



Dr. Brian Otott
Superintendent

Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

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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.