# **Duluth Public Schools**Committee of the Whole

# Supporting Every Student: Accountability

September 4, 2025

### **OUR MISSION**

Every student, every day will be empowered with learning opportunities for growth, creativity and curiosity, in preparation for their future in a global community.

#### **OUR VISION**

Duluth Public Schools provides an academically engaging, safe and inclusive environment with high expectations and responsible use of resources.

### **OUR CORE VALUES**

#### Learning



Developing a love of learning through lifelong inquiry.

#### Excellence



Having high standards for all through accountability, integrity and authenticity.

### Equity



Creating conditions of justice, fairness and inclusion so all students have access to the opportunities to learn and develop to their fullest potential.

#### Collaboration



Working in partnership with staff, families, students and community.

### Belonging



Providing a welcoming and accessible environment where everyone feels safe, seen and heard.

## Today, we will be presenting and discussing information pertaining to:

**State & Local Assessments Results** 

&

North Star Accountability Identification



### STATE ASSESSMENT

# Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs)



### 2025 Reading MCA: By Grade & Overall

3rd, 6th, & 8th grades made gains on MCA Reading from 2024 to 2025...

M		ng: By G VS 2025	rade
Grade	2024	2025	Increase or
3	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	Decrease
3rd	47.7%	50.8%	3.1%
4th	54.1%	52.6%	-1.5%
5th	68.8%	66.0%	-2.8%
6th	58.9%	61.5%	2.6%
7th	53.6%	53.1%	-0.5%
8th	51.2%	52.2%	1.0%
10th	63.3%	53.8%	-9.5%
ALL	56.8%	55.7%	-1.1%

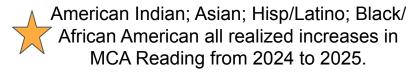
	eading: By uluth Com		
	Duluth	MN	
Grade	2025	2025	Comparison
	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	
3rd	50.8%	46.1%	4.7%
4th	52.6%	46.3%	6.3%
5th	66.0%	57.1%	8.9%
6th	61.5%	54.1%	7.4%
7th	53.1%	46.2%	6.9%
8th	52.2%	46.0%	6.2%
10th	53.8%	51.3%	2.5%
ALL	55.7%	49.6%	6.1%

All grades are above the state average in reading... every grade!

### **2025 Reading MCA:** State Race / Ethnicity

MCA Readir	ng: State Ra 2024 VS 20		ity
State Race /	Duluth 2024	Duluth 2025	Comparison
Ethnicity	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	
American Indian	33.7%	35.5%	1.8%
Asian	74.4%	77.5%	3.1%
Hispanic or Latino	56.6%	57.1%	0.5%
Black or African Am	17.6%	20.8%	3.2%
Two or More Races	42.9%	39.4%	-3.5%
White	61.6%	60.5%	-1.1%

MCA Readi Dulut	ng: State R h Compare		ity
	Duluth	MN	
State Race /	2025	2025	Comparison
Ethnicity	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	
American Indian	35.5%	33.1%	2.4%
Asian	77.5%	44.4%	33.1%
Hispanic or Latino	57.1%	28.7%	28.4%
Black or African Am	20.8%	31.0%	-10.2%
Two or More Races	39.4%	50.4%	-11.0%
White	60.5%	58.7%	1.8%





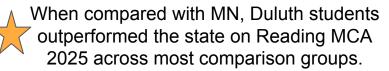
Duluth students outperformed MN on average on Reading MCA 2025: American Indian; Asian; Hispanic/Latino; White.

### **2025 Reading MCA:** Comparison Groups

MCA Reading: 2024	Compariso VS 2025	on Groups	3
	Duluth	Duluth	
Comparison Groups	2024	2025	Comparison
	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	
Special Education	24.8%	24.8%	0.0%
Not Special Education	51.9%	63.7%	11.8%
Free or Reduced Meals	38.1%	37.3%	-0.8%
Not Free/Reduced Meals	58.6%	66.6%	8.0%
English Learner (EL)	31.7%	28.2%	-3.5%
Not English Learner (EL)	46.8%	56.0%	9.2%

	Duluth	MN	
Comparison Groups	2025	2025	Comparison
2.0	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	
Special Education	24.8%	25.1%	-0.3%
Not Special Education	63.7%	54.6%	9.1%
Free or Reduced Meals	37.3%	32.6%	4.7%
Not Free/Reduced Meals	66.6%	61.1%	5.5%
English Learner (EL)	28.2%	9.9%	18.3%
Not English Learner (EL)	56.0%	54.4%	1.6%

Some comparison groups had significant gains from 2024 to 2025: Not Spec Ed; Not Free/Reduced Meals; Not EL.



### **2025 Reading MCA:** By Cohorts

		Stowe		Му	ers-Wilki	ins	Laui	ra MacAr	thur	1	Piedmon	t	Coi	ngdon P	ark
	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort
´25 3rd		14.7%			40.4%			31.5%			50.0%			64.7%	
'24 3rd to '25 4th	26.3%	32.4%	6.1%	17.0%	20.4%	3.4%	25.6%	34.1%	8.5%	37.3%	63.9%	26.6%	59.8%	64.6%	4.8%
'24 4th to '25 5th	30.6%	45.9%	15.3%	12.5%	20.9%	8.4%	24.4%	36.4%	12.0%	42.6%	58.8%	16.2%	74.7%	89.0%	14.3%
Overall		31.5%			27.8%			33.8%			57.6%			73.9%	

	Lowe	II ENG/O	jibwe	L	.akewoo	d	Н	lomecro	ft	L	ester Pa	rk	Lov	vell Spar	nish
	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort	2024	2025	Cohort
´25 3rd		40.0%			74.0%			60.3%			57.3%			52.5%	
'24 3rd to '25 4th	37.2%	45.5%	8.3%	72.9%	63.0%	-9.9%	68.1%	57.5%	-10.6%	61.0%	61.5%	0.5%	43.1%	55.1%	12.0%
'24 4th to '25 5th	52.9%	57.4%	4.5%	73.7%	84.6%	10.9%	65.4%	81.8%	16.4%	66.3%	75.0%	8.7%	59.6%	65.2%	5.6%
Overall		47.7%			73.3%			66.8%	*		65.0%			57.1%	

	All Elementary				
	2024 2025		Cohort		
'25 3rd		50.1%			
'24 3rd to '25 4th	47.7%	52.6%	4.9%		
'24 4th to '25 5th	54.1%	66.2%	12.1%		
Overall		56.3%			

90% of the elem cohorts (4th & 5th grades) had growth in reading!

= Double Digit Growth

### 2025 Math MCA: By Grade & Overall

3rd, 6th, & 7th grades made gains on MCA Math from 2024 to 2025...

ľ	MCA Math: 2024 V	: By Grad 'S 2025	е
Grade	2024	2025	Increase or
	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	Decrease
3rd	57.8%	59.1%	1.3%
4th	58.0%	57.1%	-0.9%
5th	50.2%	45.4%	-4.8%
6th	36.8%	37.2%	0.4%
7th	38.8%	43.1%	4.3%
8th	45.0%	37.5%	-7.5%
11th	37.5%	33.7%	-3.8%
ALL	46.9%	45.1%	-1.8%

MCA Math: By Grade & Overall Duluth Compared to MN								
	Duluth	MN						
Grade	2025	2025	Comparison					
	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds						
3rd	59.1%	57.9%	1.2%					
4th	57.1%	55.6%	1.5%					
5th	45.4%	42.9%	2.5%					
6th	37.2%	40.1%	-2.9%					
7th	43.1%	40.9%	2.2%					
8th	37.5%	41.9%	-4.4%					
11th	33.7%	35.0%	-1.3%					
ALL	45.1%	45.2%	-0.1%					

3rd, 4th, 5th, & 7th grades outperformed the state on average in math...

### **2025 Math MCA:** State Race / Ethnicity

MCA Math: State Race / Ethnicity 2024 VS 2025								
	Duluth	Duluth						
State Race /	2024	2025	Comparison					
Ethnicity	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds						
American Indian	19.8%	18.0%	-1.8%					
Asian	79.5%	71.8%	-7.7%					
Hispanic or Latino	48.6%	43.1%	-5.5%					
Black or African Am	9.0%	13.1%	4.1%					
Two or More Races	29.8%	27.9%	-1.9%					
White	51.9%	50.4%	-1.5%					

	n: State Rad n Compare		/
	Duluth	MN	
State Race /	2025	2025	Comparison
Ethnicity	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	
American Indian	18.0%	24.9%	-6.9%
Asian	71.8%	43.1%	28.7%
Hispanic or Latino	43.1%	22.4%	20.7%
Black or African Am	13.1%	22.5%	-9.4%
Two or More Races	27.9%	43.6%	-15.7%
White	50.4%	55.4%	-5.0%



Black / African American students realized a 4.1% increase in MCA Math from 2024 to 2025.



Duluth Asian and Hispanic/Latino students outperformed MN on average on Math MCA 2025.

### **2025 Math MCA:** Comparison Groups

MCA Math: Comparison Groups 2024 VS 2025				
	Duluth	Duluth		
Comparison Groups	2024	2025	Comparison	
	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds		
Special Education	23.4%	20.1%	-3.3%	
Not Special Education	51.9%	51.6%	-0.3%	
Free or Reduced Meals	28.8%	26.4%	-2.4%	
Not Free/Reduced Meals	58.6%	56.1%	-2.5%	
English Learner (EL)	35.7%	37.1%	1.4%	
Not English Learner (EL)	46.8%	45.2%	-1.6%	

	Duluth	MN	
Comparison Groups	2025	2025	Comparison
	% Meets + Exceeds	% Meets + Exceeds	27 28
Special Education	20.1%	24.3%	-4.2%
Not Special Education	51.6%	49.5%	2.1%
Free or Reduced Meals	26.4%	26.5%	-0.1%
Not Free/Reduced Meals	56.1%	57.8%	-1.7%
English Learner (EL)	37.1%	12.6%	24.5%
Not English Learner (EL)	45.2%	49.2%	-4.0%



English Learners made gains in math from 2024 to 2025.

When compared with MN, Duluth students not qualified for special education and ELL students outperformed the state on Math MCA 2025.

### LOCAL ASSESSMENT

**FastBridge** 





### FastBridge: Kindergarten

Early R	eading Engl	ish Compons	site
Percent of	K Meeting E	xpected Benc	hmark
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	51.3%	35.5%	-15.8%
2022-2023	53.4%	38.9%	-14.5%
2023-2024	57.2%	46.2%	-11.0%
2024-2025	59.8%	44.7%	-15.1%
Avg Over 4 Yrs	55.4%	41.3%	-14.1%

Su	bskill - Lett	ers Sounds	
Percent of	K Meeting E	xpected Benc	hmark
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	38.9%	36.0%	-2.9%
2022-2023	34.6%	44.8%	10.2%
2023-2024	47.9%	54.3%	6.4%
2024-2025	46.5%	52.3%	5.8%
Avg Over 4 Yrs	42.0%	46.9%	4.9%

Ea	rly Math Co	mponsite	
Percent of K	Meeting E	xpected Bend	chmark
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	-2022 65.9%	67.9%	2.0%
2022-2023	65.5%	66.6%	1.1%
2023-2024	73.2%	67.0%	-6.2%
2024-2025	72.1%	68.8%	-3.3%
Avg Over 4 Yrs	69.2%	67.6%	-1.6%

Sub-skill screening assessment letter sound per minute for fluency is a predictor for future successful reading skills.

### FastBridge: 1st Grade

ading Eng	lish Compos	site
G Meeting	Expected Be	nchmark
Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
29.6%	45.8%	16.2%
36.6%	53.6%	17.0%
34.2%	52.2%	18.0%
38.4%	47.9%	9.5%
34.7%	49.9%	15.2%
	Fall 29.6% 36.6% 34.2% 38.4%	29.6% 45.8% 36.6% 53.6% 34.2% 52.2% 38.4% 47.9%

Ea	rly Math C	omposite	
Percent of 1st	G Meeting	Expected Be	nchmark
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	63.1%	65.0%	1.9%
2022-2023	66.5%	71.0%	4.5%
2023-2024	69.0%	67.2%	-1.8%
2024-2025	69.9%	62.2%	-7.7%
Avg Over 4 Yrs	67.1%	66.4%	-0.8%

### FastBridge: 2nd Grade

	Fast aRe	ading	
Percent of 2nd	G Meeting	Expected Be	enchmark
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	43.5%	56.2%	12.7%
2022-2023	47.6%	57.0%	9.4%
2023-2024	51.5%	58.0%	6.5%
2024-2025	54.6%	58.5%	3.9%
Avg Over 4 Yrs	49.3%	57.4%	8.1%

	Fast all	1ath	
Percent of 2n	d G Meeting	Expected Be	nchmark
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	59.2%	61.7%	2.5%
2022-2023	62.8%	63.3%	0.5%
2023-2024	62.1%	64.2%	2.1%
2024-2025	63.2%	61.5%	-1.7%
Avg Over 4 Yrs	61.8%	62.7%	0.8%

## North Star Accountability





### **North Star Accountability**

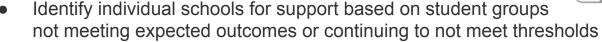
### Overarchingly...

MN North Star system designed to fulfill requirements of federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Signed into law December 2015

#### Identification

- Identification occurs every 3 years
  - o **2025-2026: Year 1** in current cycle
  - Next identification August 2028



#### As a side note...

North Star Accountability uses complicated calculations for reporting data. Hence, data
accessed through "North Star", as cited on MDE Report Card, will not equal the basic data
reported for general year to year proficiency (students meeting or exceeding the standards on
MCAs for math, reading, or consistent attendance).





### **North Star Accountability**

### 3 Stages: Identification Process

### Stage 1

- Math Achievement
- Reading Achievement
- Progress Toward English Language (EL) Proficiency

### • Stage 2

- Math Progress (elem/middle schools)
- Reading Progress (elem/middle schools)
- 4 & 7 year grad rates (high schools)

#### Stage 3

Consistent Attendance

### 2 Types of Support for Schools

#### **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)**

- Title I schools performing in lowest 5% in MN
- High schools 4-year grad rate below 67% overall or for any student group
- Schools where same student group performs below thresholds for at least one indicator in each stage for two identification cycles in a row

#### Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)

 Schools where one or more student groups are performing at or below thresholds for at least one indicator in each stage

#### Non-Exit

- CSI or TSI schools that have not yet met the exit criteria from a previous identification cycle.
- District will provide support for all levels for 2025-2026.
- District level support will come from \*COMPASS through the NorthEast Service Cooperative (MDE).

\*COMPASS = Collaborative Minnesota Partnerships to Advance Student Success (statewide system of continuous improvement)

School	2025			
School	Support Level	Student Group	Reason	
Myers-Wilkins		American Indian	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
		Black/ African American	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
		2 or More Races	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
	Targeted		Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
			Below performance thresholds in each of the last 3 yrs on at least 1 indicator per stage	
			Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
		Spec Ed	Below performance thresholds in each of the last 3 yrs on at least 1 indicator per stage	
		White	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
		Overall	Lowest 5% of Title I Schools	
	Comprehensive	Black	Continue - did not meet thresholds	
		Spec Ed	Continue - did not meet thresholds	
Congdon	Comprehensive	Spec Ed	Did not meet exit criteria	

Non-exit

Non-exit

Non-exit

School			2025	
	Support Level	Student Group	Reason	
	Targeted	Spec Ed	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
		Spec Ed	Multi-yr avg below thresholds; at least 1 indicator per stage; last 2 cycles	
Laura MacArthur Comprehe	Comprehensive	Free/Reduced	Multi-yr avg below thresholds; at least 1 indicator per stage; last 2 cycles	
		2 or More	Multi-yr avg below thresholds; at least 1 indicator per stage; last 2 cycles	
	Targeted	Spec Ed	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
Stowe Comprehensive		Spec Ed	Did not meet exit criteria	Non-exi
	Free/Reduced	Did not meet exit criteria	Non-exi	
Piedmont	Targeted	American Ind	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
Pleamont	Comprehensive	Spec Ed	Did not meet exit criteria	Non-exi
Lowell	Targeted	American Ind	Multi-yr avg below thresholds on at least 1 indicator per stage	
ENG/Ojibwe	Comprehensive	Spec Ed	Did not meet exit criteria	Non-exi
ALC Independent Study	Comprehensive	Overall	4 Yr Grad Rate	





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