



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools reading and math scores show increases after the pandemic decline

CHARLOTTE, N.C. September 6, 2023 – Student performance data released today by the North Carolina State Board of Education showed that in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools all reading and math composite scores increased, including improvements in third grade literacy and high school Math I. The data also showed 58% of schools earned a School Performance Grade of an A, B or C.

“We experienced an increase in the percent of students achieving grade level proficiency and college and career readiness in most grade levels across all student groups in the school year 2022-23,” said Dr. Crystal Hill, CMS’s superintendent. “There is cause for celebration across many of our schools. We are proud that we increased the number of schools with a School Performance Grade of A, B, C and decreased the number of schools with a School Performance Grade of an F.”

The data released by the state revealed that 40 CMS schools improved their school letter grade. While 16 schools were removed from the state low performing list, 25 others were added. Low Performing Schools are those that receive a performance grade of D or F and do not exceed growth. The district did show some declines including a 0.7% downturn in the graduation rate, which many attribute to the year of remote learning and lack of testing.

Hill acknowledged continued room for improvement and expressed a commitment to deliver the needed support and resources necessary to ensure all CMS students exceed expected growth.

“The label of ‘Low Performing School’ that some of our schools received is not an indication or reflection of the potential of our students or the ability of our teachers and administrators. What it does signal is that we as a school system need to provide a comprehensive strategy of support and associated resources to the schools that need us the most going forward,” said Hill.

The 2023-24 school year kicked off for CMS on August 28, 2023. Hill and the CMS leadership team are determined to build on the momentum to show even better outcomes when data is next released in 2024.

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About Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is the 17th largest school district in the nation and the second largest in North Carolina. The district provides academic instruction and support to more than 142,000 students across Mecklenburg County. Serving students from 175 countries who speak 209 languages, as well as students with learning and physical disabilities, we offer an extensive number of options available to prepare students for college and career readiness, including 104 magnet programs in 71 schools and 21 career and technical education programs.

Our vision is to create an innovative, inclusive, student-centered environment that supports the development of independent learners. With a focus on ensuring all students reach their full potential, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools leads the community in educational excellence, inspiring intellectual curiosity, creativity and achievement.