



PULASKI COUNTY SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

925 East Dixon Road/P.O. Box 8601
Little Rock, Arkansas 72216
(501) 490-2000

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Improved End-of-Course Algebra and Geometry Test Results Show Promise: “Improved Test Scores are Improved Test Scores”

PCSSD has received the State’s ACTAAP End-of-Course test scores for Algebra and Geometry from Spring 2002. These “criterion” test results place students into one of four levels: Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, or Advanced. District-wide, the percentage of students scoring at the Below Basic level decreased by 11%, and students scoring at the Proficient/Advanced levels increased by 10% on the Algebra test from a year ago, for the General Population (see Table 3). Algebra test scores improved at each middle, junior and senior high school across the District. The percentage of students moving from Below Basic to higher levels ranged from 2% to 42% at individual schools (Table 3).

Students’ scores on the Geometry test showed improvement at all levels. The percentage of students moving from Below Basic to higher levels ranged from 2% to 38% at individual schools (Table 6). The increase in the percentage of students in the Basic, Proficient, or Advanced categories reflects the decrease in the number of students in the Below Basic category (Table 6). District-wide, Table 6 shows the percentage of students scoring at the Proficient/Advanced levels increased by 9% on

the Geometry test from a year ago, for the General Population. The District's goal is to have all students move from Below Basic and Basic to Proficient and Advanced.

With the PCSSD School Board's approval in August 2002, to hire a full-time person to supervise mathematical instruction, additional progress is anticipated. According to Dr. Don Henderson, Interim Superintendent, "Improved test scores are improved test scores!" "With the assistance of a new mathematics coordinator, we expect further gains this school year as we continue to hold high expectations of our staff and students," Henderson said.

Dr. Henderson credited growth in student achievement to the dedication of teachers and a focus on individual school improvement. A specific strategy, according to Henderson, will be for both faculty and students to learn even more about "rubrics" (scoring guides) and how the State utilizes this scoring process to facilitate growth in student achievement. Staff development provided at both the District and school level, which addressed State-mandated testing, was said to be an additional, positive factor in developing strategies to improve student learning and achievement.

See attached tables.

*For more information, contact:
Dr. Robert L. Clowers, Director of Educational Accountability
(501) 490-2000, ext. 269*

*This press release may be found on our website or by the following direct link:
http://pcssd.org/dept/account/Press_Release_ACTAAP_9_10_2002.PDF*

End-of-Course Algebra

Table 1: ALGEBRA SPRING 2002

	Below Scores	State Basic	State Score	State Basic	State Score	Proficient	State Score	State Advanced	State Score	Not Proficient	State Score	Proficient Advanced	State Score
District	22%	18%	54%	43%	22%	32%	1%	7%	76%	61%	23%	39%	
Fuller Middle School	6%	18%	48%	43%	42%	32%	5%	7%	54%	61%	47%	39%	
Jacksonville Junior High	9%	18%	58%	43%	33%	32%	1%	7%	67%	61%	34%	39%	
Northwood Middle School	0%	18%	44%	43%	53%	32%	3%	7%	44%	61%	56%	39%	
Robinson Middle School	0%	18%	31%	43%	65%	32%	4%	7%	31%	61%	69%	39%	
Sylvan Hills Middle School	0%	18%	52%	43%	48%	32%	0%	7%	52%	61%	48%	39%	
Jacksonville High	47%	18%	50%	43%	2%	32%	2%	7%	97%	61%	4%	39%	
Mills U. Studies High	54%	18%	39%	43%	7%	32%	0%	7%	93%	61%	7%	39%	
North Pulaski High	20%	18%	70%	43%	9%	32%	1%	7%	90%	61%	10%	39%	
Oak Grove High	22%	18%	66%	43%	12%	32%	0%	7%	88%	61%	12%	39%	
Robinson High	38%	18%	56%	43%	7%	32%	0%	7%	94%	61%	7%	39%	
Sylvan Hills High	16%	18%	61%	43%	23%	32%	1%	7%	77%	61%	24%	39%	

Table 2: ALGEBRA SPRING 2001

	Below Scores	State Basic	State Score	State Basic	State Score	Proficient	State Score	State Advanced	State Score	Not Proficient	State Score	Proficient Advanced	State Score
District	33%	29%	54%	49%	12%	19%	1%	2%	87%	78%	13%	21%	
Fuller Junior High	37%	29%	53%	49%	10%	19%	1%	2%	90%	78%	11%	21%	
Jacksonville Junior High	15%	29%	75%	49%	10%	19%	0%	2%	90%	78%	10%	21%	
Northwood Junior High	16%	29%	68%	49%	15%	19%	1%	2%	84%	78%	16%	21%	
Robinson Junior High	23%	29%	53%	49%	22%	19%	1%	2%	76%	78%	23%	21%	
Sylvan Hills Jr. High	2%	29%	50%	49%	44%	19%	4%	2%	52%	78%	48%	21%	
Jacksonville High	56%	29%	41%	49%	3%	19%	0%	2%	97%	78%	3%	21%	
Mills U. Studies High	73%	29%	24%	49%	2%	19%	2%	2%	97%	78%	4%	21%	
North Pulaski High	45%	29%	52%	49%	4%	19%	0%	2%	97%	78%	4%	21%	
Oak Grove High	41%	29%	51%	49%	7%	19%	1%	2%	92%	78%	8%	21%	
Robinson High	80%	29%	20%	49%	0%	19%	0%	2%	100%	78%	0%	21%	
Sylvan Hills High	27%	29%	69%	49%	4%	19%	0%	2%	96%	78%	4%	21%	

Table 3: SPRING 2002 Algebra Comparison To Spring 2001 Test Results

	Below Scores	State Basic	State Score	State Basic	State Score	Proficient	State Score	State Advanced	State Score	Not Proficient	State Score	Proficient Advanced	State Score
District	-11%	-11%	0%	-6%	10%	13%	0%	5%	-11%	-17%	10%	18%	
Fuller Middle School	-31%	-11%	-5%	-6%	32%	13%	4%	5%	-36%	-17%	36%	18%	
Jacksonville Junior High	-6%	-11%	-17%	-6%	23%	13%	1%	5%	-23%	-17%	24%	18%	
Northwood Middle School	-16%	-11%	-24%	-6%	38%	13%	2%	5%	-40%	-17%	40%	18%	
Robinson Middle School	-23%	-11%	-22%	-6%	43%	13%	3%	5%	-45%	-17%	46%	18%	
Sylvan Hills Middle School	-2%	-11%	2%	-6%	4%	13%	-4%	5%	0%	-17%	0%	18%	
Jacksonville High	-9%	-11%	9%	-6%	-1%	13%	2%	5%	0%	-17%	1%	18%	
Mills U. Studies High	-19%	-11%	15%	-6%	5%	13%	-2%	5%	-4%	-17%	3%	18%	
North Pulaski High	-25%	-11%	18%	-6%	5%	13%	1%	5%	-7%	-17%	6%	18%	
Oak Grove High	-19%	-11%	15%	-6%	5%	13%	-1%	5%	-4%	-17%	4%	18%	
Robinson High	-42%	-11%	36%	-6%	7%	13%	0%	5%	-6%	-17%	7%	18%	
Sylvan Hills High	-11%	-11%	-8%	-6%	19%	13%	1%	5%	-19%	-17%	20%	18%	

Note: General population results do not reflect all students tested.

Note: Results are rounded to the nearest integer, and some cells may show zero if less than 0.5%.

End-of-Course Geometry

Table 4: GEOMETRY SPRING 2002

	Below Scores	State Basic	State Score	State Basic	State Score	Proficient	State Score	Advanced	State Score	Not Proficient	State Score	Proficient Advanced	State Score
District	33%	26%	44%	41%	21%	28%	3%	5%	77%	67%	24%	33%	
Fuller Middle School	0%	26%	0%	41%	86%	28%	14%	5%	0%	67%	100%	33%	
Jacksonville Junior High	0%	26%	20%	41%	57%	28%	23%	5%	20%	67%	80%	33%	
Northwood Middle School	na	26%	na	41%	na	28%	na	5%	na	67%	na	33%	
Robinson Middle School	na	26%	na	41%	na	28%	na	5%	na	67%	na	33%	
Sylvan Hills Middle School	na	26%	na	41%	na	28%	na	5%	na	67%	na	33%	
Jacksonville High	37%	26%	49%	41%	14%	28%	0%	5%	86%	67%	14%	33%	
Mills U. Studies High	36%	26%	41%	41%	22%	28%	1%	5%	77%	67%	23%	33%	
North Pulaski High	33%	26%	46%	41%	18%	28%	3%	5%	79%	67%	21%	33%	
Oak Grove High	37%	26%	46%	41%	16%	28%	1%	5%	83%	67%	17%	33%	
Robinson High	50%	26%	39%	41%	11%	28%	0%	5%	89%	67%	11%	33%	
Sylvan Hills High	27%	26%	53%	41%	18%	28%	2%	5%	80%	67%	20%	33%	

Table 5: GEOMETRY SPRING 2001

	Below Scores	State Basic	State Score	State Basic	State Score	Proficient	State Score	Advanced	State Score	Not Proficient	State Score	Proficient Advanced	State Score
District	36%	33%	50%	48%	14%	18%	1%	2%	86%	81%	15%	20%	
Fuller Junior High	16%	33%	50%	48%	32%	18%	3%	2%	66%	81%	35%	20%	
Jacksonville Junior High	9%	33%	63%	48%	28%	18%	0%	2%	72%	81%	28%	20%	
Northwood Junior High	2%	33%	61%	48%	33%	18%	4%	2%	63%	81%	37%	20%	
Robinson Junior High	0%	33%	34%	48%	63%	18%	3%	2%	34%	81%	66%	20%	
Sylvan Hills Jr. High	0%	33%	48%	48%	44%	18%	8%	2%	48%	81%	52%	20%	
Jacksonville High	39%	33%	52%	48%	9%	18%	0%	2%	91%	81%	9%	20%	
Mills U. Studies High	49%	33%	47%	48%	4%	18%	0%	2%	96%	81%	4%	20%	
North Pulaski High	44%	33%	54%	48%	2%	18%	0%	2%	98%	81%	2%	20%	
Oak Grove High	39%	33%	53%	48%	8%	18%	0%	2%	92%	81%	8%	20%	
Robinson High	61%	33%	33%	48%	6%	18%	0%	2%	94%	81%	6%	20%	
Sylvan Hills High	44%	33%	47%	48%	9%	18%	0%	2%	91%	81%	9%	20%	

Table 6: SPRING 2002 Gains over Spring 2001 Test Results

	Below Scores	State Basic	State Score	State Basic	State Score	Proficient	State Score	Advanced	State Score	Not Proficient	State Score	Proficient Advanced	State Score
District	-3%	-7%	-6%	-7%	7%	10%	2%	3%	-9%	-14%	9%	13%	
Fuller Middle School	-16%	-7%	-50%	-7%	54%	10%	11%	3%	-66%	-14%	65%	13%	
Jacksonville Junior High	-9%	-7%	-43%	-7%	29%	10%	23%	3%	-52%	-14%	52%	13%	
Northwood Middle School	n/a	-7%	n/a	-7%	n/a	10%	n/a	3%	n/a	-14%	n/a	13%	
Robinson Middle School	n/a	-7%	n/a	-7%	n/a	10%	n/a	3%	n/a	-14%	n/a	13%	
Sylvan Hills Middle School	n/a	-7%	n/a	-7%	n/a	10%	n/a	3%	n/a	-14%	n/a	13%	
Jacksonville High	-2%	-7%	-3%	-7%	5%	10%	0%	3%	-5%	-14%	5%	13%	
Mills U. Studies High	-13%	-7%	-6%	-7%	18%	10%	1%	3%	-19%	-14%	19%	13%	
North Pulaski High	-11%	-7%	-8%	-7%	16%	10%	3%	3%	-19%	-14%	19%	13%	
Oak Grove High	-2%	-7%	-7%	-7%	8%	10%	1%	3%	-9%	-14%	9%	13%	
Robinson High	-11%	-7%	6%	-7%	5%	10%	0%	3%	-5%	-14%	5%	13%	
Sylvan Hills High	-17%	-7%	6%	-7%	9%	10%	2%	3%	-11%	-14%	11%	13%	

Note: General population results do not reflect all students tested.

Note: Results are rounded to the nearest integer, and some cells may show zero if less than 0.5%.