Westwood Public Schools
MCAS 2022 Results Update

Westwood School Committee
November 9, 2022

Review Statewide Results

2022 compared with 2021
- Improvement in math
- Slight improvement in science
- Decline in English language arts

ELA focus areas: early literacy and writing

Not fully recovered from pandemic learning loss

Higher student absence rates a challenge (1.7 million days missed statewide in 2022 due to COVID-19)

Review - Westwood Highlights

Strong overall performance compared with other districts statewide in grades 3 - 8 (n = 355 districts):

ELA = 9th statewide

Math = 17th statewide

Science = 8th statewide

Improvements in Math (Meeting + Exceeding) Scores:

Grade 4 - up 9%

Grade 5 - up 11%
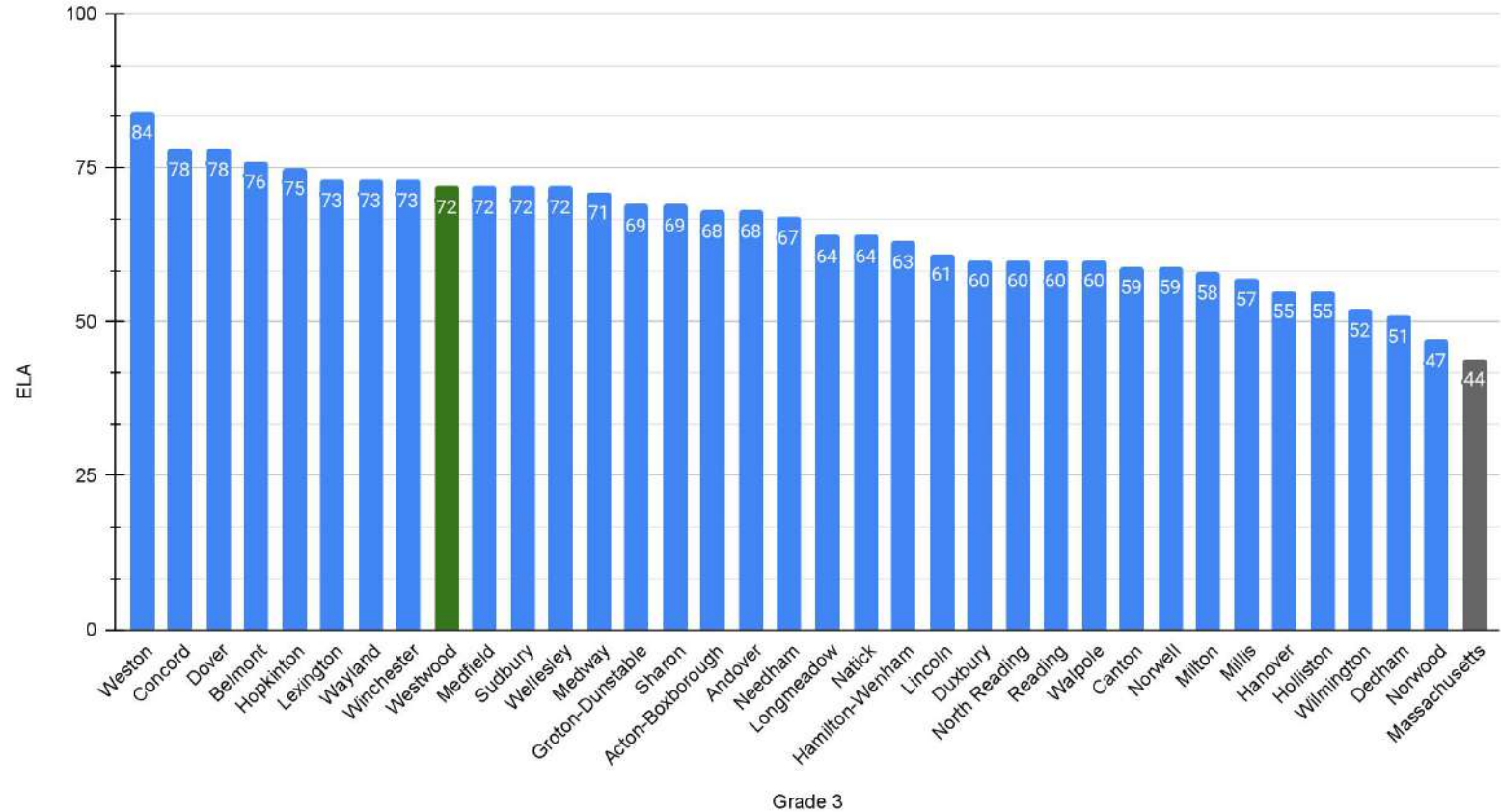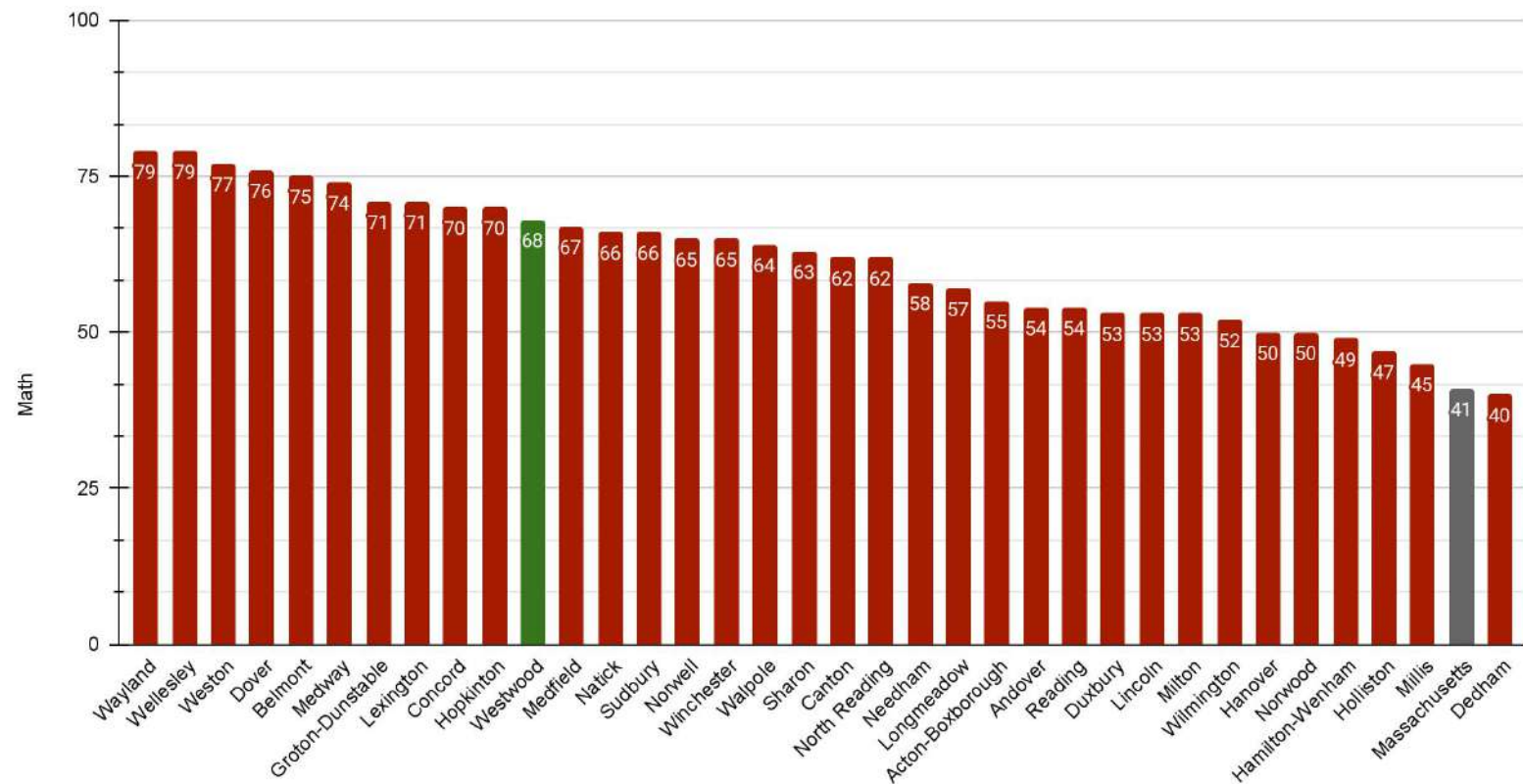
Grade 6 - up 20%

Grade 8 - up 20%

Particularly strong grade 4 & 5 performance

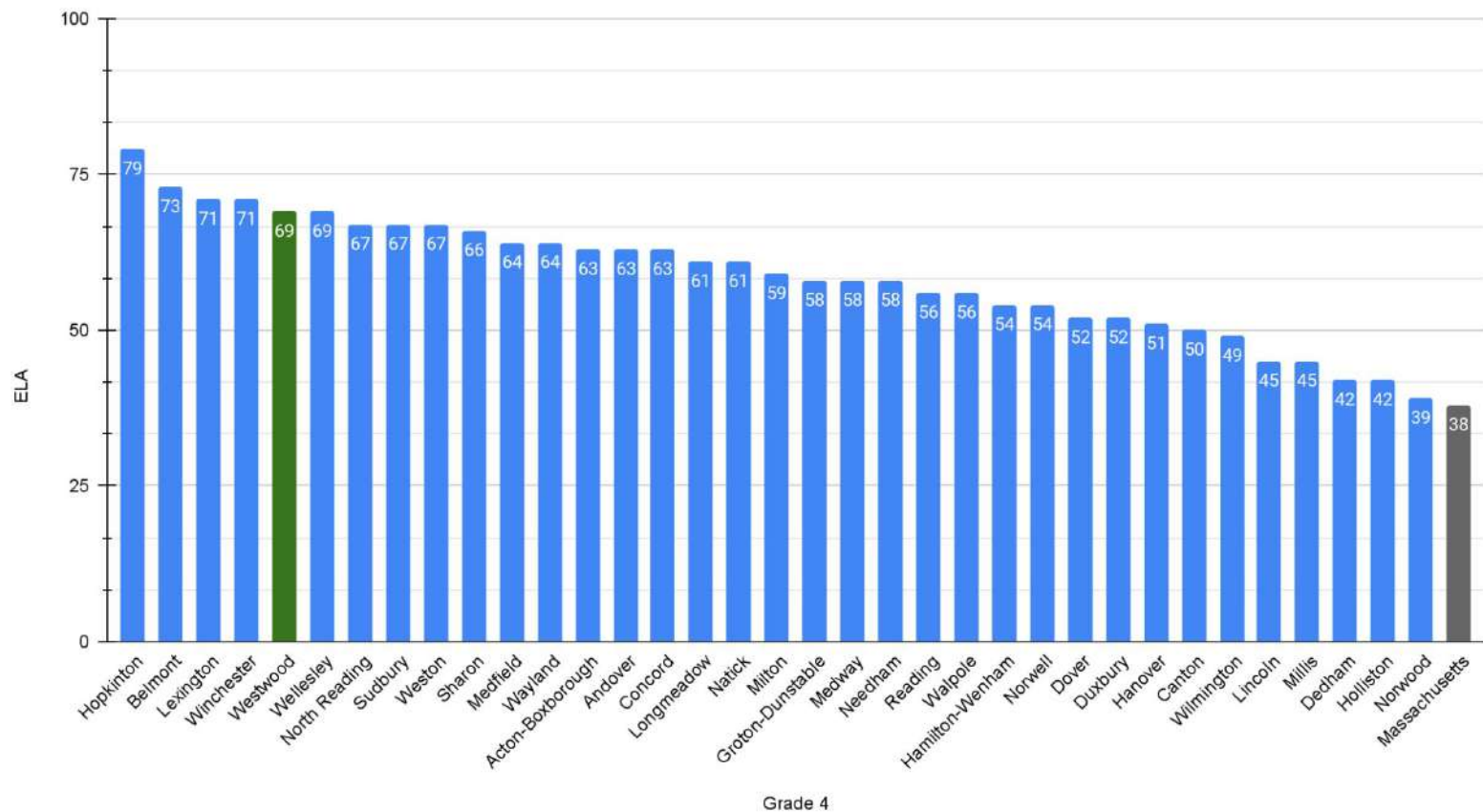Grade 6 ELA, grade 8 science

2022 Gr. 3 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps
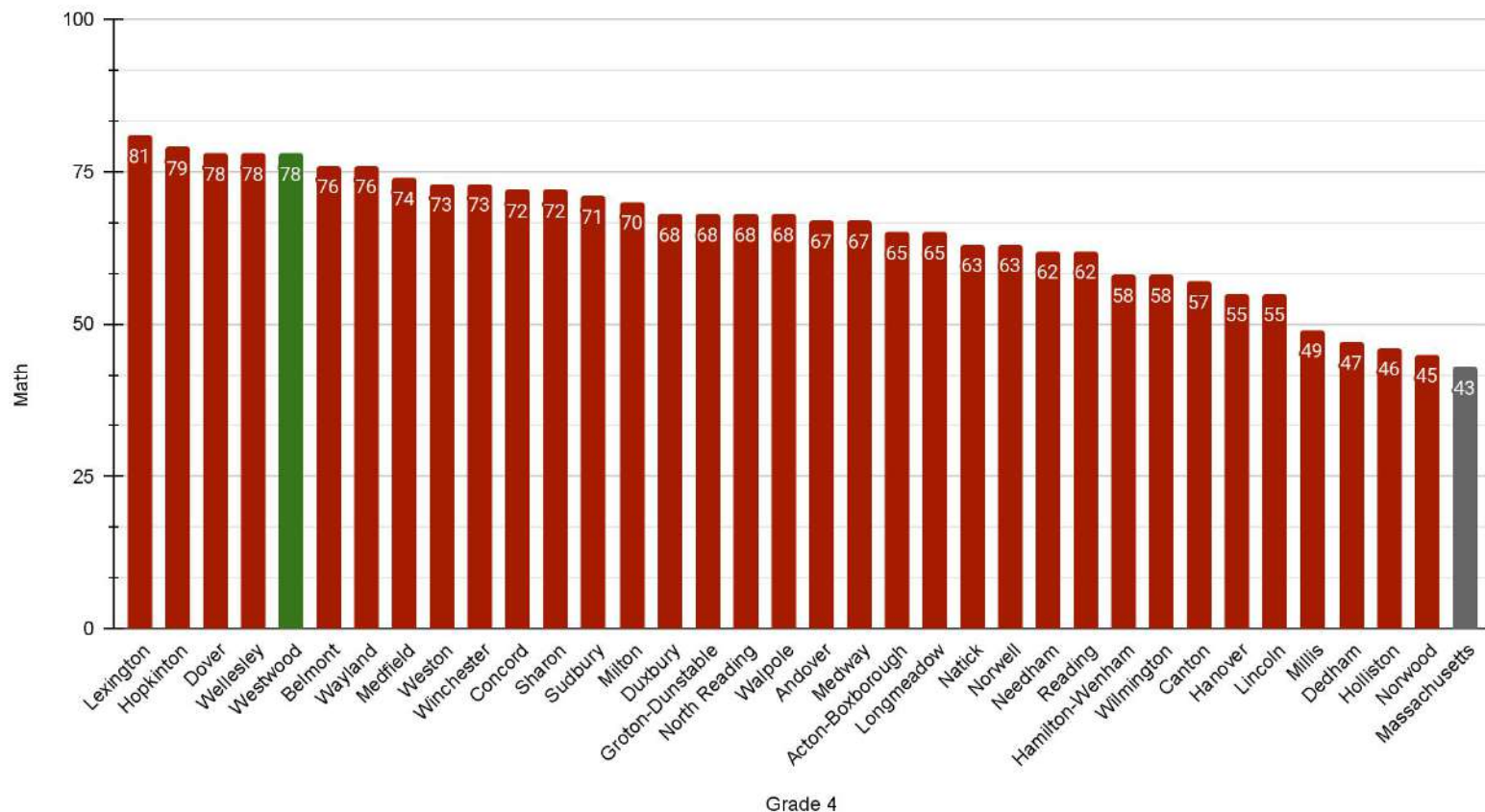
2022 Gr. 3 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

2022 Gr. 4 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

2022 Gr. 4 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

2022 Gr. 5 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

2022 Gr. 5 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

202 Gr. 5 STE Meet + Exceed Comps

Grades 4 & 5 in state context

Grade 4

ELA - 11th statewide

Math - 9th statewide

Grade 5

ELA - 2nd statewide

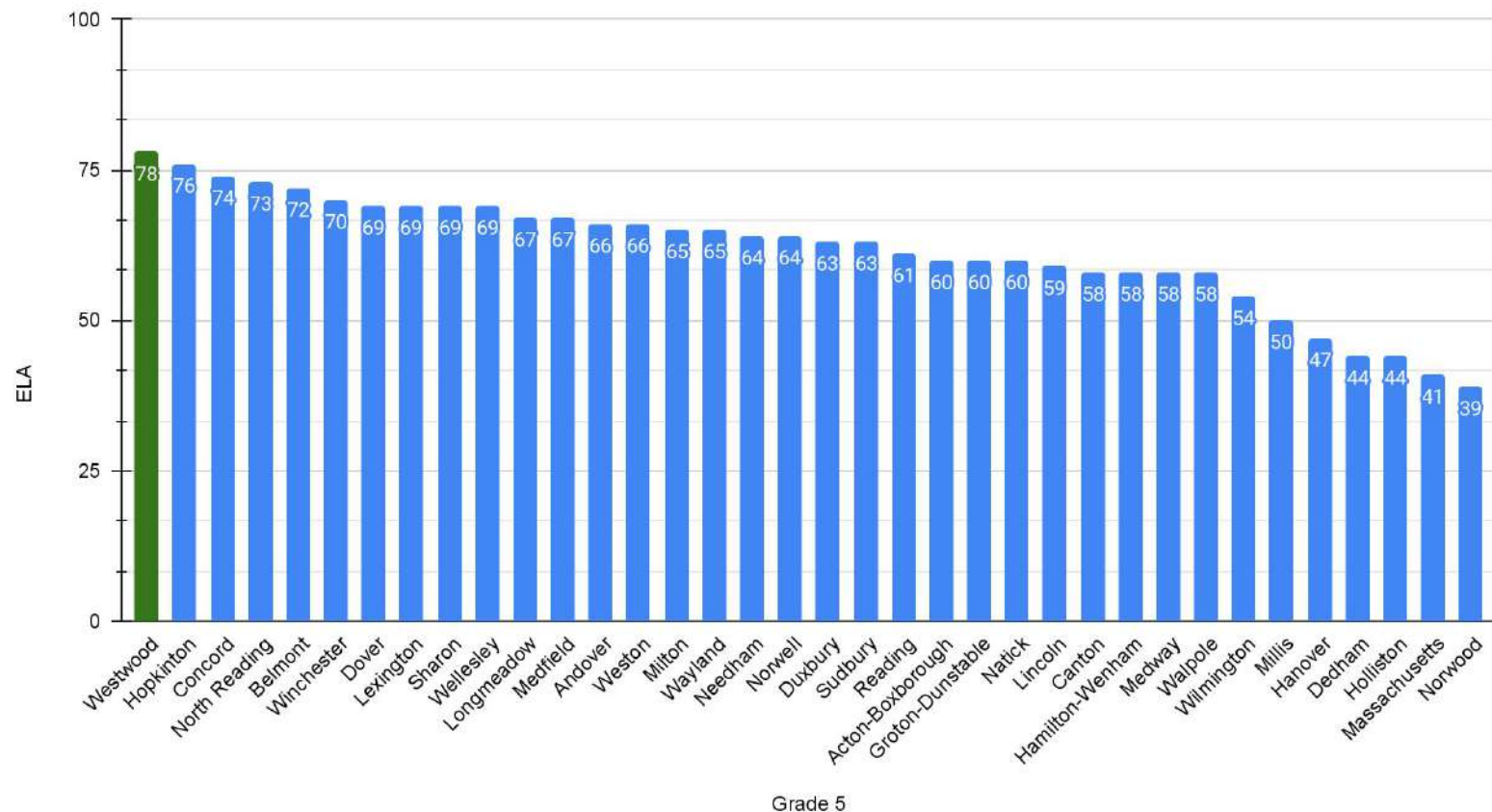Math - 3rd statewide

Science - 7th statewide

2022 Gr. 6 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps
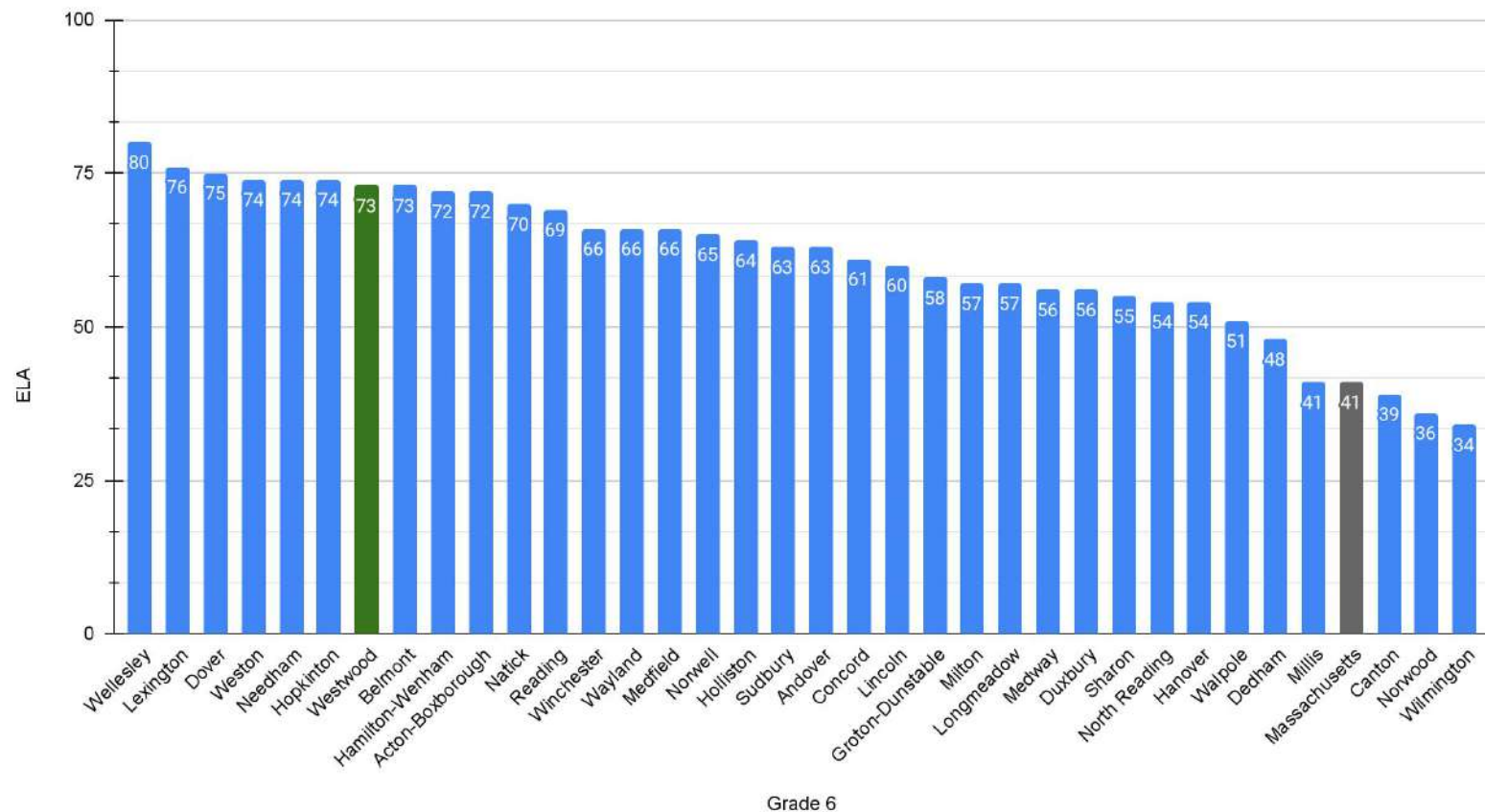
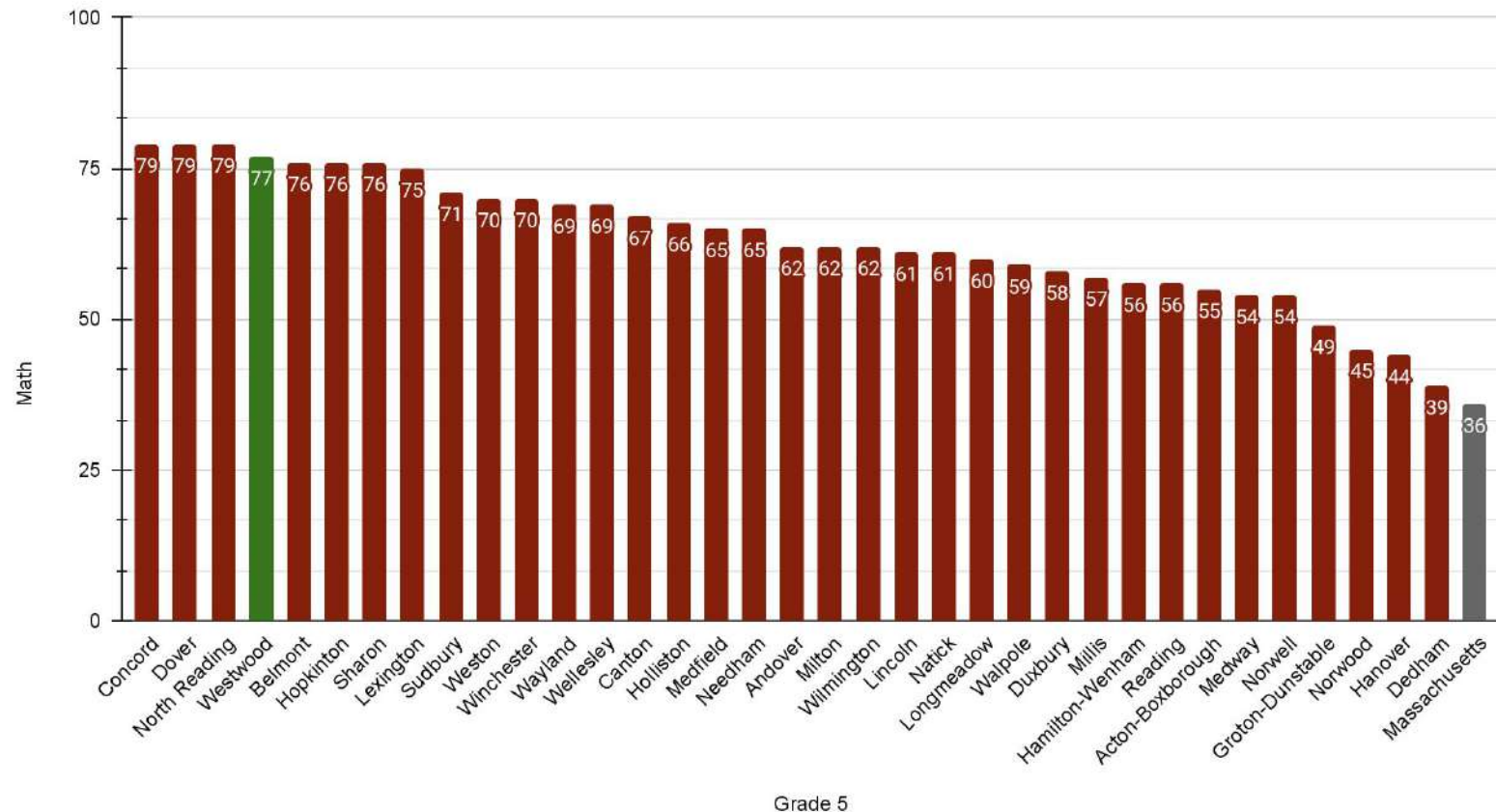2022 Gr. 6 Math Meet + Exceed Comps
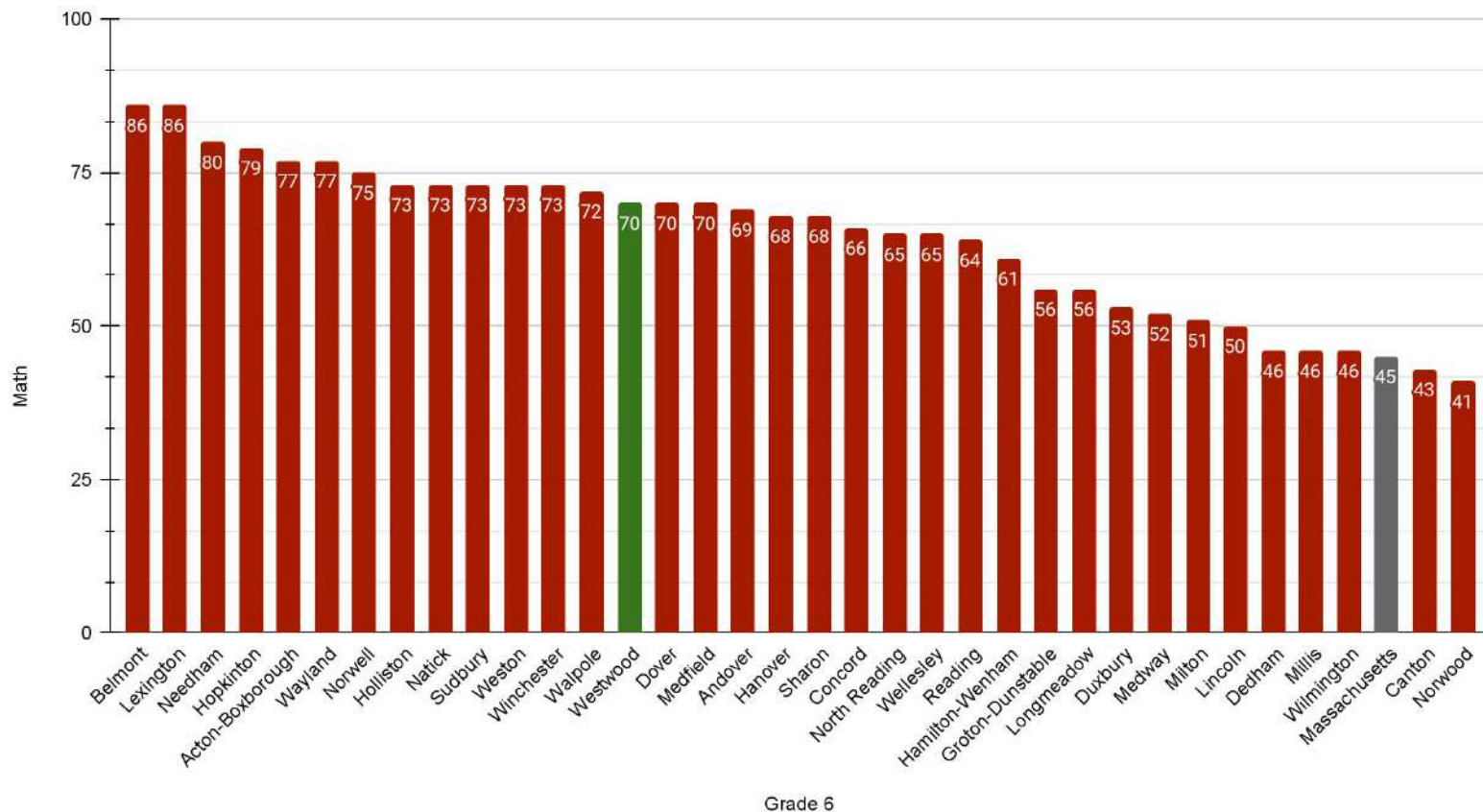
2022 Gr. 7 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

2022 Gr. 7 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

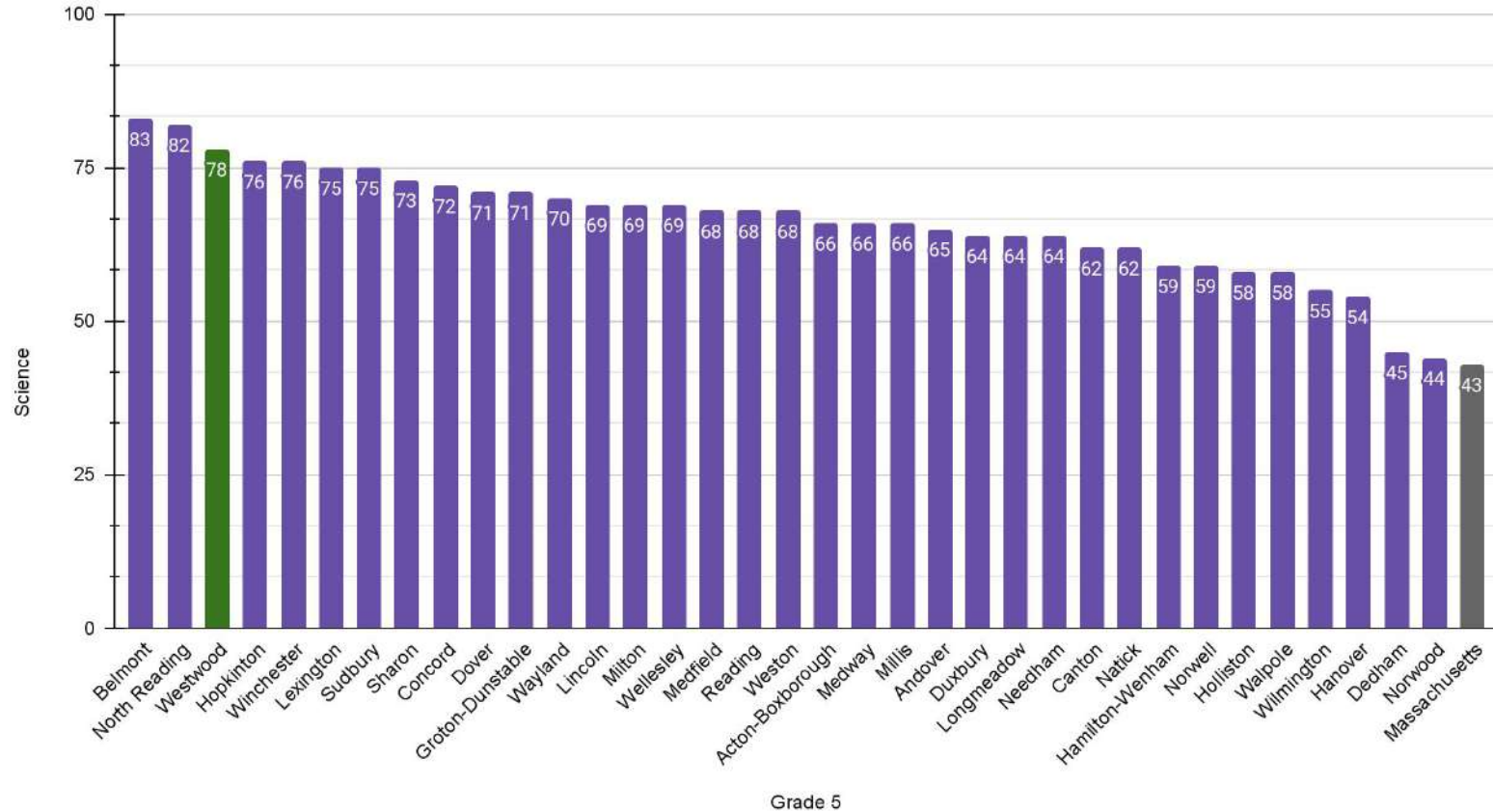2022 Gr. 8 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

2022 Gr. 8 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

2022 Gr. 8 STE Meet + Exceed Comps

Middle School Highlights

Grade 6 ELA - 11th statewide (n = 327)

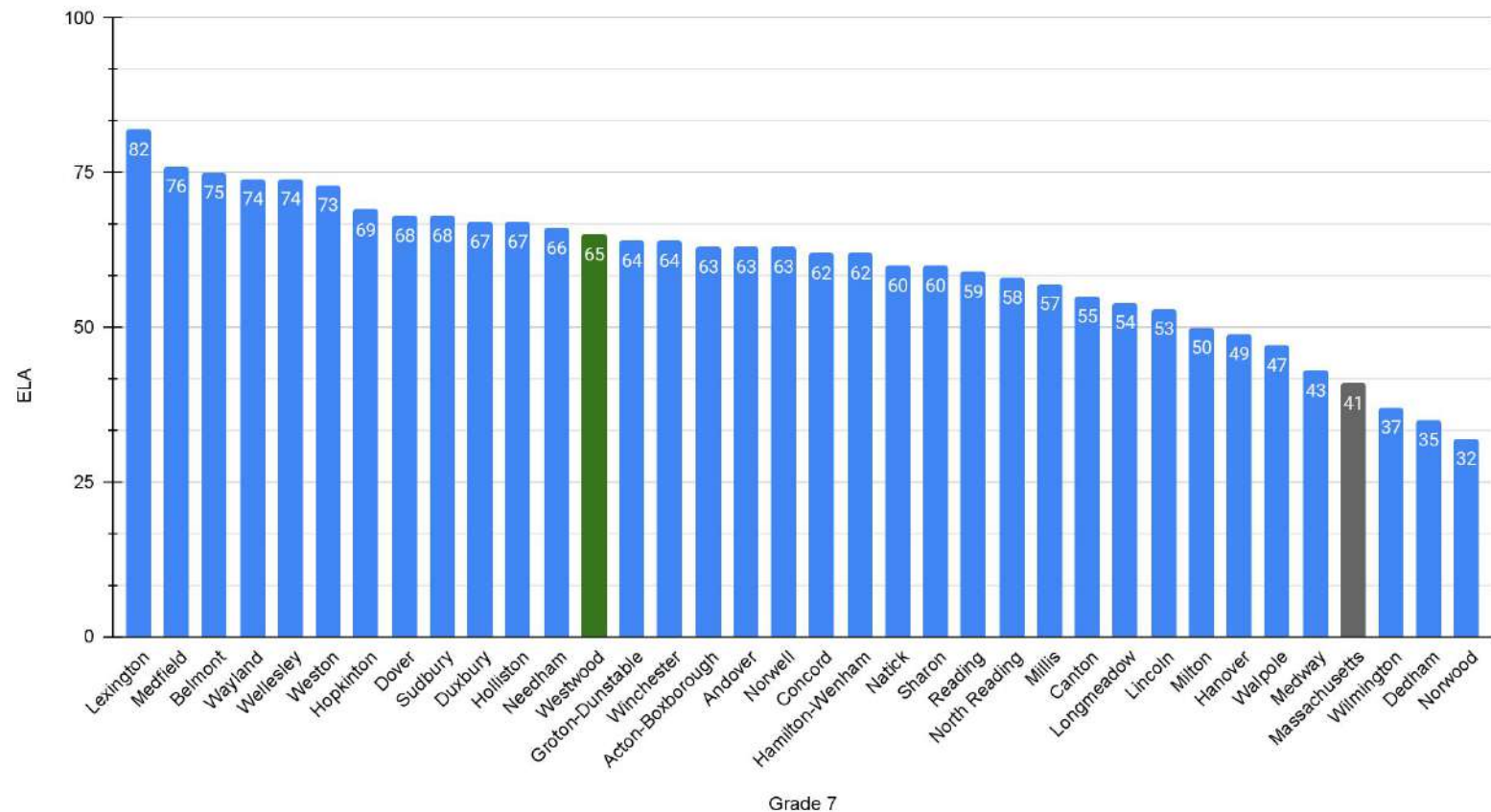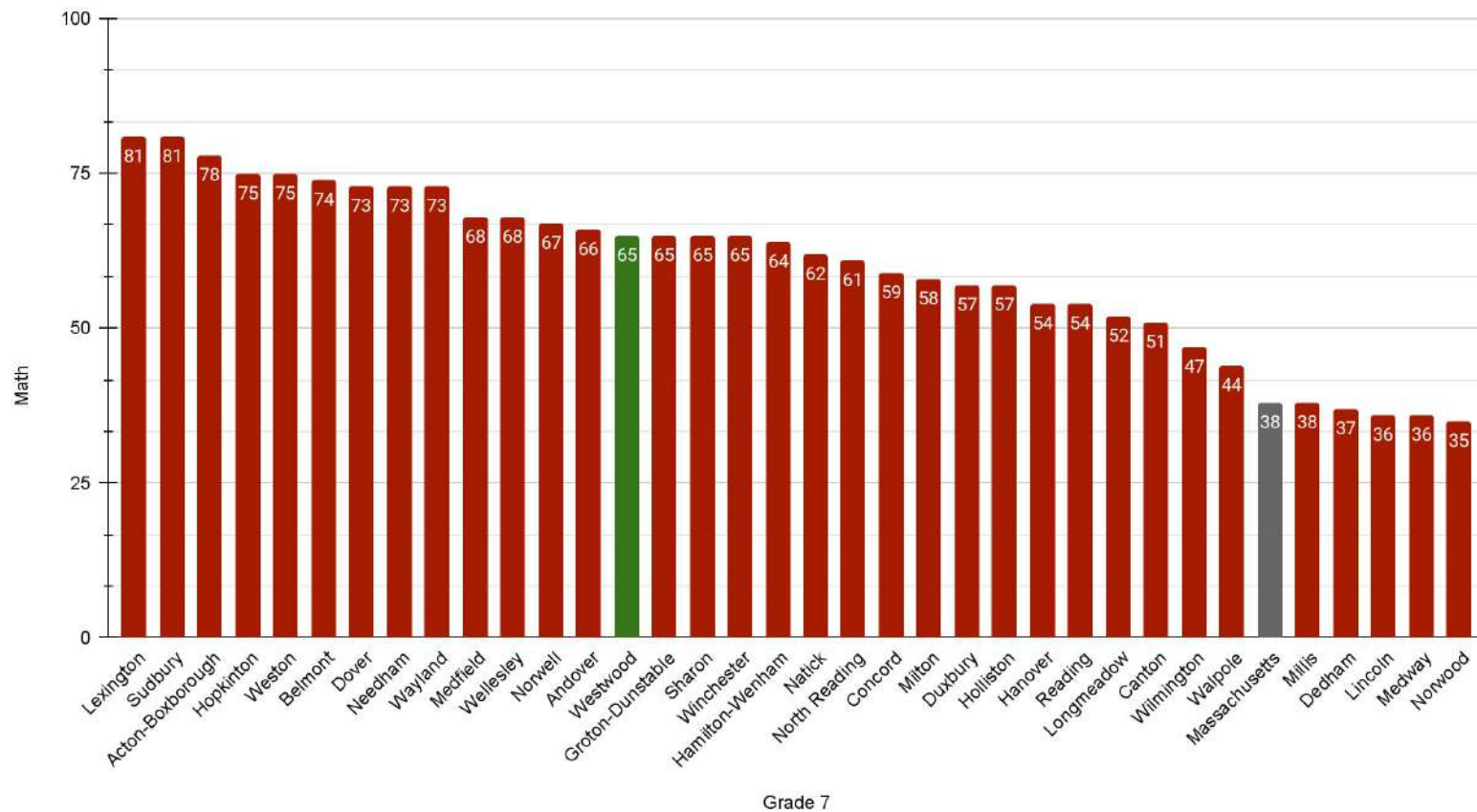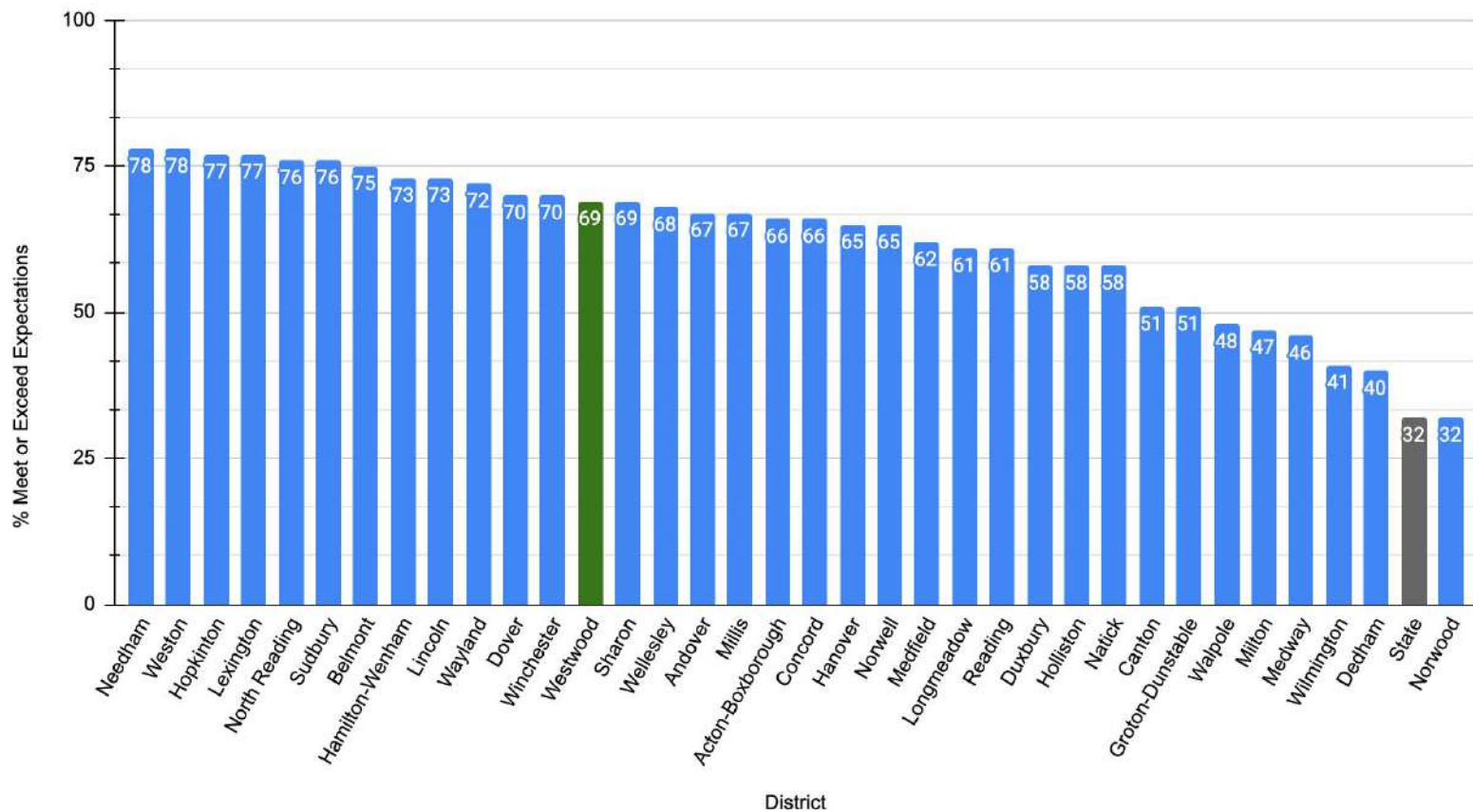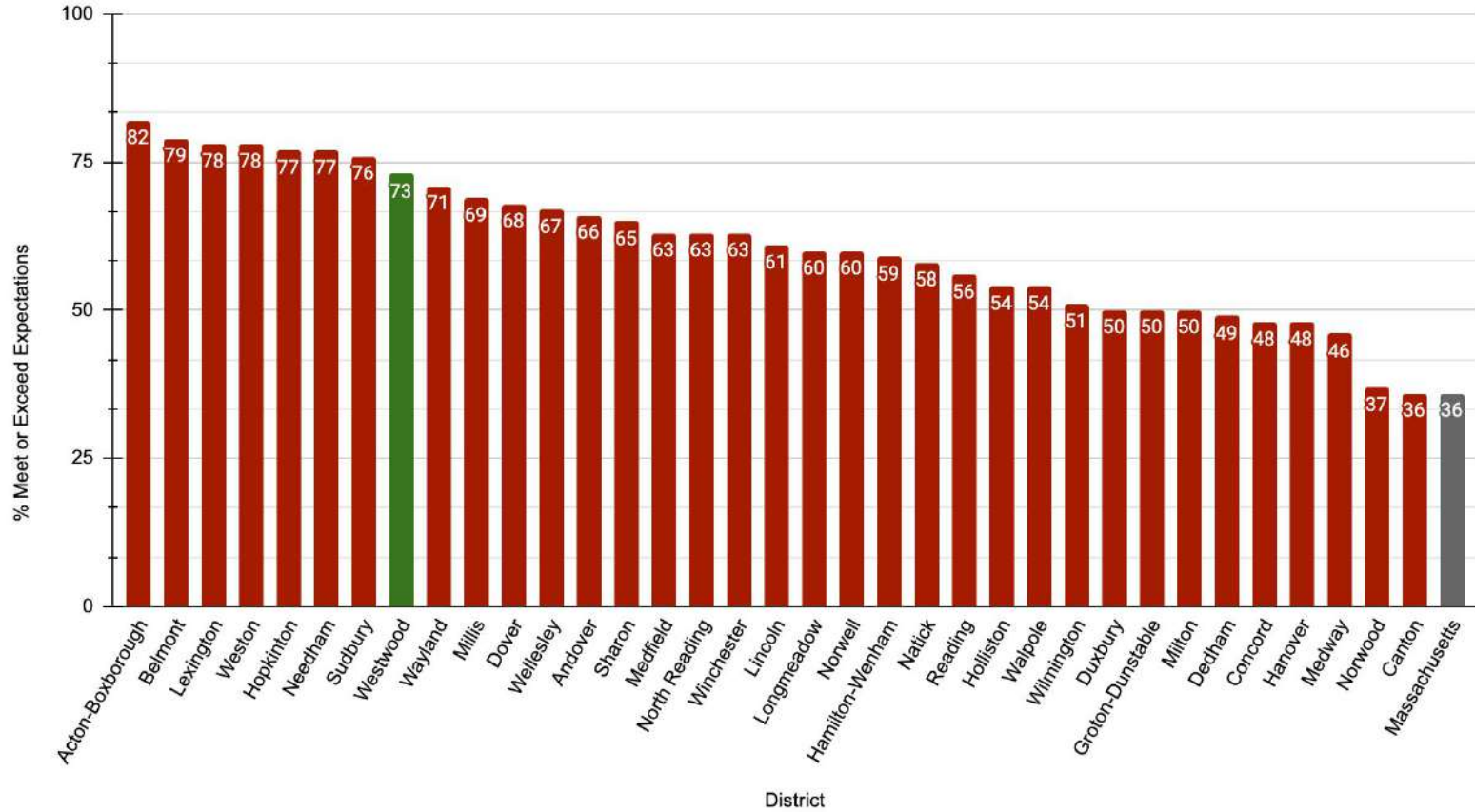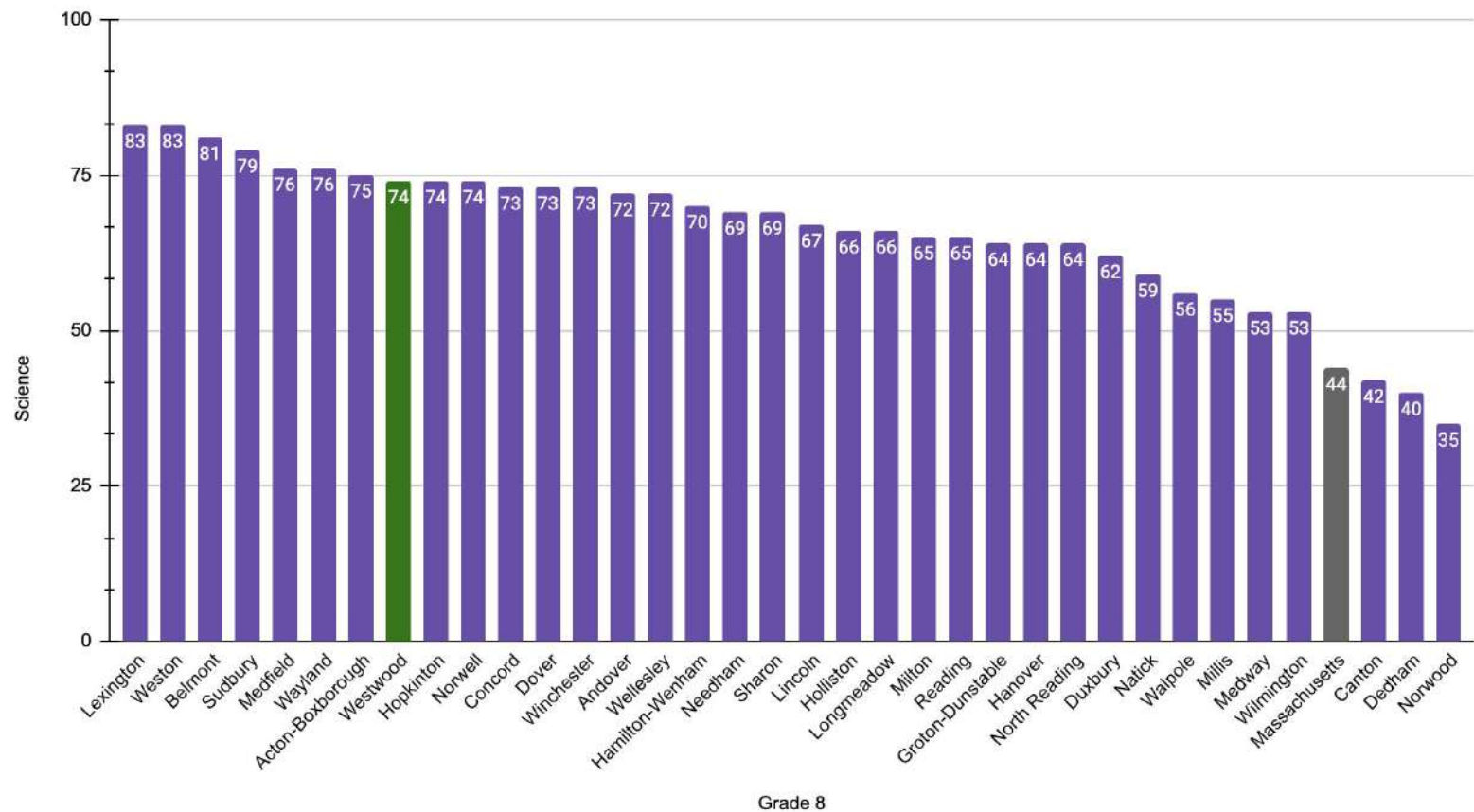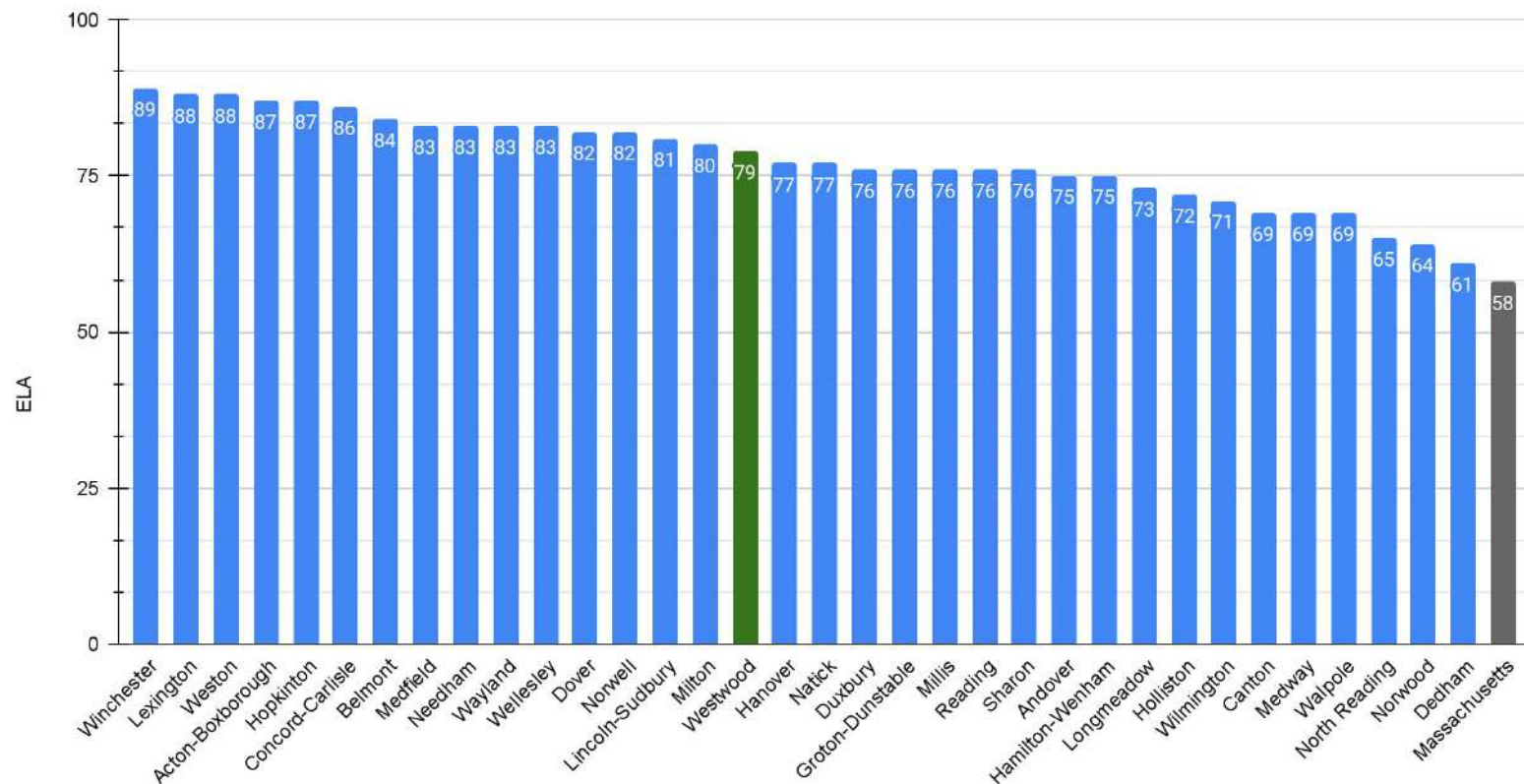Grade 8 Science - 11th statewide

2022 Gr. 10 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

2021 Gr. 10 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

% Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations

District	Value
Dover	94
Mills	94
Wellesley	92
Concord	91
Lexington	91
Needham	90
Holliston	89
Medfield	89
Norwell	89
Acton-Boxborough	89
Duxbury	88
Hopkinton	88
Hopkinton	88
Belmont	88
Winchester	87
Hamilton-Wenham	85
Medway	85
Lincoln-Sudbury	84
Reading	84
Westwood	84
Sharon	84
Hanover	83
North Reading	83
Masconomet	82
Weston	82
Wilmington	81
Groton-Dunstable	80
Wayland	80
Andover	80
Longmeadow	79
Natick	78
Milton	78
Canton	77
Walpole	72
Dedham	71
Massachusetts	64
Norwood	61

2022 Gr. 10 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

ELA — Grade 10

District	Value
Winchester	89
Lexington	88
Weston	88
Acton-Boxborough	87
Hopkinton	87
Concord-Carlisle	86
Belmont	84
Medfield	83
Needham	83
Wayland	83
Wellesley	83
Dover	82
Norwell	82
Lincoln-Sudbury	81
Milton	80
Westwood	79
Hanover	77
Natick	77
Duxbury	76
Groton-Dunstable	76
Mills	76
Reading	76
Sharon	76
Andover	75
Hamilton-Wenham	75
Longmeadow	73
Holliston	72
Wilmington	71
Canton	69
Metway	69
Walpole	69
North Reading	65
Norwood	64
Dedham	61
Massachusetts	58

2022 Gr. 10 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

2021 Gr. 10 Math: Comp Districts Meeting or Excceeding
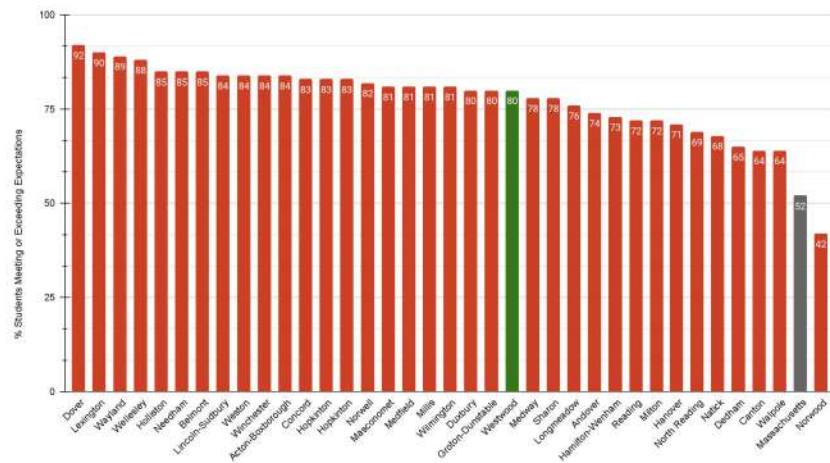
2022 Gr. 10 Math Meet + Exceed Comps
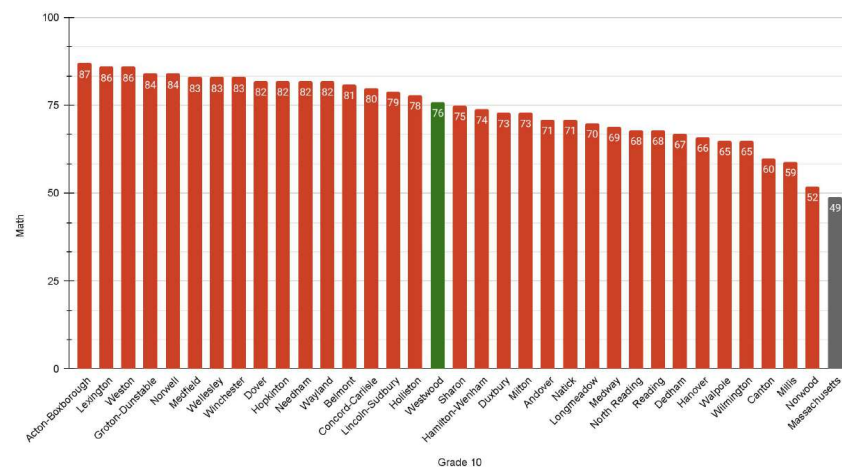
2022 HS Bio Meet + Exceed Comps

Grade 9 & 10
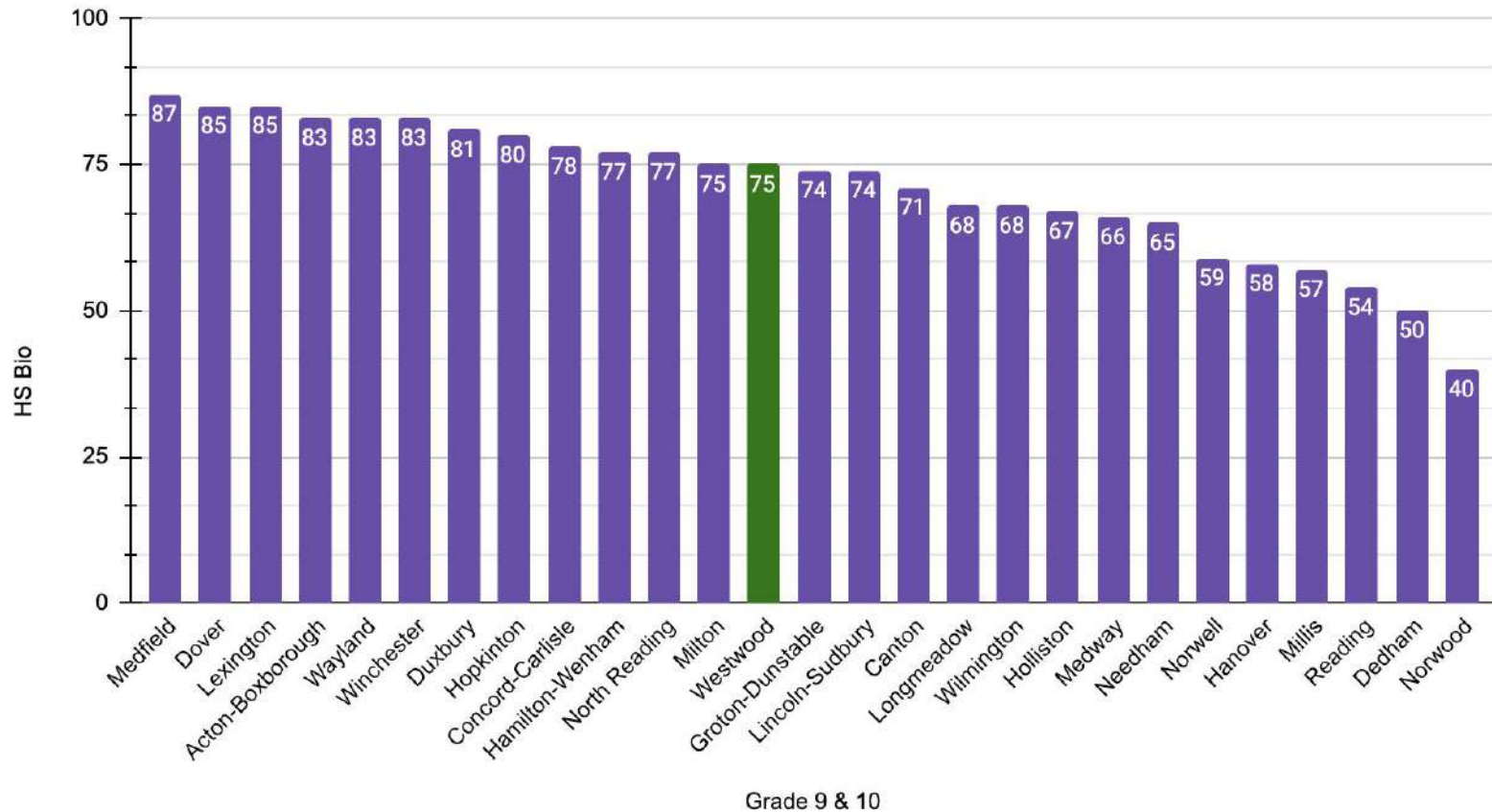
MCAS Analysis to date

- **Curriculum & instruction implications at each grade level**
    - Areas of strength
    - Expected areas of lower performance
    - Unexpected areas of lower performance
- **Strategies for improvement**

Elementary Mathematics - Overall

Strengths:
- Numbers & Operations in Base-10
- Fractions

Surprises (solid performance despite lack of emphasis 20-21):
- Geometry
- Measurement & Data

Consistency across all five schools.

Math Grade Level Recommendations

Grade 3
More practice with constructed response type questions.

Ensure all operations and algebraic thinking units taught

Continue including geometry and measurement & data

Grade 4
Strong performance across all domains.

Continue including geometry and measurement & data

Grade 5
Strong performance across all domains, esp when compared with state.

Address lower scores in constructed response.

Elementary Literacy - Overall

Strengths:

- Language usage (e.g., vocabulary acquisition)
- Reading

Focus areas:

- Writing--specifically conventions of language

Areas of relative weakness were still <u>very strong</u> when compared with the state.

Literacy Grade Level Recommendations

Grade 3
More practice with reading and answering questions about multiple texts.

Support students with navigating test format (e.g., scrolling issue).

Expansion of Patterns of Power curriculum resource (language conventions).

Grade 4
Expansion of Patterns of Power curriculum resource (language conventions).

Additional practice with test format.

Grade 5
Address conventions of language in a more consistent and systematic way.

Middle School Math Overview

Strengths:

- Ratios and Proportional relationships
- Absolute value
- Linear equations

Focus Area:

- Statistics and probability (expected)

Geometry scores improving and student growth is high in this area.

TMS Math Recommendations

No big trends that come out of the standards data, except for expected relative weakness in stats/probability - "swiss cheese."

Pilot new curriculum resources (Demos, Reveal) with stronger alignment to MA framework.

Analyze pre-and post assessment data to see impact.

Middle School English Overview

Strengths:

- Reading literature
- Conventions of language

Focus areas:

- Reading Informational text
- Writing

Notable: variable performance in some standards areas--appear to be both strength and weaknesses. (e.g., students can identify a main idea in an article, but they are less easily able to point to evidence of where the author develops the main idea)

Middle School - Focus on Informational Text

Cross-department professional development session focused on non-fiction

Educators explored data from grades 5 - 8, identified strengths and areas for growth

Course partners planned strategies to address relative weaknesses, e.g.:

- Found relevant nonfiction resources from online libraries (e.g., Newsela)
- Refined types of comprehension questions asked in lessons to better mirror standards
- Varied terms used in questions (e.g., defend, justify, prove)

WHS English Strengths

Essay Writing

- Grammar and conventions
- Idea development
- Argument writing
- Writing across more than one text.

Reading

- Inferences
- Identifying and working with elements of argument
- Relationships across more than one text
- Purpose of grammar, syntax, and punctuation
- Central idea
- Tone

WHS English Focus Areas in Writing

Idea development

Comparing two pieces (article, excerpt or poem) to:

- Comparing or finding central ideas
- Defining meaning across both
- Defining common tone
- Comparing two quotes

WHS Math

Analysis still in progress

Focus on critical standards that 1) are important building blocks for next year and 2) are not taught after the test

E.g., linear, quadratic and exponential models

8th Grade & WHS Science (Bio)

Grade 8 Science

- Improving relative to comps, state
- Focus area: waves (grade 6 standards, review this year in 8th)

WHS Science (Bio)

- Highly consistent performance across all domains of test (Ecology, Evolution, Heredity, Molecules to Organisms)
- Weaker performance in constructed response

Next time...

Update on WHS Math

Some subgroup data (with comps)

Thank you!