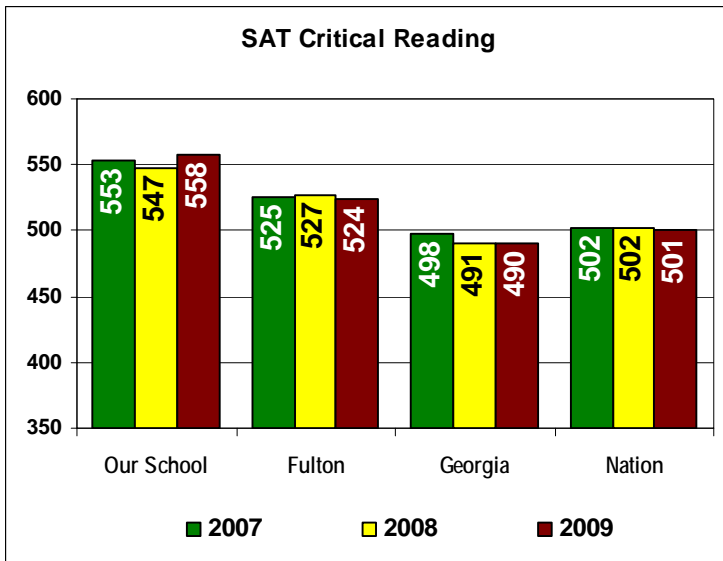
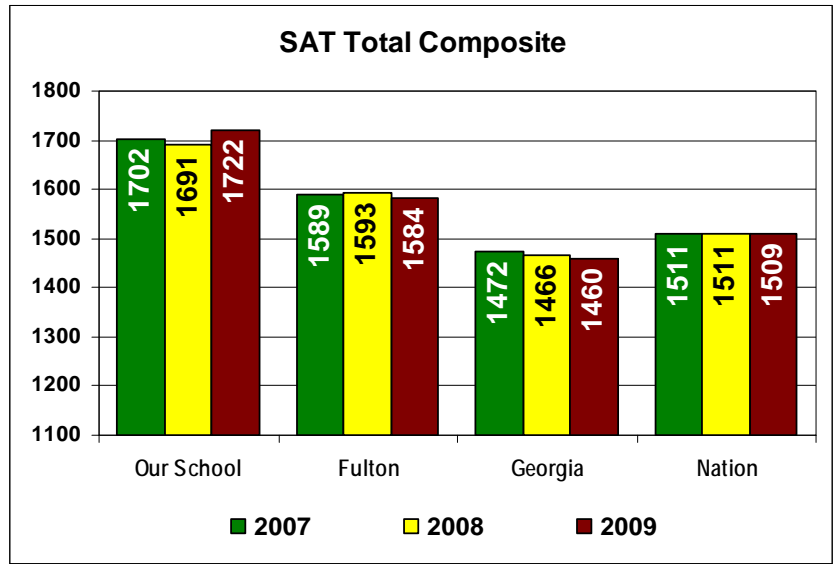
- **How effective are our schools?**
- **How much difference do our schools and teachers make?**
- **How much added value do our schools offer over other schools and school systems?**
- **How can we improve to better help all students reach their fullest potential?**

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

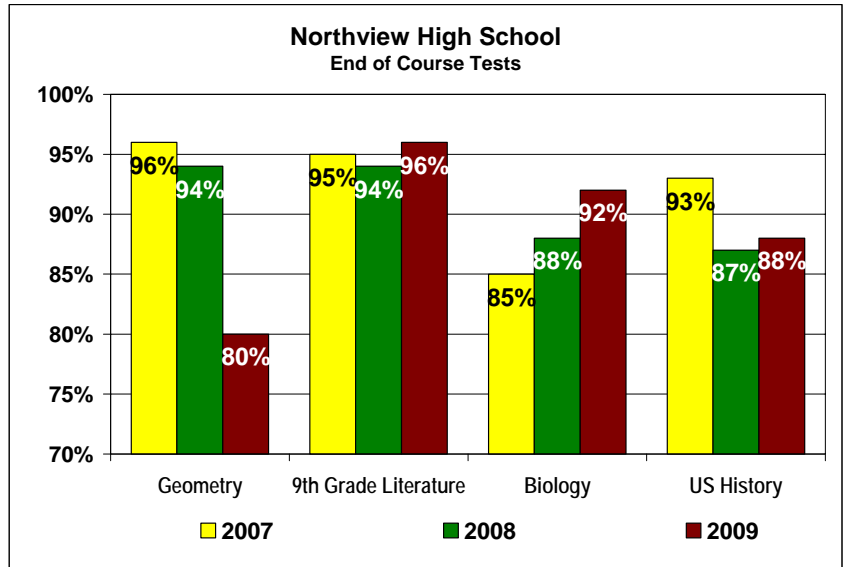
## SAT – A Three-Year Comparison

The SAT, administered by The College Board, consists of three academic areas – a critical reading section, a math section and a writing section. Each section of the SAT is scored with a range of 200 to 800 for a combined total of 2400.



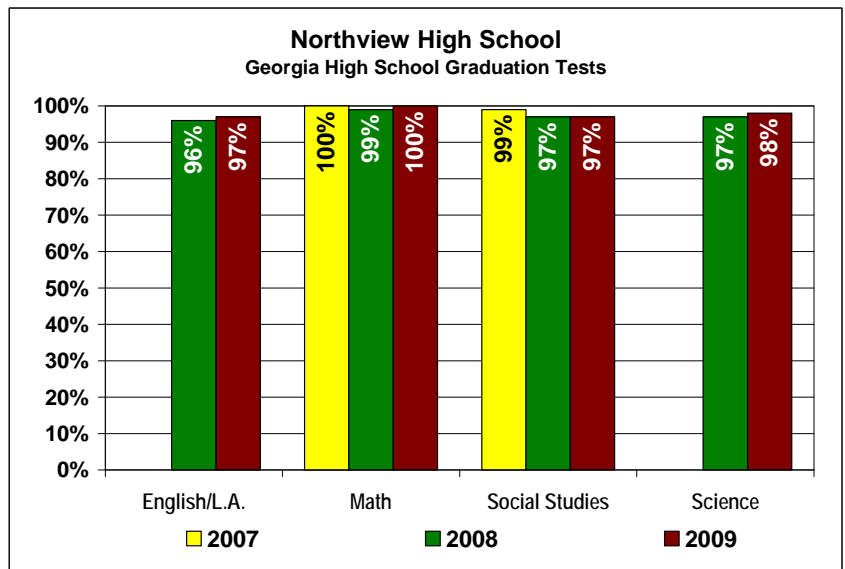
## End of Course Tests

High school students must complete an End of Course Test (EOCT) at the conclusion of core courses. These examinations are created by the State and are linked to the Georgia Performance Standards, making them a valid measure of Fulton students' acquisition of critical content in these courses. The chart to the right shows the performance of our students during the past three years, in all EOCT subject areas.



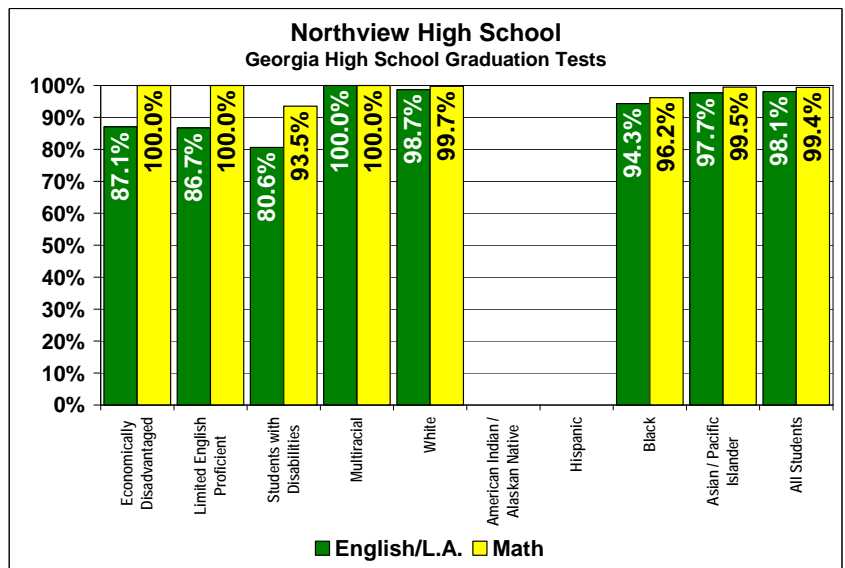
## Georgia High School Graduation Tests

The Georgia High School Graduation Tests are standards-based examinations and used to determine overall learning linked to the Georgia Performance Standards. Students may re-take the test until they pass. The chart to the right indicates the percentage of students passing all four areas of the GHSGT in the first administration of the test.



## Results Separated by Student Demographics

The chart to the right indicates the percentage of students passing the first administration of the English/language arts and math portions of the most recently administered GHSGT, sorted by demographic groups identified in the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Data is not shown for a specific demographic if there are fewer than 10 students in the group.



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## 2008-09 Highlights and Achievements

### Academics and Activities

- Atlanta Magazine – 2009 “Best High School”
- Newsweek Magazine – 2009 “Top 1,000 High School”
- Second highest SAT score in Georgia; highest in Metro Atlanta (1722)
- Highest SAT math score in Georgia (600)
- Superintendent’s Distinguished Achievement Award, EOCT/GHSGT
- 23 finalists for Governor’s Honors Program
- 293 College Board AP Scholars
- 32 National Merit Finalists; 33 National Merit Semifinalists
- 45 National Merit Commended Students
- One National Achievement Finalist; one Semifinalist
- One National Achievement Commended student
- Two Presidential Scholarship recipients
- 39% of students in grades 10-12 took AP exams (88% pass rate)
- First place team in Region 3 for American Mathematics Competition
- Literary Magazine – Georgia Scholastic Press Association’s Best in State
- State Science and Engineering Fair – first place biochemistry
- International Science and Engineering Fair – first place in chemistry, second place in physics, second place in electrical engineering
- State Science Bowl – third place
- Science Olympiad – region champion and third in state competition
- Young Heroes of North Fulton (student service award)
- First place Georgia Department of Agriculture essay contest
- National Ocean Sciences Bowl – third in regional competition
- JROTC cadets placed 18th at national competition
- Fulton County JROTC Cadet of the Year
- Sweepstakes Award – Best Overall Debate Team
- \$17,106,165 in scholarships earned by the class of 2009
- Red Cross Award – most pints 1,001-1250 – 11th-12th grade students
- National Gold Medal Scholastic Art and Writing Award for prose from the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers
- Four orchestra ensembles – Superior rating at Georgia Music Educators Association conference
- 22 students in Georgia All-State Orchestra
- Women’s and Mixed Chorus – Superior ratings at district level
- Newspaper Awards – first place from American Scholastic Press Association, Gold Medal from Columbia Scholastic Press Association, Excellent Rating from Georgia Scholastic Press Association
- Award for Excellence – Thespian Conference 2009
- Regional Literary Meet – individual awards and second place overall
- Yearbook awards: 2008 Georgia Scholastic Press Association Awards General Excellence Class AAAAA; All Georgia “Best in State”
- Golden Apple Award (for exemplary volunteerism)
- Georgia Model PTA and Platinum Membership Award

### Other Notable Achievements

- Georgia Athletic Directors Association – “Top 25” AAAAA Programs
- State championship – boys tennis
- State championship – volleyball
- State playoff berth – girls soccer
- Undefeated JV girls tennis
- Sonora Region I equestrian champs
- State finalist – competitive cheerleading
- Emory College Environmental Sustainability Teacher Fellowship
- MIT Inspirational Teacher Award
- Vice-chair for the Georgia CTI Foundation
- Presenters at SSTAGE (Student Support Team Association for Georgia Educators) conference
- College Board AP Chinese Exam reader
- Coca-Cola Distinguished Educator
- 2008 Georgia Secondary Art Educator and Southeastern Secondary Art Educator
- Georgia Scholastic Press Association Administrator of the Year
- Georgia FBLA Administrator of the Year
- 30 AP and college level classes, 26 honors classes
- 5 world languages
- JROTC, Career tech programs, fine arts, orchestra, band, chorus
- More than 80 clubs, service and honors organizations

This report was produced by the Fulton County School System  
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