



## PULASKI COUNTY SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**August 21, 2003**

### *“District Superintendent Elated Over Rise in SAT-9 Score Results”*

Commenting on the most recent results of the Stanford Achievement Test, Version 9 (SAT-9), Dr. Don Henderson, Superintendent of Education for the Pulaski County Special School District, said he was “elated” over the increases in test scores seen since the previous administration of the test in 2001. (The State changed the testing cycle from fall to spring testing beginning with the 2002-03 school year.)

Recently released results from the Spring 2003 administration of the SAT-9 showed huge increases at grades five and seven. Tenth grade test results for “General Population” students remained flat, decreasing by only one point District-wide on the Complete Battery.

At fifth grade, the Complete Battery results were up nine points to the 53<sup>rd</sup> percentile mark, Mathematics was up a remarkable 16 percentile points, and Reading was up 10 percentile points. For the first time in District history, the overall fifth grade Complete Battery results exceeded the “magical” 50 percentile mark that had previously eluded the District.

At seventh grade, the Complete Battery results were up eight points to the 54<sup>th</sup> percentile mark, Mathematics was up seven percentile points, and Reading was up eight percentile points. A first for the District again, the overall seventh grade Complete Battery results exceeded the elusive 50 percentile mark.

At the tenth grade, the Complete Battery results for General Population students were at the 46<sup>th</sup> percentile mark, Mathematics was at the 49<sup>th</sup> percentile mark, and reading was at the 39<sup>th</sup> percentile mark.

“Our teachers have focused on instructional standards and our students have responded,” Henderson said. Answering questions about the large increases seen at the fifth and seventh grades, Henderson attributed the gains to the District’s recent alignment of the PCSSD curriculum to the state’s standards. (Test score highlights follow on the next page.)

For SAT-9 Fifth Grade:

- The Complete Battery results show a District-wide increase of nine percentile points.
- Nineteen of 24 elementary schools show increases for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Complete Battery, and 12 of these schools had increases of 10 or more percentile points.
- For Reading at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, SAT-9 results demonstrated a 10 percentile point increase District-wide. Nineteen of 24 elementary schools had increases, and 14 of 24 elementary schools had increases of 10 or more percentile points.
- For 5<sup>th</sup> grade Mathematics, SAT-9 results demonstrated an unprecedented 16 point gain District-wide. Twenty of 24 elementary schools showed an increase, and 15 of these schools had increases of 10 or more percentile points. Eight of our elementary schools increased by more than 20 percentile points in Math over the previous testing.

For SAT-9 Seventh Grade:

- The Complete Battery results show a District-wide increase of eight percentile points.
- Five of six middle or junior high schools show increases for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Complete Battery, and three of these schools had increases of 10 or more percentile points.
- For Reading at the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, SAT-9 results demonstrated an eight percentile point increase District-wide. Five of six schools had increases, and three of these six schools had increases of 10 or more percentile points.
- For 7<sup>th</sup> grade Mathematics, SAT-9 results demonstrated a seven point gain District-wide. All six schools showed increases, and three these schools had increases of 10 or more percentile points. One school (Robinson Middle) had an increase of 21 percentile points for the General Population of students.

For SAT-9 Tenth Grade:

- The 10<sup>th</sup> grade Complete Battery results show a District-wide decline of one percentile point for the General Population of students.
- Only one high school, Jacksonville High, show an increase on the Complete Battery.
- For Reading at the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, SAT-9 results demonstrated a two point percentile decline District-wide. Only two high schools, North Pulaski High and Jacksonville High, showed an increase.
- For 10<sup>th</sup> grade Mathematics, SAT-9 results show an unexplained six point decline District-wide. Only one high school (Jacksonville) showed an increase of three percentile points.

(This press release may be found on the District's website at [www.pcssd.org](http://www.pcssd.org))

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*For more information, contact: Dr. Robert L. Clowers, Director of Accountability  
(501) 490-6269.*

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

### ***Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years (revised)***

NOTE: 19 of 24 schools showed increases over the previous SAT-9 administration.  
This is the first time in district history that the PCSSD exceeded the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile **district-wide** on the SAT-9.

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>+9</u>
Adkins Elementary	30	30	34	+4
Arnold Dr. Elementary	64	70	65	
Baker Elementary	65	60	73	+13
Bates Elementary	31	34	36	+2
Bayou Meto Elementary	47	43	54	+11
Cato Elementary	46	46	57	+11
Clinton Elementary	31	40	42	+2
College Station Elementary	71	75	70	
Crystal Hill Elementary	40	43	59	+16
Dupree Elementary	55	57	50	
Harris Elementary	36	26	44	+18
Jacksonville Elementary	42	28	37	+9
Landmark Elementary	30	31	42	+11
Lawson Elementary	41	53	60	+7
Oak Grove Elementary	31	37	50	+13
Oakbrooke Elementary	59	48	67	+19
Pine Forest Elementary	57	58	65	+7
Pinewood Elementary	50	44	59	+15
Robinson Elementary	58	35	55	+20
Scott Elementary	13	25	43	+18
Sherwood Elementary	39	38	52	+14
Sylvan Hills Elementary	46	46	51	+5
Taylor Elementary	31	39	33	
Tolleson Elementary	53	69	60	

## **PCSSD: SAT-9 Complete Battery – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade** ***Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years (revised)***

NOTE: 5 of 6 schools showed increases over the previous SAT-9 administration.  
This is the first time in district history that the PCSSD exceeded the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile **district-wide** on the SAT-9.

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 7<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>+8</u>
Fuller Middle School	56	46	56	+10
Jacksonville Middle School	46	42	53	+11
Northwood Middle School	46	51	56	+5
Oak Grove Junior High School	39	49	45	
Robinson Middle School	50	49	63	+14
Sylvan Hills Middle School	46	43	50	+7

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

NOTE: This year, only 1 of 6 high schools showed increases over the previous SAT-9 administration.  
The 10<sup>th</sup> grade has yet to go exceeded the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on the SAT-9 at the **district level**.

<b>General Population/Complete Battery</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 10<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>46</u>	
Jacksonville High School	47	41	47	+6
Mills High School	58	49	46	
North Pulaski High School	44	46	46	
Oak Grove High School	48	48	44	
Robinson High School	49	47	45	
Sylvan Hills High School	50	54	48	

## PCSSD: SAT-9 Total Mathematics – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### *Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years*

<b>General Population / Mathematics</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>+16</u>
Adkins Elementary	23	29	37	+8
Arnold Dr. Elementary	57	66	71	+5
Baker Elementary	64	54	79	+25
Bates Elementary	24	26	32	+6
Bayou Meto Elementary	45	42	51	+9
Cato Elementary	40	44	59	+15
Clinton Elementary	24	31	35	+4
College Station Elementary	63	64	62	
Crystal Hill Elementary	35	37	62	+25
Dupree Elementary	56	59	57	
Harris Elementary	25	24	40	+16
Jacksonville Elementary	29	23	36	+13
Landmark Elementary	24	24	41	+17
Lawson Elementary	37	47	64	+17
Oak Grove Elementary	24	23	46	+23
Oakbrooke Elementary	57	43	72	+29
Pine Forest Elementary	55	59	72	+13
Pinewood Elementary	52	35	61	+26
Robinson Elementary	58	38	62	+24
Scott Elementary	8	21	54	+33
Sherwood Elementary	32	29	54	+25
Sylvan Hills Elementary	43	39	49	+10
Taylor Elementary	21	28	25	
Tolleson Elementary	50	69	61	

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Total Mathematics – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years*

<b>General Population / Mathematics</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 7<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>+7</u>
Fuller Middle School	53	40	51	+11
Jacksonville Middle School	43	37	48	+11
Northwood Middle School	38	47	49	+2
Oak Grove Junior High School	33	39	41	+2
Robinson Middle School	50	42	63	+21
Sylvan Hills Middle School	41	40	43	+3

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Total Mathematics – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years*

<b>General Population / Mathematics</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 10<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>49</u>	
Jacksonville High School	53	48	51	+3
Mills High School	64	56	51	
North Pulaski High School	53	57	49	
Oak Grove High School	51	58	43	
Robinson High School	59	53	50	
Sylvan Hills High School	57	60	47	

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Total Reading – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years*

<b>General Population / Total Reading</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>+10</u>
Adkins Elementary	31	28	35	+7
Arnold Dr. Elementary	65	71	65	
Baker Elementary	71	70	79	+9
Bates Elementary	33	33	39	+6
Bayou Meto Elementary	44	42	56	+14
Cato Elementary	47	47	61	+14
Clinton Elementary	30	40	43	+3
College Station Elementary	81	79	73	
Crystal Hill Elementary	42	45	60	+15
Dupree Elementary	45	57	48	
Harris Elementary	33	25	48	+23
Jacksonville Elementary	41	30	41	+11
Landmark Elementary	30	30	45	+15
Lawson Elementary	42	51	66	+15
Oak Grove Elementary	32	42	54	+12
Oakbrooke Elementary	60	44	68	+24
Pine Forest Elementary	58	51	63	+12
Pinewood Elementary	47	47	60	+13
Robinson Elementary	61	32	58	+26
Scott Elementary	12	20	41	+21
Sherwood Elementary	37	33	57	+24
Sylvan Hills Elementary	47	48	51	+3
Taylor Elementary	30	43	35	
Tolleson Elementary	54	71	62	

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Total Reading – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years*

<b>General Population / Total Reading</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 7<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>+8</u>
Fuller Middle School	50	42	56	+14
Jacksonville Middle School	43	41	51	+10
Northwood Middle School	44	50	57	+7
Oak Grove Junior High School	37	49	42	
Robinson Middle School	49	48	60	+12
Sylvan Hills Middle School	45	41	49	+8

**PCSSD: SAT-9 Total Reading – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
*Gains vs. Decreases Compared to Previous Years*

<b>General Population / Total Reading</b>	<b>Fall 00</b>	<b>Fall 01</b>	<b>Spring 03</b>	<b>Changes F01-S03</b>
<u>District-Wide 10<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>39</u>	
Jacksonville High School	41	35	39	+4
Mills High School	52	41	38	
North Pulaski High School	40	40	41	+1
Oak Grove High School	44	41	38	
Robinson High School	43	41	39	
Sylvan Hills High School	45	49	41	