

November 15, 2022

Superintendent's Report





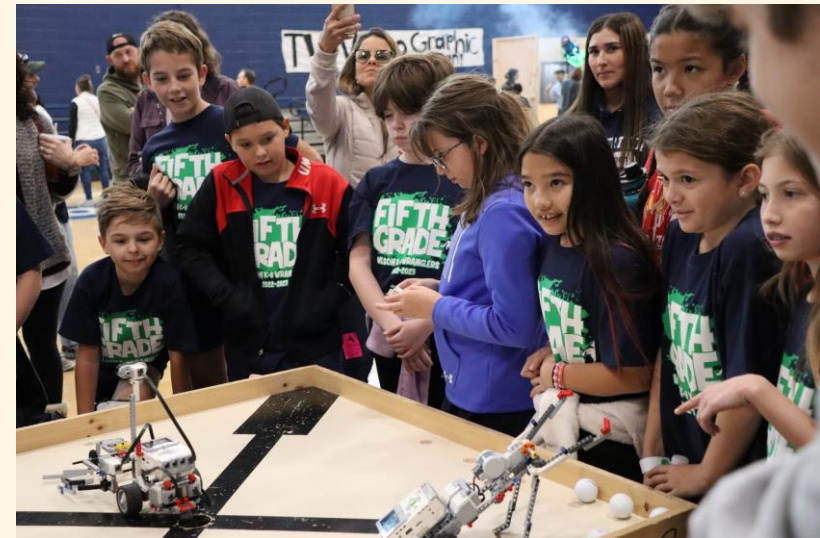
Around the Schools



Students at Donaldson Elementary School invited veterans from the community for a Veterans Day Breakfast last week. The students thanked the guests for their service and performed patriotic songs to express gratitude for the veterans and their families in attendance.



Around the Schools



Fifth-graders got a peek into the future at our “This is High School” events held at Amphi High (above), CDO (top right), and Ironwood Ridge (bottom right). The fifth-graders from throughout the District got a preview of what is in store for them in their future, with a specific focus on our wide variety of CTE programs.



Thank You!



About 280 of our Keeling Elementary students received a new pair of shoes and socks thanks to the National Shoe Retailers Association and their Soles4Souls program. Teachers at the school also received a gift certificate for a new pair of shoes! This was a wonderful event, and we are so grateful to the companies and organizations that made this possible.



Thank You!



Amphi Middle School students got new bikes over the weekend, thanks to Pantano Christian Church East and Tucson Bikes for Change. More than 65 children got free wheels and a helmet. Volunteers from local churches also spent time putting furniture together for the school as part of "Serve Our City", a community-wide service project.

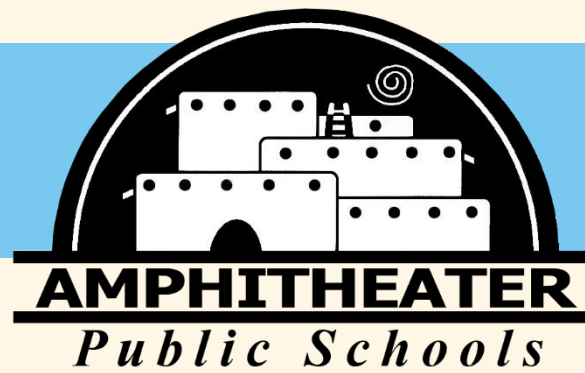


Thank You!



Thank you to the Amphi Foundation for their continued support of our children with their programs, including Shoes for Smiles. Shown above are students from La Cima Middle School, and at right are students from Prince Elementary School. Our Foundation has also recently supplied shoes for Rillito.





Review of the 2022 NAEP



Sources: NAEP; Edweek.org



National Test Data: Two Decades of Student Progress Lost; Scores at Historic Lows

- National Assessment of Educational Progress – given in Spring 2022, first time since pandemic began.
- Because states have individual assessments with different content and standards, it is impossible to use them as a means for comparing achievement between states.
- Referred to as “The Nation’s Report Card”, NAEP provides a common measure of student achievement across the country.
- There are no results for individual students, classrooms, or schools. NAEP does report results for different demographic groups, including gender socioeconomic status, and race/ethnicity.
- Approximately 110,000 students tested across the country – a broad cross-section and sampling.



NAEP Results and Data



- Academic declines were sweeping, affecting low-income and wealthier students, boys and girls, and most racial or ethnic groups in both subjects and grades.



- The average NAEP math score fell 5 points in 4th grade, to 236 out of 500, and in 8th grade fell 8 points, to 274 out of 500.



- Approximately one third of the Nation's students in Grades 4 and 8 cannot read at even the "basic" achievement level—the lowest level on the test.



- Eighth graders saw the steepest drops in Reading and Math.



- Historically, the top-performing 10 percent of math students held their ground, while the lowest-achieving students fell. This time, however, math achievement fell across every percentile, even for the highest performers.



- Graduation rates fell in at least 31 states for the class of 2021, and the latest graduating class of 2022 had historically low scores on college placement tests.

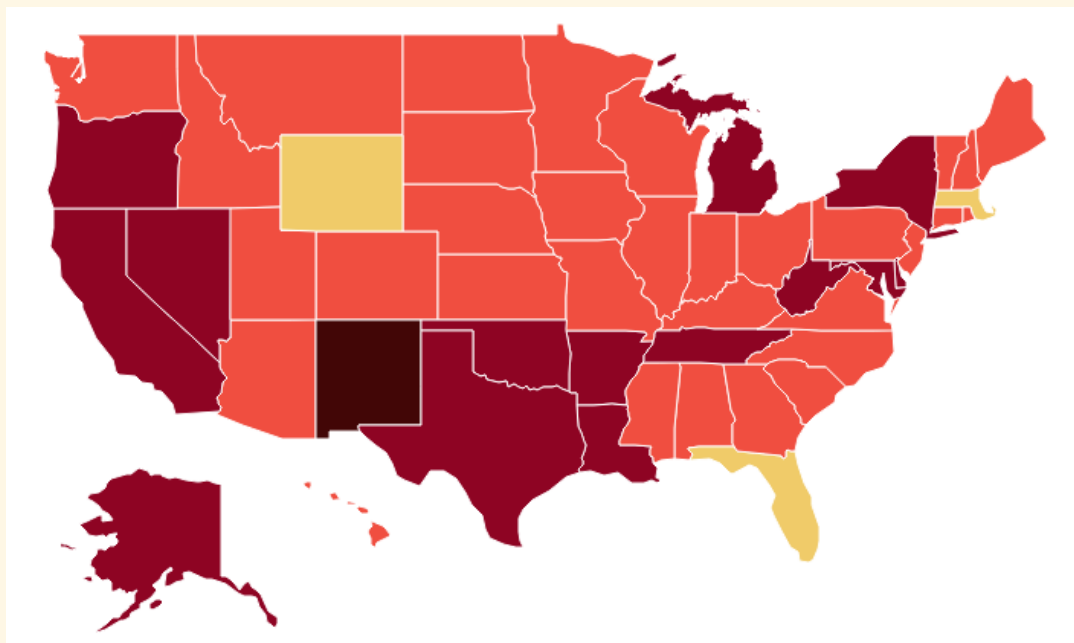




Reading: the Nation at a Glance

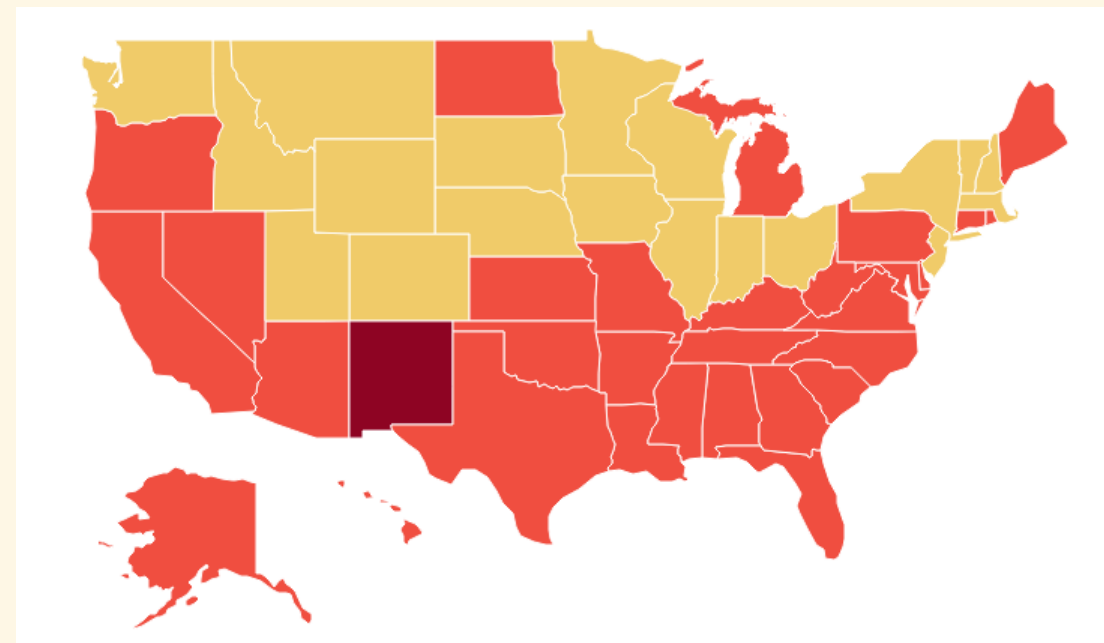


4th Grade Reading



● 21-30% ● 31-40% ● 41-50% ● 51%+

8th Grade Reading



● 21-30% ● 31-40% ● 41-50%

Percent of students scoring below “basic” (lowest) level by state.

4th Grade in AZ: 39% below basic, with average score of 215/500.
National avg. score: 236.

8th Grade in AZ: 32% below basic, with average score of 259/500.
National avg. score: 274

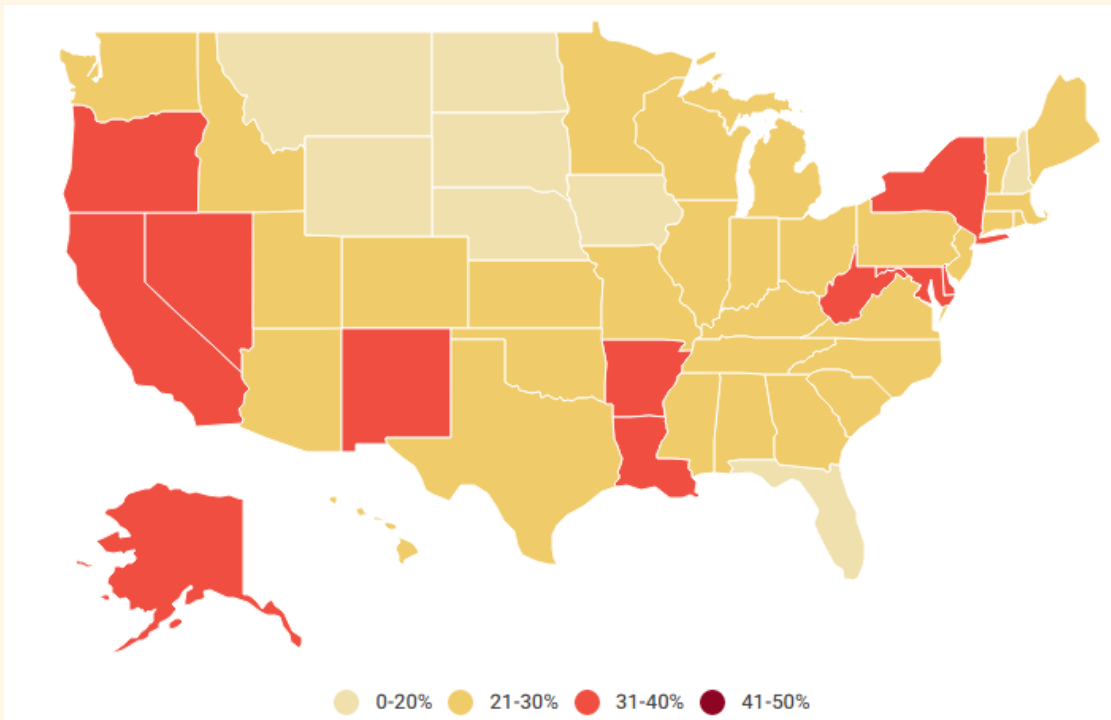




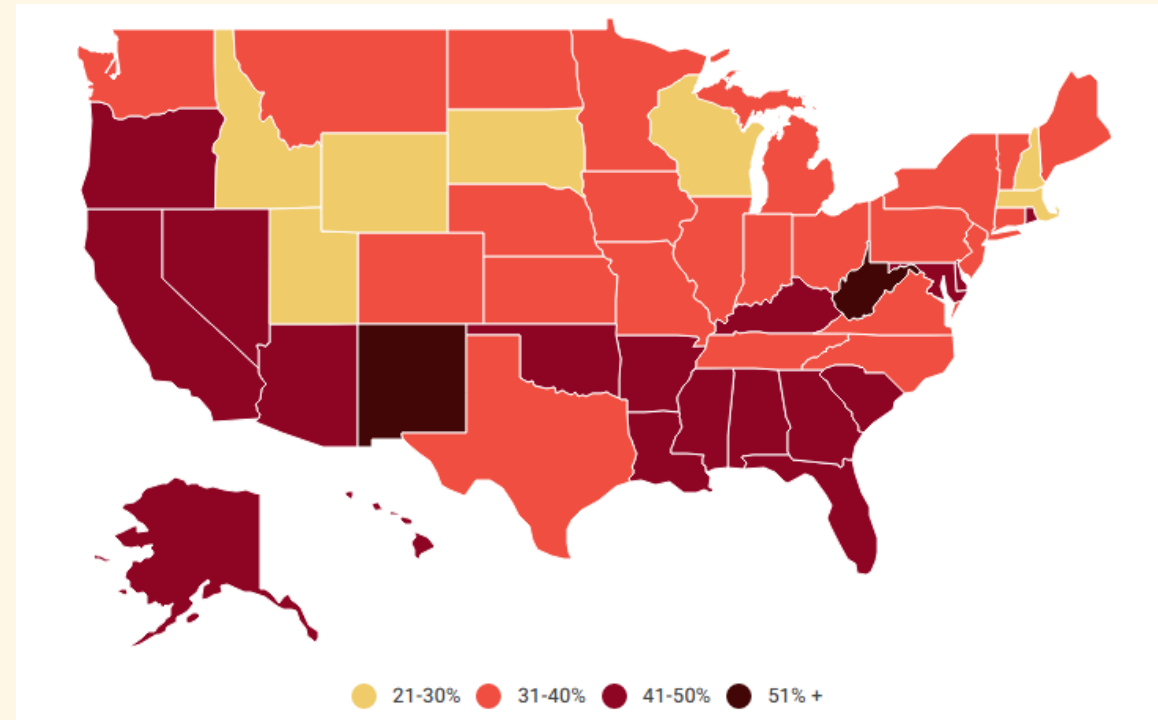
Math: the Nation/Arizona at a Glance



4th Grade Math



8th Grade Reading



Percent of students scoring below "basic" (lowest) level by state.

4th Grade in AZ: 30% below basic, with average score of 232/500.
National avg. score: 236.

8th Grade in AZ: 42% below basic, with average score of 271/500.
National avg. score: 274





Reading NAEP Results: 2 Big Takeaways

1. Reading results are grim, but not as bad as in math.
 - Not one of the 50 states improved reading in either grades 4 or 8.
2. Fewer than 1 in 3 of the nation's students read proficiently in either grade 4 or 8.
 - Only a third of 4th graders and 31 percent of 8th graders read at the proficient level in 2022 -- significantly fewer in both grades compared to pre-pandemic levels.
 - Students at the lower-performing level dropped even faster [than before the pandemic], and students at the higher-performing levels, who were holding steady before the pandemic or even improving, are also dropping.



Math NAEP Results: 3 Big Takeaways



1. No one improved in Math in 2022.

- Students in grades 4 and 8, low-income and wealthier students, boys and girls, students in every racial or ethnic group, and students with and without disabilities, in every region of the country, all stayed flat or regressed.
- Eighth graders in every kind of school—private, charter, and traditional public schools—lost ground in math, as did 4th graders in both kinds of public schools.



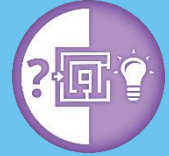
2. The results followed a previous trend.

- The pandemic was just a tipping point. Math scores have been falling for years, particularly for those in the lowest 10 percent to 25 percent of students.



3. There are more students now with severe needs in math.

- Only 37 percent of 4th graders and 27 percent of 8th graders are proficient in math.
- The share of advanced-level students fell from 9 percent to 8 percent in 4th grade and from 10 percent to 7 percent in 8th grade.





Amphi Students: Besting State in Multiple Measures



1. While Amphitheater students experienced declines in achievement like students all across the nation, our students' achievement, on average, generally exceeded that of the Arizona state average.



2. NWEA MAP shows that, compared to nearly 11 million other students who took the NWEA MAP, 61% of our students are performing at or above the average.



3. Amphitheater students, on average, grew more in Mathematics, **at all grade levels**, than the average across the state.

- Amphitheater student Math achievement improved by an average of 7% overall last year, compared to 2% growth across the state.
- Amphitheater's Grade 11 Math ACT scores were 11% higher than the Arizona state average.



4. Amphitheater students, on average, also grew more in English Language Arts (ELA) learning than the state average.

- Amphitheater students improved by an average of 5% last year, compared to 3% across the State of Arizona.
- Amphitheater's Grade 11 ACT scores for ELA were 7% higher than the state average.



5. Amphitheater's Grade 11 ACT scores not only outperformed the state average, but also outperformed those of our local peer districts in Pima County (districts having similar socio-economic learning profiles).





Progress for Students Reflected in School Grades

- 10 of our schools received “A” labels from the State of Arizona this year, based upon last year’s student achievement measures – more than ever before in the history of the label system.
- 6 of our schools received “B” labels from the State of Arizona – some missing “A” labels by just a few points.
- 5 of our schools received “C” labels from the State of Arizona – some missing “B” labels by just a few points.



Future Study: Detailed Analysis of Data and Direction



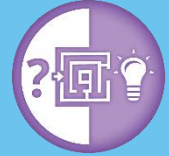
- Having reviewed this groundwork this evening, we will be bringing detailed analysis of student achievement to the Governing Board in January.



- We will also review the course and direction of the work which continues to build upon these relative successes for the benefit of our students and community.



- We thank our educators for everything they have done and continue to do to propel our students forward.



- And, we thank our community for their continued faith and support as we move this District forward.

