



Dr. Brian Otott
Superintendent

Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 30, 2019

Paulding Students Top State in 22 of 24 Subjects, Shine Brightly on Georgia Milestones Assessment

Recently released results from the Georgia Milestones Assessment System show the percentage of Paulding County students scoring at levels 2, 3 and 4 topped the percentage of students scoring at the same levels statewide in 22 of 24 subject areas. Further, the percentage of Paulding County students scoring at the higher 3 and 4 levels topped the state percentage in 19 of 24 subject areas. The data show that PCSD students outperformed the state at multiple grade levels on both elementary and middle school End-of-Grade (EOG) assessments and high school End-of-Course (EOC) assessments for the 2018-2019 school year.

At levels 2, 3 and 4, Paulding students beat the state in proficiency percentage on every End-of-Grade assessment at every grade level (16 out of 16) (*Table 2*), and at the higher 3 and 4 levels surpassed the state percentage in 15 out of 16 EOG assessments (*Table 1*). High school students, meanwhile, beat or equaled the state percentage attaining levels 2, 3 and 4 on End-of-Course assessments in seven out of eight subjects.

In comparison to the 2018 End-of-Grade assessments for the higher 3 and 4 levels, elementary and middle school scores in English/Language Arts improved at all grade levels, in Math at five of seven grade levels, and also improved at both grade levels assessed for Social Studies (*Table 3*). On the End-of-Course tests, high school students showed improvement over 2018 in six of the eight subjects for levels 2, 3 and 4 (*Table 8*), and five of the eight subjects for the higher 3 and 4 levels (*Table 7*).

Literacy is a major academic focus in the Paulding County School District as evidenced by the district's ongoing Literacy By Design initiative, and it is also a critical component of the state's English Language Arts Milestone. The most recent GMA results show Paulding County students are beating the state average for reading "at-or-above-grade-level" in all grades and courses assessed by the state's Georgia Milestones Assessment System (*Table 9*).

"These results are very encouraging," said Superintendent Dr. Brian Otott. "I am pleased that our students are well-above the state averages in most subject areas, but even more important is that we continue to show improvement year over year."

"Our district-wide literacy focus is starting to show real results and we want to sustain that momentum throughout this coming school year," he said. "We also want to address the science component of the Milestones by exposing a broader range of students to science and STEM-related subjects. We have new STEM-related initiatives in our elementary and middle schools this year, and a new computer science magnet program opening at Hiram High



2018-2019 Georgia Milestones Assessment

School in 2020 that we believe will spark even more interest. I am confident we will see those areas beginning to grow very soon.

“Overall, I am very pleased with these results, but we need to keep pushing toward our goal of academic excellence. If we stay focused as a district on engaging, inspiring and preparing all students for success, I am optimistic that we can get there.”

Attached to this release is a testing brief that summarizes the 2018-2019 Georgia Milestones Assessment results.

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Georgia Milestones End-of-Grade/End-of-Course Assessments

Testing Brief for 2018–2019

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System is a comprehensive assessment program spanning grades 3 through high school. It is designed to provide information about how well students are mastering the state-adopted content standards in the core content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. The Georgia Milestones Assessment was first given during the 2014-2015 school year.

Students in grade 3 through 8 take an end-of-grade (EOG) assessment in the content areas of language arts and mathematics. Students in grade 5 and 8 take an end-of-grade (EOG) assessment in the content areas of science and social studies. All end-of-grade (EOG) assessments are completed in April.

High school students take an end-of-course (EOC) assessment for each of the eight courses designated by the State Board of Education:

- Ninth Grade Literature and Composition
- American Literature and Composition
- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Physical Science
- Biology
- United States History
- Economics/Business/Free Enterprise

Middle school students who are enrolled in one or more of these courses will also take the end-of-course assessment. The end-of-course assessments are administered at the completion of the course, regardless of the grade level. Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, these assessments serve as the final exam for the course and count as 20 percent of the student's final grade.

Features of the Georgia Milestone Assessment System include:

- Open-ended (constructed-response) items in language arts and mathematics (all grades and courses)
- Technology-enhanced/multi-select items in language arts and mathematics (all grades and courses)
- A writing component (in response to passages read by students) at every grade level and course within the language arts assessment
- Norm-referenced items in all content areas and courses, to complement the criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison



EOG MILESTONES 2019

PCSD vs. State

Percent of Students at Levels 3/4

Percent of Students at Levels 2/3/4

The following charts show scores from the EOG GA Milestones assessments from the 2018-2019 school year. For levels 3 and 4, PCSD scored above the state in 15 of 16 areas. PCSD scored above the state in all areas for levels 2, 3 and 4.

Table 1

| Level 3 & 4 | ELA | | Math | | Science | | SS | |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|-----|
| | PCSD | GA | PCSD | GA | PCSD | GA | PCSD | GA |
| 3rd Grade | 43% | 42% | 53% | 52% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 4th Grade | 49% | 42% | 57% | 49% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 5th Grade | 52% | 45% | 43% | 41% | 45% | 43% | 30% | 31% |
| 6th Grade | 55% | 46% | 43% | 40% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 7th Grade | 45% | 39% | 50% | 43% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 8th Grade | 57%* | 49%* | 48%* | 44%* | 50% | 32%* | 54% | 41% |

Table 2

| Level 2-3-4 | ELA | | Math | | Science | | SS | |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|-----|
| | PCSD | GA | PCSD | GA | PCSD | GA | PCSD | GA |
| 3rd Grade | 76% | 71% | 86% | 82% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 4th Grade | 82% | 75% | 88% | 82% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 5th Grade | 83% | 76% | 80% | 76% | 74% | 70% | 83% | 78% |
| 6th Grade | 83% | 74% | 85% | 78% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 7th Grade | 81% | 72% | 87% | 78% | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 8th Grade | 89%* | 81%* | 86%* | 78%* | 79% | 62%* | 88% | 78% |

*8th Grade students who take 9th Grade Literature and Algebra 1 take the corresponding EOC for those courses and do not take the 8th Grade EOG. EOG and EOC scores are combined for these courses.



EOG MILESTONES

PCSD 2018 vs. 2019

Percent of Students at Levels 3/4

Percent of Students at Levels 2/3/4

The following charts compare PCSD EOG scores from 2018 to 2019. For levels 3 and 4, PCSD increased their score in all grades for ELA, four of six grades for Math, one of two grades for Science and both grades for SS. For levels 2, 3 and 4, PCSD increased their score in all grades for ELA, maintained or increased their score in five of six grades for Math, and increased in both grades for Social Studies.

Table 3

| Level 3 & 4 | ELA | | Math | | Science | | SS | |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| 3rd Grade | 41 | 43 | 49 | 53 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 4th Grade | 48 | 49 | 55 | 57 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 5th Grade | 46 | 52 | 42 | 43 | 41 | 45 | 28 | 30 |
| 6th Grade | 43 | 55 | 44 | 43 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 7th Grade | 39 | 45 | 52 | 50 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 8th Grade | 48* | 57* | 47* | 48* | 54 | 50 | 52 | 54 |

Table 4

| Level 2-3-4 | ELA | | Math | | Science | | SS | |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| 3rd Grade | 73 | 76 | 86 | 86 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 4th Grade | 81 | 82 | 90 | 88 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 5th Grade | 81 | 83 | 79 | 80 | 75 | 74 | 81 | 83 |
| 6th Grade | 76 | 83 | 85 | 85 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 7th Grade | 77 | 81 | 87 | 87 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 8th Grade | 84* | 89* | 86* | 86* | 81 | 79 | 87 | 88 |

*8th Grade ELA and Math scores are a combination of 8th Grade EOG scores for ELA and Math along with ELA and Math EOC scores for advanced courses taken by 8th grade students.

5th and 8th grade students are the only grade levels to take Science and SS EOG measures.



END OF COURSE Spring MILESTONES 2019

PCSD vs. State

Percent of Students at Levels 3/4

Percent of Students at Levels 2/3/4

The following chart shows scores from the Spring EOC GA Milestones tests from the 2018-2019 school year. PCSD scored above the state in four subject areas for levels 3 and 4. PCSD scored the same or above the State in seven of eight areas for levels 2, 3 and 4.

Table 5

| Level 3 & 4 | PCSD | GA |
|---------------------|------|-----|
| 9th Literature | 69* | 61* |
| American Literature | 46 | 47 |
| Algebra I | 44* | 41* |
| Geometry | 35 | 41 |
| Biology | 48 | 49 |
| Physical Science | 30 | 47* |
| US History | 59 | 48 |
| Economics | 56 | 48 |

Table 6

| Level 2-3-4 | PCSD | GA |
|---------------------|------|-----|
| 9th Literature | 92* | 87* |
| American Literature | 85 | 80 |
| Algebra I | 75* | 73* |
| Geometry | 71 | 71 |
| Biology | 72 | 71 |
| Physical Science | 30 | 74* |
| US History | 89 | 78 |
| Economics | 85 | 74 |

*9th Grade Literature and Algebra I scores for PCSD and the state include 8th grade scores for students taking those courses. Physical Science scores for the state include 8th grade scores for students taking Physical Science in 8th grade.

**END OF COURSE MILESTONES****PCSD 2018 vs. 2019****Percent of Students at Levels 3 and 4****Percent of Students at Levels 2/3/4**

The following charts compare PCSD EOC scores from 2018 to 2019. For levels 3 and 4, PCSD increased their score in five of eight areas. For levels 2, 3 and 4, PCSD increased their score in five of eight areas.

Table 7

| Level 3 & 4 | 2018 | 2019 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 9th Literature | 47 | 47 |
| American Literature | 44 | 49 |
| Algebra I | 26 | 22 |
| Geometry | 38 | 32 |
| Biology | 42 | 48 |
| Physical Science | 20 | 27 |
| US History | 59 | 63 |
| Economics | 46 | 55 |

Table 8

| Level 2-3-4 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 9th Literature | 82 | 86 |
| American Literature | 82 | 86 |
| Algebra I | 66 | 66 |
| Geometry | 75 | 70 |
| Biology | 69 | 73 |
| Physical Science | 60 | 65 |
| US History | 86 | 91 |
| Economics | 81 | 84 |

*9th Grade Literature and Algebra I scores for PCSD and the state include 8th grade scores for students taking those courses. Physical Science scores for the state include 8th grade scores for students taking Physical Science in 8th grade.



STUDENTS READING ON GRADE-LEVEL

PCSD vs. State

Percent of Students Reading at or above Grade-Level

The following chart indicates the percentage of PCSD students who demonstrated reading at-or-above grade-level compared to the state performance in the same grades and courses. As indicated in the chart below, Paulding County students are scoring above the state average for “reading at-or-above grade-level” in all grades and courses assessed by the state’s Georgia Milestones Assessment System.

Table 9

| Grade/Subject | PCSD | GA |
|----------------------------|------|----|
| 3rd Grade | 76 | 73 |
| 4th Grade | 71 | 64 |
| 5th Grade | 79 | 73 |
| 6th Grade | 71 | 61 |
| 7th Grade | 83 | 75 |
| 8th Grade | 76 | 74 |
| 9 th Literature | 88 | 83 |
| American Literature | 79 | 75 |

*9th Grade Literature scores for PCSD and the state include 8th grade scores for students taking those courses.