



Date: September 16, 2026
To: Granby Board of Education
From: Jennifer M. Parsons, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Subject: Summative State Testing Report Summary

Background Information

Each spring, in compliance with state and federal requirements, Granby Public Schools administers summative state assessments in English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, and science. These assessments—the Smarter Balanced Assessment (grades 3–8), the School Day SAT (grade 11), and the Next Generation Science Assessment (grades 5, 8, and 11)—provide a snapshot of student achievement and growth, used alongside curriculum-based data to inform instruction.

Results are analyzed at the district, school, grade, teacher, and student levels, and compared with statewide trends and neighboring districts. In 2023, the Connecticut School + State Finance Project revised the Demographic Reference Groups (DRGs), reclassifying Granby as a DRG C district along with East Granby, Suffield, Tolland, Region 7, and Region 10.

School Day SAT (Grade 11)

All high school juniors participate in one state-funded administration of the School Day SAT each March. Additional administrations taken independently are not included in district data. The assessment, now fully digital, emphasizes achievement and uses a leveled module system to adjust difficulty mid-test. Students receive scores in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (ERW) and Math, each out of 800 (1600 total). State benchmarks, also tied to graduation requirements, are 480 in ERW and 530 in Math.

In 2026, 76% of Granby students met the benchmark in ERW, with an average score of 546. While 4 points lower than 2025, this remains well above the state average of 55% proficiency (494) and ranks 4th in surrounding DRG B & C districts. In Math, 45% reached proficiency with an average score of 511, significantly higher than the state average of 31% (472). This placed Granby in the middle of the DRG C school performances.

PSAT data analysis has become a high school focus. The Class of 2027 showed strong growth in ERW, gaining 17 percentage points from their initial grade 9 PSAT to their grade 11 SAT. This monitoring work will continue for each graduating class. The Class of 2028 and 2029 are currently performing stronger than past cohorts on the PSAT.

Smarter Balanced Assessments (Grades 3–8)

Students at Wells Road and Granby Memorial Middle School take the Smarter Balanced Assessments in ELA and Math each spring. ELA assesses reading, writing, and listening. Math includes discrete problem-solving and an extended performance task. Tests are adaptive, adjusting question difficulty based on prior responses. Students receive scaled scores (2000–3000) and proficiency levels (1–4), with levels 3 and 4 considered proficient.

In 2026, 66% of students in grades 3–8 were proficient in ELA, a 3-point decrease from 2025. Third grade came in at 60% proficiency which is lower than previous cohorts and all other grade levels were within a few points of their previous scores. Over the course of testing in grades 3-8 students show overall growth of four to twenty-two points. Granby outperformed the state average of 51% and ranked 16th of 26 DRG C districts. The district looks forward to refining literacy instruction with the new elementary reading program.

In Math, 51% of students were proficient, down six points from 2025, while continuing to trend above the state average of 47%. Four of six grades performed above the district average, indicating two grades where additional support and analysis will be required. Efforts this year will emphasize stronger screening tools aligned to individualized practice and the application of skills to multi-step problems to build persistence and retention.

Next Generation Science Assessment (Grades 5, 8, 11)

The Next Generation Science Assessment, similar in format to Smarter Balanced, measures both science content and application of practices and concepts. In 2026, 69% of Granby students scored proficient, ranking 14th of 25 DRG C districts and well above the state average of 51%.

Summary

Granby saw an overall slight decrease in standardized testing scores across the board this year. In a district where the average grade contains around 130 students, the movement of 2 students equals about a 3% change. Dedicated efforts are being made to dive into the data at a student level to plan for instruction and intervention and to analyze target and claim level data to inform tier one classroom instruction. Granby consistently exceeds state averages and is competitive within DRG C. Goals within the strategic plan are expected to drive additional growth and include articulating a vision for high-quality teaching and learning, strengthening curriculum development and revision processes and stronger assessment practices.

Elementary students (K–5) will focus on applying their already strong discrete skills to application tasks and building the stamina and persistence to solve extended multistep problems. At the secondary level, a rejuvenated effort to analyze data at both the classroom and individual student level, as well as new intervention systems will further support achievement. Many students are just shy of meeting the performance expectation and focused efforts to monitor their progress and provide targeted support will impact overall achievement. Teachers and support staff will analyze student level data throughout the year with growth for all learners at the center of the conversation.