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District students showing improvements, high achievement

WHITE BEAR LAKE, Minn. – The release of the 2010 MCA-II results, state mandated tests in reading and mathematics, show that students in District 624 continue to improve and score above the state averages. Especially impressive is a gain of nearly 6 percentage points in math.

“In recent years the district scores have shown annual increases. For 2010, we see a more dramatic rise in mathematics,” said Superintendent Michael Lovett. “The positive results we are seeing are the product of the tremendous commitment shown by students, staff members and parents. The supportive communities at our schools are helping students improve and achieve.”

District students’ math results have improved 5.9 percentage points, more than twice the growth shown at the state level. At 71%, the District results are nearly 6 percentage points above the state average in math and are up from previous years. White Bear Lake Area Schools’ proficiency was 60% in 2006 and the mid-60s in more recent years. District students’ reading results are more than 3 percentage points above the state average.

Highlights in the testing data include:

- Birch Lake Elementary had one of the largest school gains in the state in math with proficiency of 86%, up 34.3 percentage points from 51.7% in 2009. The school community facilitated new initiatives focused on student success, including goal-setting conferences, working with parents, and setting targets for student achievement.
- A more rigorous elementary math curriculum implemented during the 2009-10 school year contributed to large gains in math scores. At the middle level, 2009-10 was the first year of the District’s Project Lead the Way STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) initiative. In 2010-11 the middle school will begin a new math curriculum and will expand Project Lead the Way. Increases in District high school reading and math scores were positively influenced by the change to the six period day schedule in which students receive additional time in core subject areas.
- District tenth grade reading proficiency is higher than 80% for the first time, with an increase of 1.4 percentage points from last year to 80.5% in 2010. Since 2007, White Bear Lake Area High School - North Campus scores have improved 15.5 percentage points.

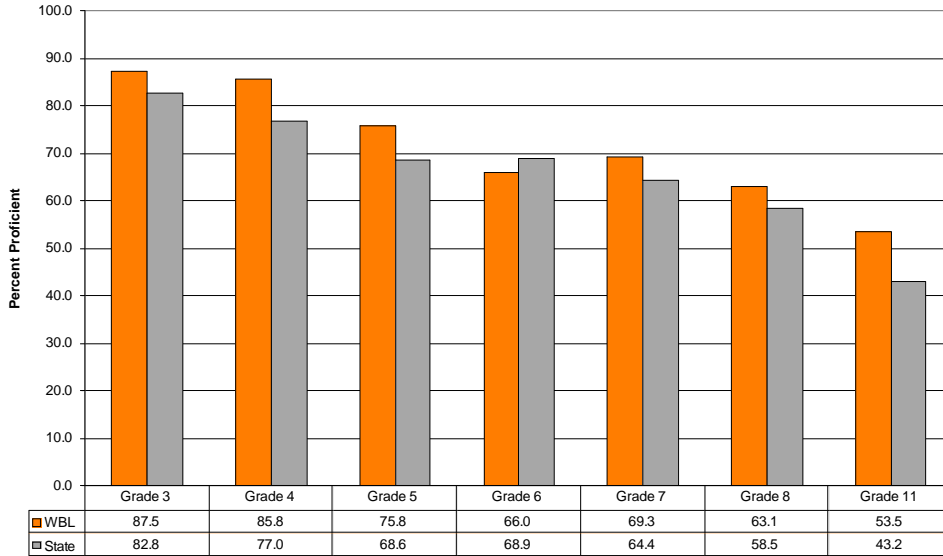
The District will continue to examine those teaching strategies, student support programs, and collaborations with parents that yield the greatest success for students. The information, along with other data and student assessments, will be used to continue to improve instruction and learning for White Bear Lake Area Schools students.

In the fall, the district will send an Annual Report to the Community that highlights measures of student success, including MCA-II and MAP tests, ACT/SAT results, and classroom assessments.

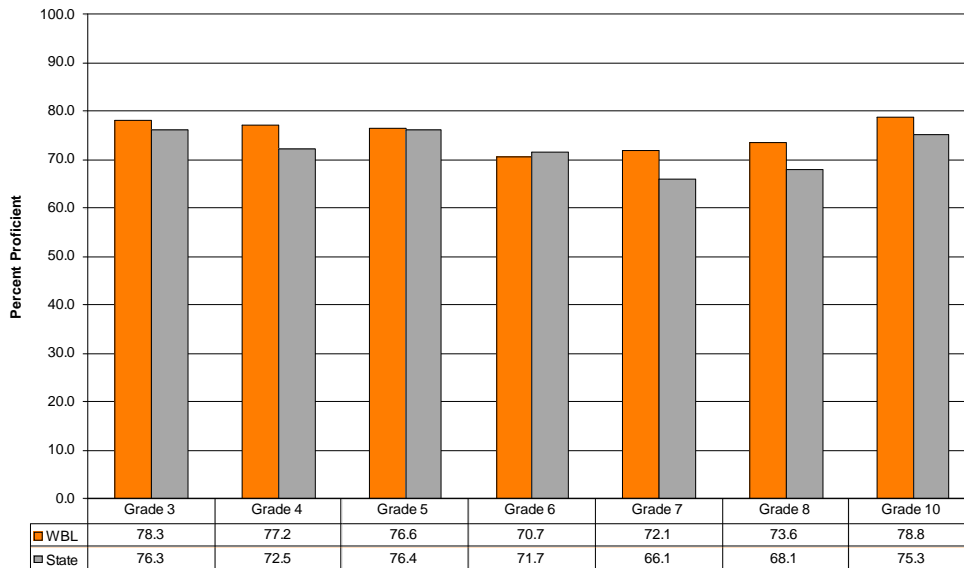
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MCA-II Data 2010

2010 MCA-II Mathematics
Percent of Students Proficient



2010 MCA-II Reading
Percent of Students Proficient



MAP End-of-Year Data 2010

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) 2009-2010 School Year
Percent of Expected Growth

