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System Continues to Show Significant Improvement in School Performance and Growth Data

GREENVILLE, N.C. – According to the Accountability Framework Model data presented to the North Carolina State Board of Education on September 4, 2019, Pitt County Schools saw significant improvements in performance and growth data for the 2018-2019 school year.

Pitt County Schools increased in the following areas:

- Reading 3-8 proficiency increased by 3.2%
- Science Grade 5 increased by 9.8%
- Science Grade 8 increased by 14.5%
- Biology increased by 6.2%
- Math 3-8 unable to report due to a new edition of mathematics tests given
- Math 9-12 unable to report due to a new edition of mathematics tests given

In terms of the state's school accountability growth results, 33 out of 37 schools met or exceeded growth standards during the 2018-2019 school year. This includes an increase in three schools that made significant gains in growth with their students, and 89% of PCS schools met or exceeded growth. Academic growth is an indication of the progress that students in the school made over the past year. The standard is roughly equivalent to a year's worth of growth for a year of instruction.

Since 2014, all North Carolina Schools have been assigned School Performance Grades (A-F). School Performance Grades are based on student achievement (80%) and growth (20%). With the release of the 2018-2019 accountability results, Pitt County Schools had 34 out of 35 schools, or 97%, receive a passing grade. Pitt County Schools is proud to share that out of the 8% of schools in the state that earned a School Performance Grade of A, three of these schools are located in Pitt County-Hope Middle School, Pitt County Schools Early College High School, and Innovation Early College High School. Hope Middle is one of 30 middle schools in the state with a School Performance Grade of A, and both Pitt County Schools Early College and Innovation Early College High Schools are two out of 120 high schools in the state with a School Performance Grade of A.

Our Mission: The Pitt County Schools, through high expectations, excellence in teaching and a safe, orderly environment, will ensure that all students master the skills necessary for success as life-long learners in a rapidly changing world.

The State Board of Education identifies low-performing schools on an annual basis. Low-performing schools are those that receive a school performance grade of D or F and a school growth score of “met expected growth” or “not met expected growth” as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15. While these grades do not encompass growth over time, and steady proficiency increases such as a school improving their proficiency by 34% in one academic year. However, over the last three years, Pitt County has decreased the number of low performing schools by 50%--14 schools to seven. Out of the seven low performing schools, five of the schools met expected growth in growth calculation by the state.

| Pitt County Schools Performance Highlights | |
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| 6 Schools Exited Low Performing Status | Ayden Middle School, Creekside Elementary School, E.B. Aycock Middle School, Elmhurst Elementary School, Farmville Middle School, and Wellcome Middle School |
| 8 Schools Increased a Letter Grade | From D to C: Pactolus School, Creekside Elementary School, Elmhurst Elementary School, Ayden Middle School, E.B. Aycock Middle School, Farmville Middle School, and Wellcome Middle School From B to A: Hope Middle School |
| Exceeded Growth for 5 Consecutive Years | North Pitt High School |
| Exceeded Growth for 4 Consecutive Years and Maintained a School Performance Grade of an A | Pitt County Early College High School |
| 28 Schools Improved Total Composite Score (SPG) from the previous school year | Belvoir, Bethel Creekside, Chicod Falkland, Eastern, Elmhurst, Grifton, G.R. Whitfield Northwest, Pactolus, Ridgewood, W.H. Robinson, HB Sugg, Sam Bundy, Stokes, Wahl-Coates, Wintergreen Intermediate, Wintergreen Primary, A.G. Cox, Ayden Middle, E.B. Aycock, Farmville Middle, Hope Middle, Wellcome Middle, North Pitt High School, South Central High School, and PCS Early College High School |
| 28 Schools Increased Student Proficiency From the Previous School Year | Belvoir Elementary School (13%), Bethel School (13%), Creekside Elementary School (17%), Falkland Elementary School (15%), |

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| | Eastern Elementary School (7%), Elmhurst Elementary School (7%), Chicod School (10%), Grifton School (34%), G.R. Whitfield School (6%), Lakeforest Elementary School (8%), Northwest Elementary School (12%), Ridgewood Elementary School, (3%), W.H. Robinson Elementary School (7%), Sam Bundy, H.B. Sugg Elementary Schools (4%), Pactolus School (25%), Stokes School (17%), Wahl-Coates Elementary School (3%), Wintergreen Intermediate , Wintergreen Primary Schools (4%), A.G. Cox Middle School (13%), C.M. Eppes Middle School (8%), E.B. Aycock Middle School (25%), Farmville Middle School (12%), Ayden Middle School (25%), Hope Middle School (11%), Wellcome Middle School (25%) and North Pitt High School (3%) |
| 12 Schools Exceeded the State Growth Standard | Creekside Elementary School, Chicod School, Falkland Elementary School, Pactolus School, Ridgewood Elementary School, WH Robinson School, Wintergreen Intermediate, Wintergreen Primary School, Hope Middle School, Wellcome Middle School, North Pitt High School and Early College High School |

“I am immensely proud of our teachers, principals, and staff who worked very hard last year. Their commitment to our students, and their engagement in best practices for teaching and learning can be seen in our results. As far as the state accountability results are concerned, this is one of the strongest years of student performance we have seen during my tenure.” Pitt County Schools Superintendent Dr. Ethan Lenker said. “Over time, we have been able to streamline our teaching and learning processes across all schools in the district which is evidenced by the accountability results. That being said, we still have even loftier goals to strive for and will do so by continuing to adopt new and innovative strategies in combination with tried and true instructional practices in order to help our students become successful graduates of Pitt County Schools.”

You can find the 2018-2019 State and Local Data Results and Business Rules for Calculating these Results at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability>.