



## PULASKI COUNTY SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 19, 2001**

### ***“District Superintendent Touts Additional Emphasis of Testing Beyond State Requirements on the SAT-9”***

“Although the state only requires the Stanford Achievement Test-9, a national achievement test, at grades 5, 7, and 10,” Pulaski County Special School District Superintendent of Education Dr. Gary Smith added that, “We place additional emphasis on identifying student educational needs by testing at ‘off-grade’ levels.” These extra grades include 3, 4, 6, and 9. Last week, the District released its results for the state-mandated grades 5, 7, and 10. With this press release, the results of the District’s additional testing are provided.

The superintendent reiterated his remarks of last week by noting that the overall results of this year’s SAT-9 tests demonstrate that there is more “positive” to report than at first glance. If you look carefully at the scores, Smith said, a number of individual schools showed increases and overall declines were offset by the overall increases in grade-level to grade-level results.

Looking at the performance of groups of the same students, Smith was quick to point out that this year’s 4<sup>th</sup> graders—who scored at the 44<sup>th</sup> percentile—had scored at the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile as 3<sup>rd</sup> graders last year, down only one percentile point. This was the same case with 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, who scored at the 44<sup>th</sup> percentile this year but had

scored at the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile as fifth graders last year. Strong increases were seen by this year's 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, who scored at the 44<sup>th</sup> percentile but had scored at the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile as last year's 4<sup>th</sup> graders. This year's seventh graders scored at the 46<sup>th</sup> percentile, down one percentile point from their score at the 47<sup>th</sup> percentile as sixth graders last year. Ninth grade students who took the SAT-9 in fall 2000 scored at the 45<sup>th</sup> percentile, while the same group as tenth graders this year increased to the 47<sup>th</sup> percentile.

Dr. Smith reiterated his speculation that the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>, one week before the SAT-9 tests were administered, distracted student concentration on these tests and reduced performance results. "We should have had higher results," Smith said, "but that is something we may never know."

Dr. Smith said the draft of a comprehensive student achievement plan that was introduced and recommended to the School Board last week had generated much positive discussion and feedback. This plan also uses a significant amount of information from the "off-grades" SAT-9 testing to bolster the identification of student learning needs, Smith added. "This comprehensive plan," Dr. Smith repeated, "is a continuous school-year plan for increasing SAT-9 test scores and the scores on the Arkansas benchmark exams." This plan will address student learning at all levels and will also place emphasis on the needs of at-risk students who often score below the District's average, Smith said. Importantly, the new plan highlights the goal of reducing the achievement disparity in black and white students.

Dr. Smith concluded by saying, "I am further convinced we are on the right track—I see our students, parents, teachers, and administrators engaged in efforts to improve learning throughout the District. We believe what gets focused on gets done."

(This press release and prior year's test scores may be found on the District's website at <http://pcssdweb.k12.ar.us>)

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## PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

### Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00	Fall 01	UP	Down
District-Wide 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	45	44		-1
Adkins Elementary	28	40	12	
Arnold Dr. Elementary	60	62	2	
Baker Elementary	68	66		-2
Bates Elementary	33	32		-1
Bayou Meto Elementary	42	41		-1
Cato Elementary	44	44	<b>Steady</b>	
Clinton Elementary	39	40	1	
College Station Elementary	69	72	3	
Crystal Hill Elementary	51	44		-7
Dupree Elementary	38	43	5	
Harris Elementary	35	34		-1
Jacksonville Elementary	32	36	4	
Landmark Elementary	32	33	1	
Lawson Elementary	40	46	6	
Oak Grove Elementary	39	48	9	
Oakbrooke Elementary	61	56		-5
Pine Forest Elementary	59	45		-14
Pinewood Elementary	44	46	2	
Robinson Elementary	47	48	1	
Scott Elementary	33	23		-10
Sherwood Elementary	40	44	4	
Sylvan Hills Elementary	56	37		-19
Taylor Elementary	32	40	8	
Tolleson Elementary	50	47		-3

## PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00	Fall 01	UP	Down
District-Wide 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	40	44	4	
Adkins Elementary	33	30		-3
Arnold Dr. Elementary	62	54		-8
Baker Elementary	65	69	4	
Bates Elementary	33	29		-4
Bayou Meto Elementary	39	40	1	
Cato Elementary	42	44	2	
Clinton Elementary	35	35	<b>Steady</b>	
College Station Elementary	73	64		-9
Crystal Hill Elementary	36	47	11	
Dupree Elementary	45	39		-6
Harris Elementary	26	37	11	
Jacksonville Elementary	33	26		-7
Landmark Elementary	24	36	12	
Lawson Elementary	43	48	5	
Oak Grove Elementary	33	40	7	
Oakbrooke Elementary	39	55	16	
Pine Forest Elementary	57	65	8	
Pinewood Elementary	38	48	10	
Robinson Elementary	36	43	7	
Scott Elementary	22	30	8	
Sherwood Elementary	35	40	5	
Sylvan Hills Elementary	42	59	17	
Taylor Elementary	38	26		-12
Tolleson Elementary	62	52		-10

## PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00	Fall 01	UP	Down
District-Wide 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	45	44		-1
Adkins Elementary	30	30	<b>Steady</b>	
Arnold Dr. Elementary	64	70	6	
Baker Elementary	65	60		-5
Bates Elementary	31	34	3	
Bayou Meto Elementary	47	43		-4
Cato Elementary	46	46	<b>Steady</b>	
Clinton Elementary	31	40	9	
College Station Elementary	71	75	4	
Crystal Hill Elementary	40	43	3	
Dupree Elementary	55	57	2	
Harris Elementary	36	26		-10
Jacksonville Elementary	42	28		-14
Landmark Elementary	30	31	1	
Lawson Elementary	41	53	12	
Oak Grove Elementary	31	37	6	
Oakbrooke Elementary	59	48		-11
Pine Forest Elementary	57	58	1	
Pinewood Elementary	50	44		-6
Robinson Elementary	58	35		-23
Scott Elementary	13	25	12	
Sherwood Elementary	39	38		-1
Sylvan Hills Elementary	46	46	<b>Steady</b>	
Taylor Elementary	31	39	8	
Tolleson Elementary	53	69	16	

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year*

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>UP</b>	<b>Down</b>
District-Wide Elementary/Middle School 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	47	44		<b>-3</b>
Crystal Hill Elementary	49	46		<b>-3</b>
Fuller Middle School	N/A	45		
Jacksonville Middle School	38	41	<b>3</b>	
Northwood Middle School	N/A	47		
Oak Grove Elementary School	46	28		<b>-18</b>
Pine Forest Elementary	60	62	<b>2</b>	
Robinson Middle School	N/A	47		
Sylvan Hills Middle School	N/A	42		

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year*

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>UP</b>	<b>Down</b>
District-Wide Middle School/Junior High 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	47	46		<b>-1</b>
Fuller Middle School	56	46		<b>-10</b>
Jacksonville Middle School	46	42		<b>-4</b>
Northwood Middle School	46	51	<b>5</b>	
Oak Grove Junior High School	39	49	<b>10</b>	
Robinson Middle School	50	49		<b>-1</b>
Sylvan Hills Middle School	46	43		<b>-3</b>

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year*

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>UP</b>	<b>Down</b>
District-Wide 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	45	48	3	
Jacksonville Jr. High School	41	45	4	
Mills High School	N/A	49		
North Pulaski High School	N/A	49		
Oak Grove Jr./Sr. High School	43	43	<b>Steady</b>	
Robinson High School	N/A	51		
Sylvan Hills High School	N/A	50		

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year*

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>UP</b>	<b>Down</b>
District-Wide 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	49	47		-2
Jacksonville High School	47	41		-6
Mills High School	58	49		-9
North Pulaski High School	44	46	2	
Oak Grove High School	48	48	<b>Steady</b>	
Robinson High School	49	47		-2
Sylvan Hills High School	50	54	4	

## PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery Cohort Comparisons

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00	Fall 01	UP	Down
Student Cohort Comparison Groups	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
	45	44		-1
	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
	40	44	4	
	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
	45	44		-1
	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
	47	46		-1
	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
	45	47	2	

Please note that the District's recent transition to the middle school model precludes a complete school-by-school cohort comparison. However, where an individual school-to-school cohort comparison is possible, that information follows this page.

## PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Cohort Comparison

*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year for Cohort Group*

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Fall 01 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	UP	Down
District-Wide	45	44		-1
Adkins Elementary	28	30	2	
Arnold Dr. Elementary	60	54		-6
Baker Elementary	68	69	1	
Bates Elementary	33	29		-4
Bayou Meto Elementary	42	40		-2
Cato Elementary	44	44	<b>Steady</b>	
Clinton Elementary	39	35		-4
College Station Elementary	69	64		-5
Crystal Hill Elementary	51	47		-4
Dupree Elementary	38	39	1	
Harris Elementary	35	37	2	
Jacksonville Elementary	32	26		-6
Landmark Elementary	32	36	4	
Lawson Elementary	40	48	8	
Oak Grove Elementary	39	40	1	
Oakbrooke Elementary	61	55		-6
Pine Forest Elementary	59	65	6	
Pinewood Elementary	44	48	4	
Robinson Elementary	47	43		-4
Scott Elementary	33	30		-3
Sherwood Elementary	40	40	<b>Steady</b>	
Sylvan Hills Elementary	56	59	3	
Taylor Elementary	32	26		-6
Tolleson Elementary	50	52	2	

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery**  
**4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Cohort Comparison**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year for Cohort Group*

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00 4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>Fall 01 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>UP</b>	<b>Down</b>
District-Wide	40	44	4	
Adkins Elementary	33	30		-3
Arnold Dr. Elementary	62	70	8	
Baker Elementary	65	60		-5
Bates Elementary	33	34	1	
Bayou Meto Elementary	39	43	4	
Cato Elementary	42	46	4	
Clinton Elementary	35	40	5	
College Station Elementary	73	75	2	
Crystal Hill Elementary	36	43	7	
Dupree Elementary	45	57	12	
Harris Elementary	26	26	<b>Steady</b>	
Jacksonville Elementary	33	28		-5
Landmark Elementary	24	31	7	
Lawson Elementary	43	53	10	
Oak Grove Elementary	33	37	4	
Oakbrooke Elementary	39	48	9	
Pine Forest Elementary	57	58	1	
Pinewood Elementary	38	44	6	
Robinson Elementary	36	35		-1
Scott Elementary	22	25	3	
Sherwood Elementary	35	38	3	
Sylvan Hills Elementary	42	46	4	
Taylor Elementary	38	39	1	
Tolleson Elementary	62	69	7	

## PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery

### 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Cohort Comparison Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Fall 01 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	UP	Down
District-Wide	45	44		-1
Crystal Hill Elementary	40	46	6	
Fuller Middle School	N/A	45		
Jacksonville Middle School	N/A	41		
Northwood Middle School	N/A	47		
Oak Grove Elementary School	31	28		-3
Pine Forest Elementary	57	62	5	
Robinson Middle School	N/A	47		
Sylvan Hills Middle School	N/A	42		

### 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Cohort Comparison Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Fall 01 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	UP	Down
District-Wide	47	46		-1
Jacksonville Middle School	38	42	4	

### 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Cohort Comparison Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Year

General Population/Complete Battery	Fall 00 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Fall 01 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	UP	Down
District-Wide	45	47	2	
Oak Grove Jr./Sr. High	43	48	5	