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PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

**Charter Schools Division
Renewal Application Part A
August 19, 2022**

School Name: New Mexico Connections Academy (NMCA)

School Address: 130 Siringo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505

Head Administrator: Sandy Beery

Governing Board Chair: Senator Mark Boitano

Business Manager: Ashley Woodard

Authorized Grade Levels: 4-12

Authorized Enrollment: 2,000

Current Enrollment: 1,297

Contract Term: 2018-2023

Mission: The mission of New Mexico Connections Academy is to help each 4–12th grade student, throughout the state of New Mexico who needs an alternative to the traditional classroom, maximize his or her potential and meet the highest performance standards through a uniquely individualized learning programs, access to high quality NM-certified teachers, and high parental involvement.

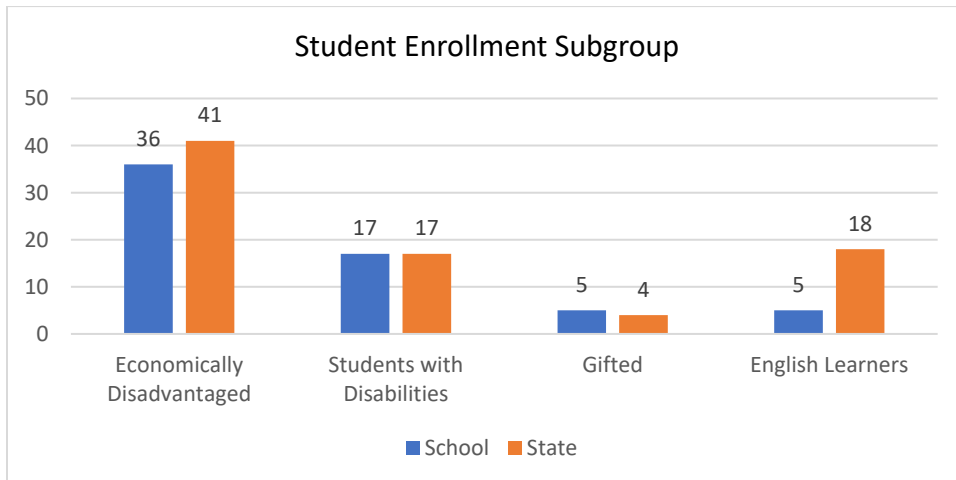
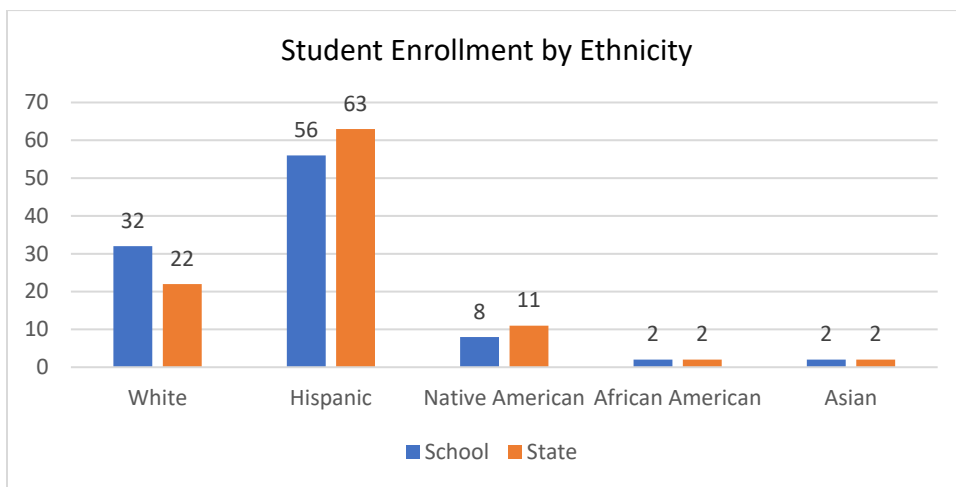
Educational Program of School as written in the contract:

- i. NMCA will be a virtual school serving students statewide.
- ii. The primary building blocks of NMCA’s instructional approach will be individualized instruction through a personalized learning plan (PLP) and active parental involvement.
- iii. NMCA will provide a STEM Academy. The STEM Academy will consist of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics courses. Lessons and activities may include but are not limited to field trips, guest speakers, and community service opportunities.

Amendments approved in last four years:

PEC Meeting Date	Amendment Request	Approved
09/21/2018	Change in Head Administrator	Yes
11/16/2018	Change in GB (designation)	Yes
11/16/2018	Change in Head Administrator	Yes
05/10/2019	Change in Head Administrator	Yes
04/17/2020	Change in Business Manager	Yes
07/20/2020	School Location	Yes

Demographics



Academic Performance

State Accountability System:

State and federal statute mandates accountability for all public schools. This section provides a snapshot of the school’s academic performance according to data collected by the Public Education Department (PED) for the first four years of the charter’s contract.

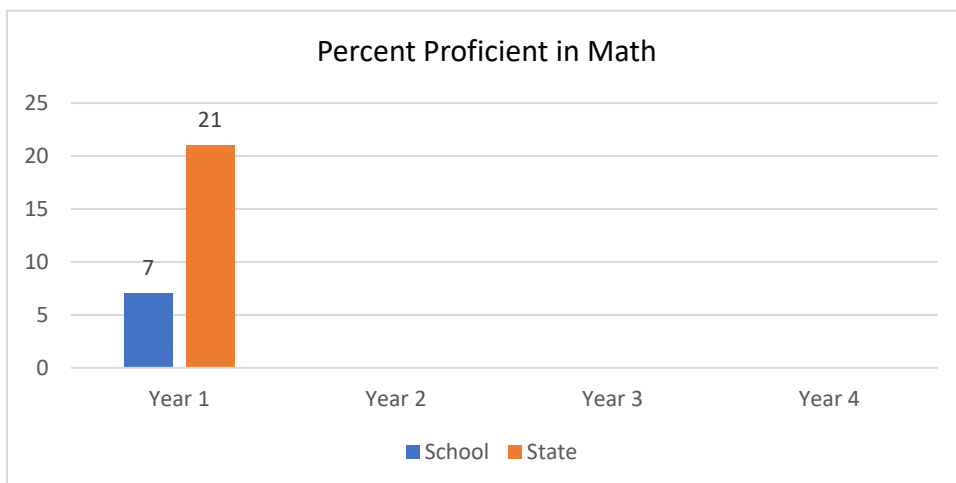
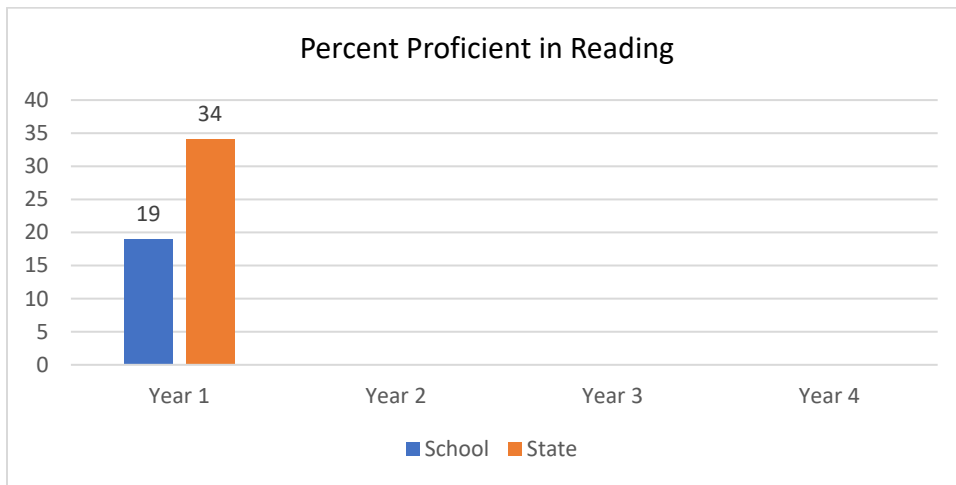
Schools with an overall score that places them in the top 25% of schools in the state are awarded the Spotlight designation. Schools that score in the top 10% for any individual measure in the accountability system are awarded a Designation of Excellence (DOE) for that measure.

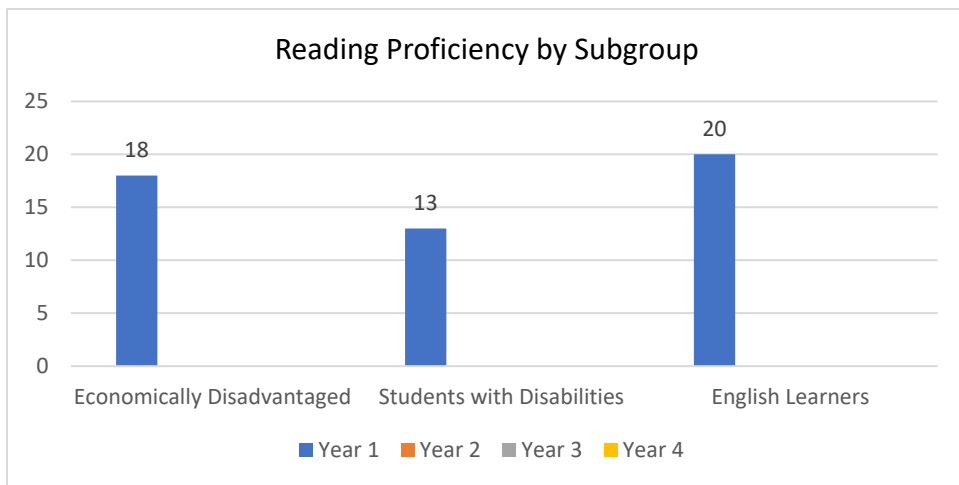
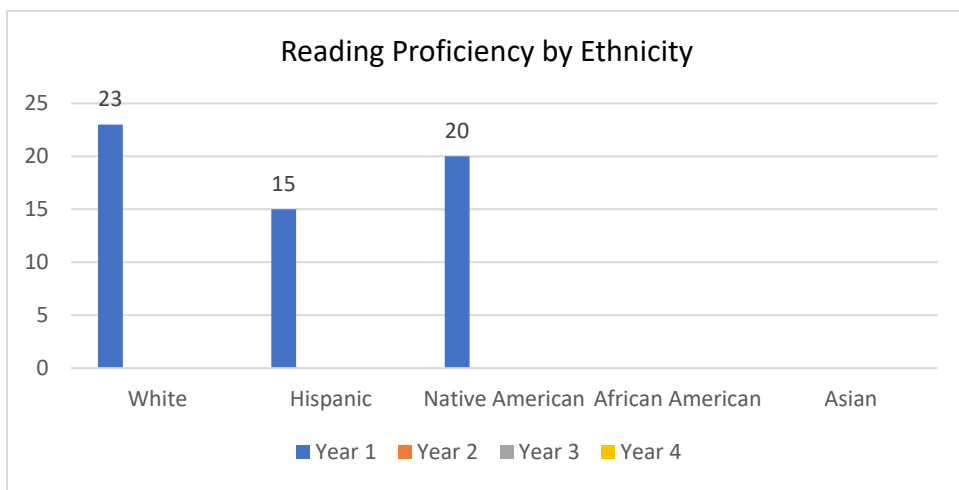
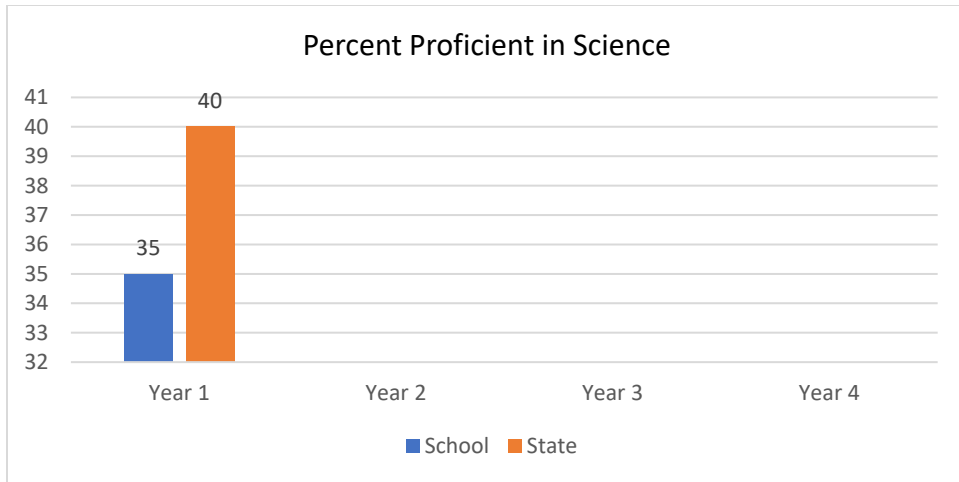
Accountability data are not available for Years 2-3 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Data for Year 4 will be available August 31, 2022, and an updated revision of this document incorporating those data will be provided to schools on September 2, 2022.

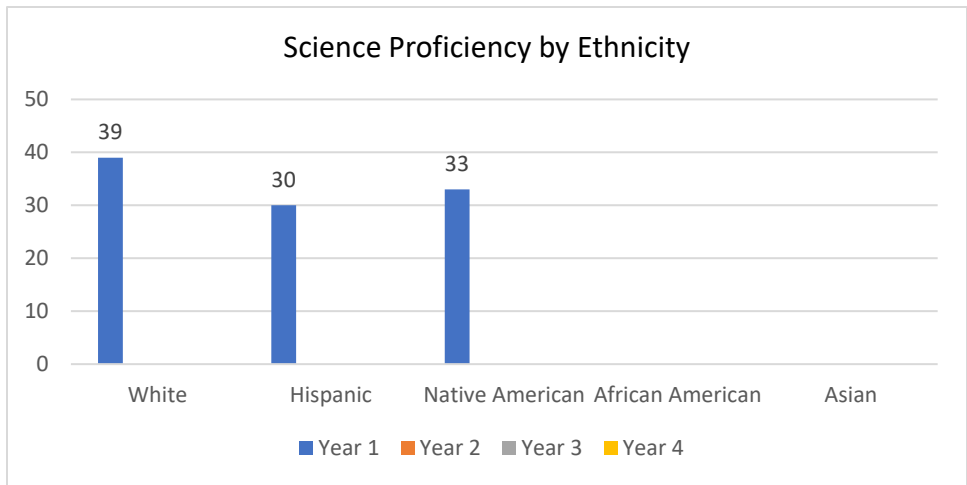
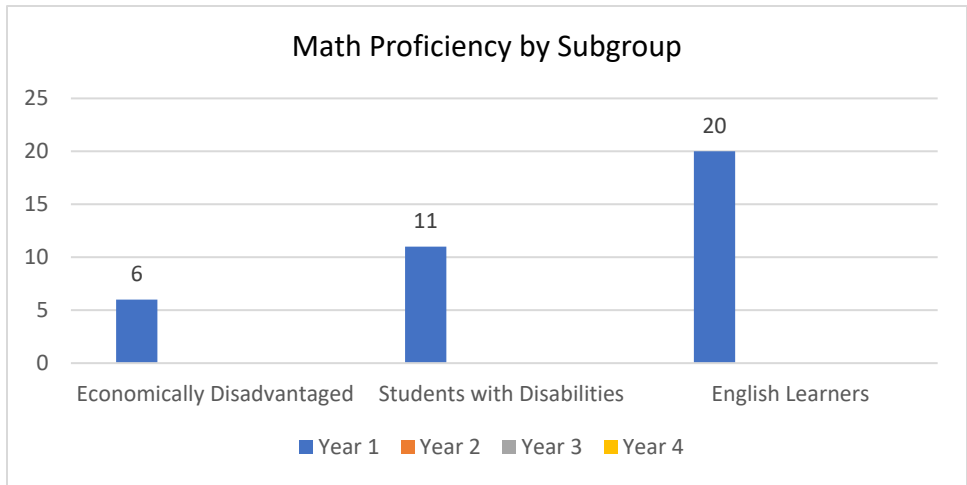
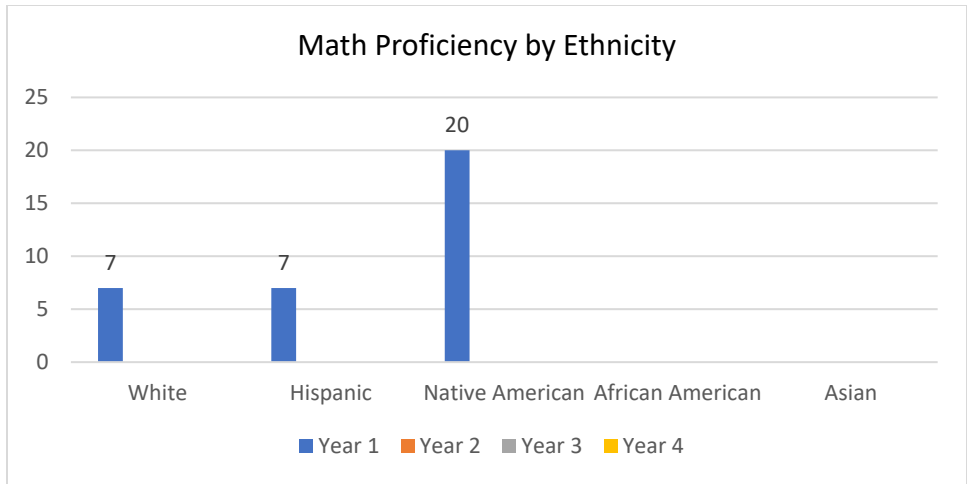
Overall Standing:

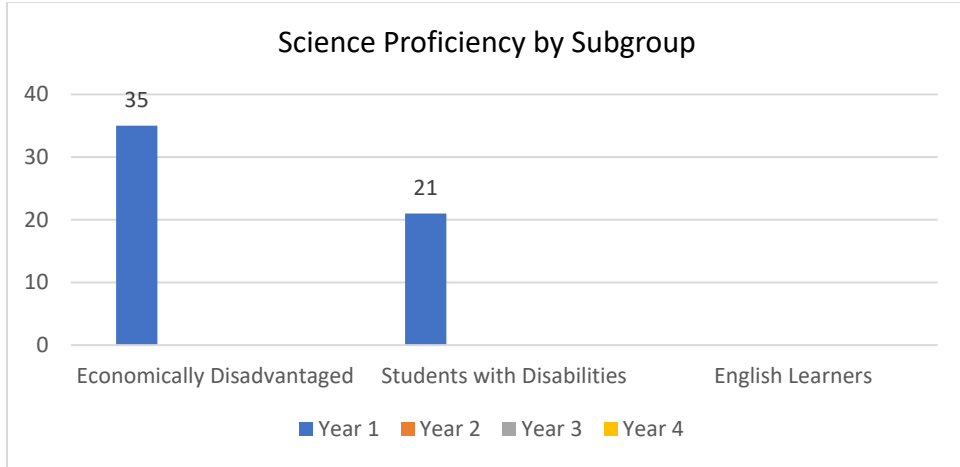
Contract Year	School Year	Overall Standing	Designations	Academic Data Available
Year 1	2018-19	35	Targeted Support & Improvement	Data provided
Year 2	2019-20			Data not available
Year 3	2020-21			Data not available
Year 4	2021-22			Data available 8/31/22

Proficiency:

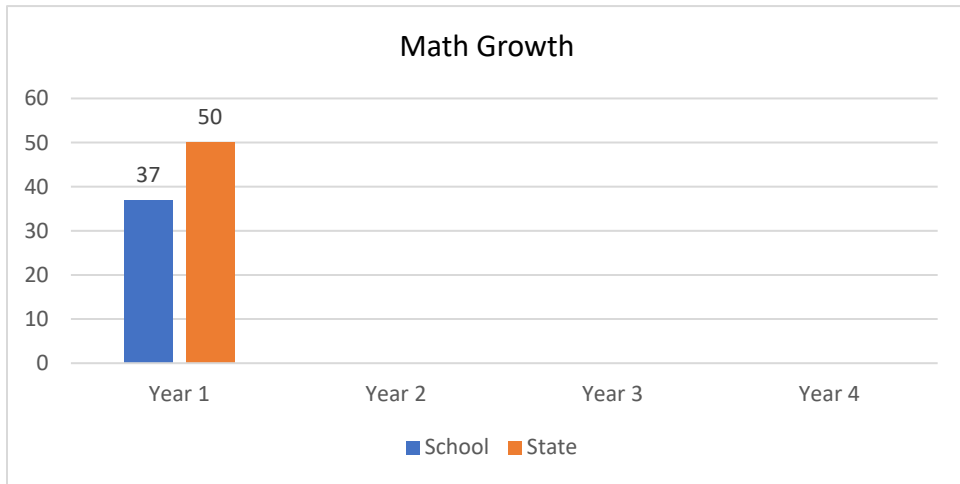
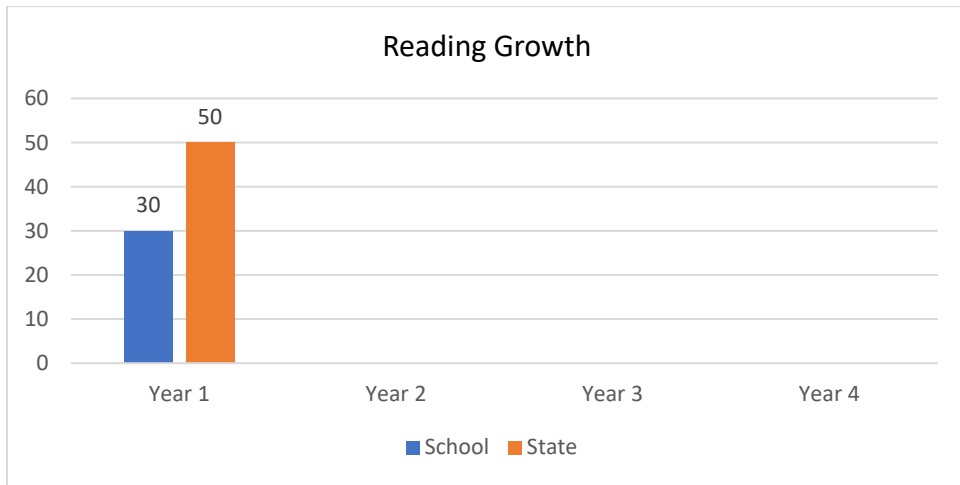




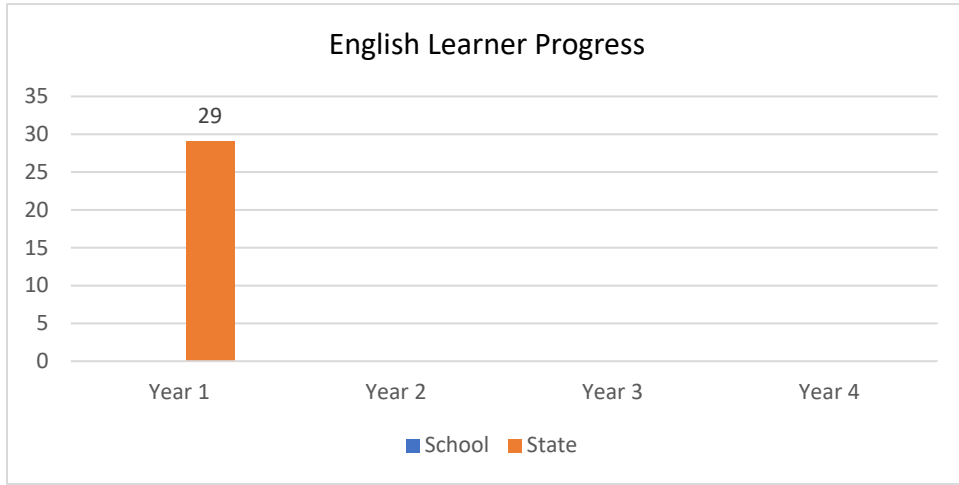




Academic Growth:

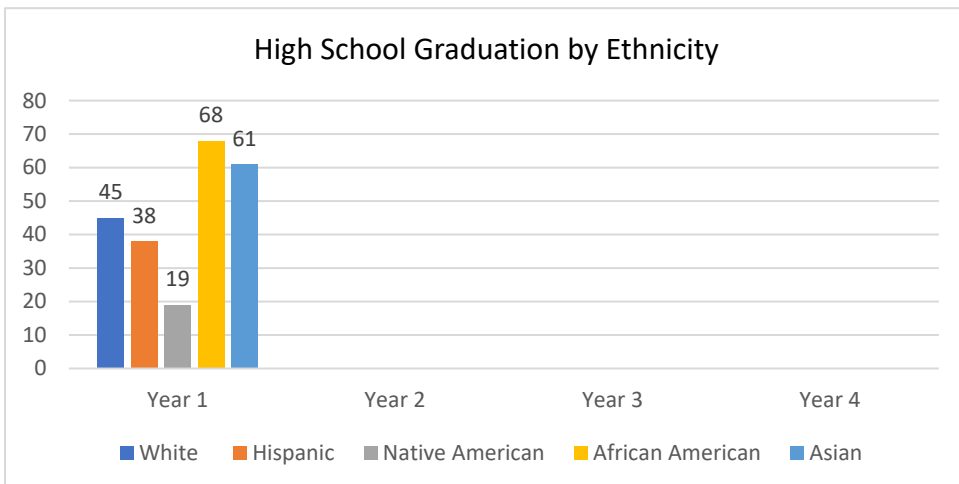
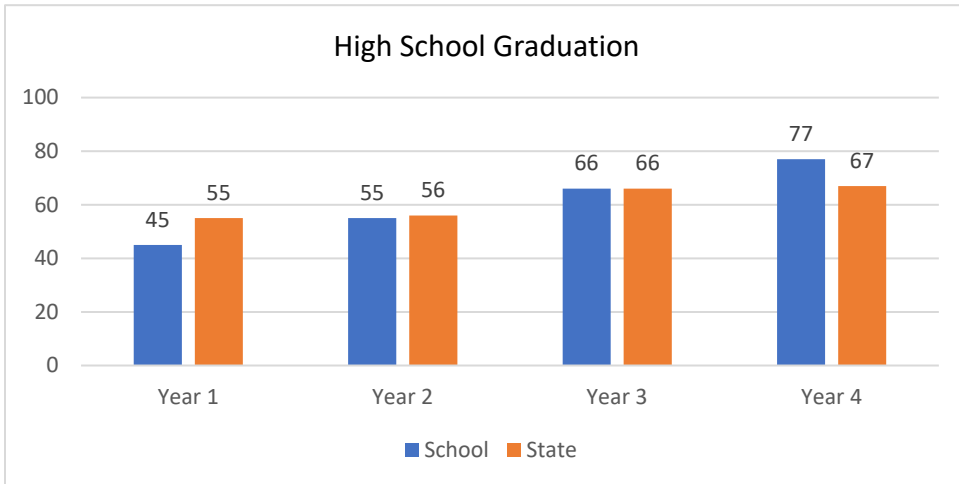


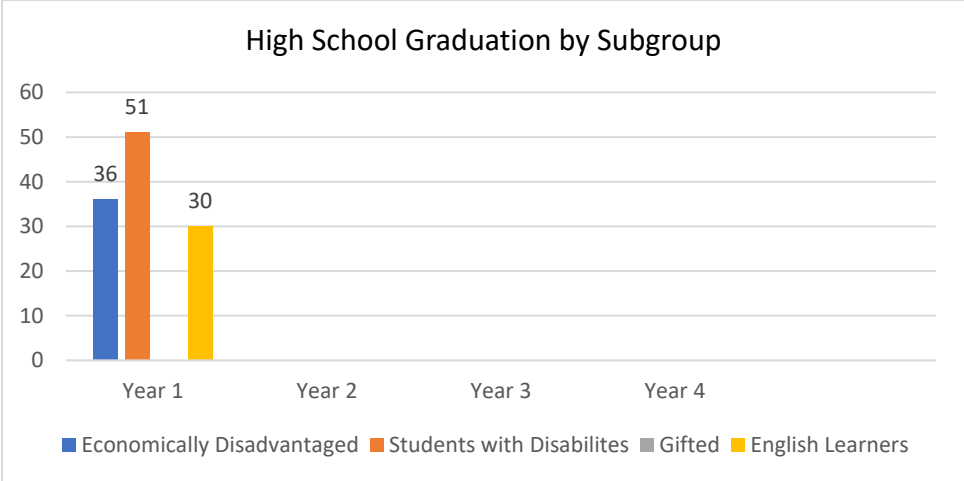
English Learner Progress toward Proficiency:



High School Graduation Rates:

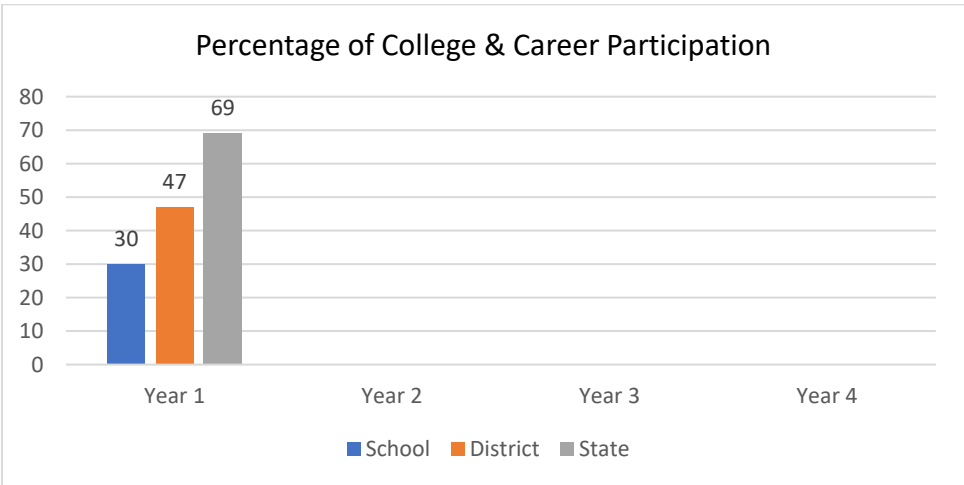
The data reported each year is for the prior year’s cohort of students.





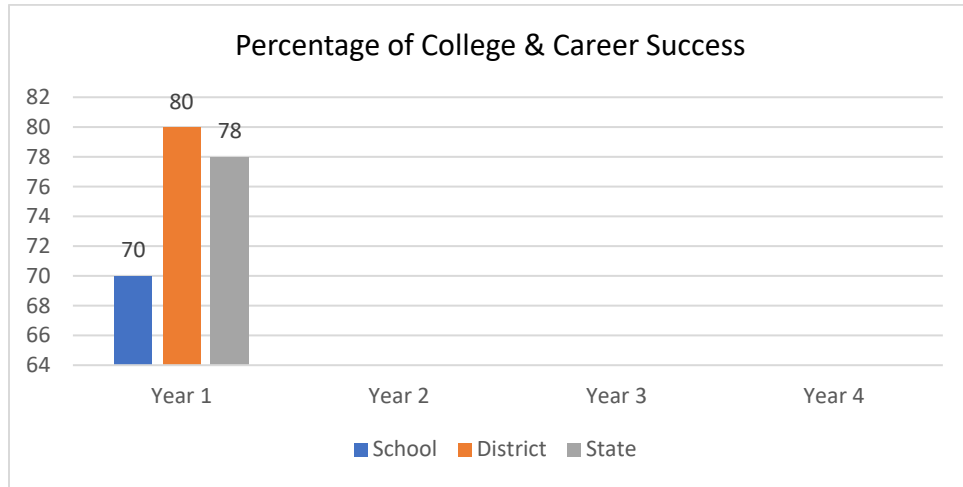
Career & College Program Participation:

High schools are awarded credit when students participate and succeed in college and career readiness (CCR) activities such activities include PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, ACT, Concurrent Enrollment/Dual Credit, Advanced Placement, Career Programs of Study, AccuPlacer, COMPASS, IB, TABE, WorkKeys and ASVAB.



College & Career Program Success:

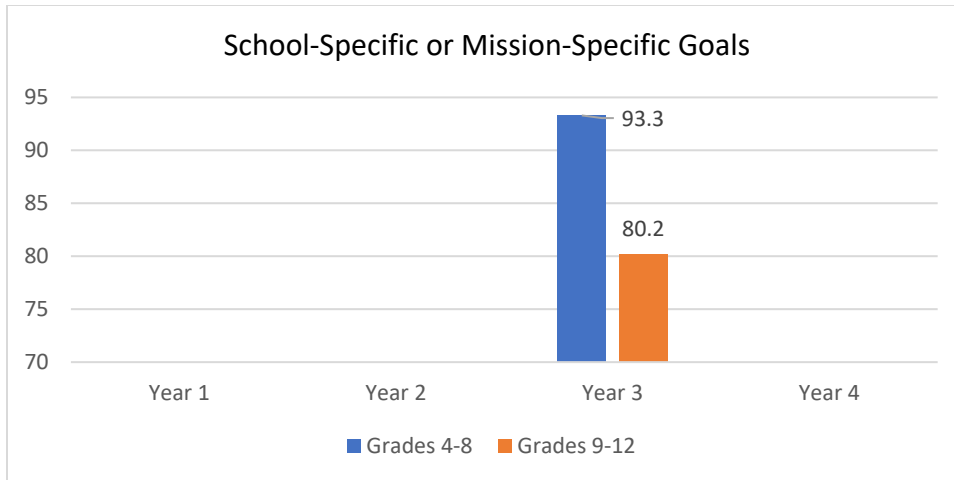
This measure focuses on student success (as opposed to participation) in the activities listed above.



School-Specific or Mission-Specific Goals:

Mission goal: 80% or more of students in grades 4 through 8, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will complete the grade level AND 70% of students in grades 9 through 12, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will earn a minimum of 6 credits (or, if taking fewer than 6 credits, students will complete all credits in which they are enrolled).

Measure Rating Category	Description of Target for this Performance Level
Exceeds Standard	90% or more of students in grades 4 through 8, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will complete the grade level AND 75% or more of students in grades 9 through 12, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will earn a minimum of 6 credits (or, if taking fewer than 6 credits, students will complete all credits in which they are enrolled).
Meets Standard	80-89% of students in grades 4 through 8, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will complete the grade level AND 70-74% or more of students in grades 9 through 12, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will earn a minimum of 6 credits (or, if taking fewer than 6 credits, students will complete all credits in which they are enrolled).
Does Not Meet Standard	70-79% of students in grades 4 through 8, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will complete the grade level AND 65-69% or more of students in grades 9 through 12, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will earn a minimum of 6 credits (or, if taking fewer than 6 credits, students will complete all credits in which they are enrolled).
Falls Far Below Standard	Below 75% of students in grades 4 through 8, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will complete the grade level AND less than 65% of students in grades 9 through 12, enrolled on both the 40th and 120th day, will earn a minimum of 6 credits (or, if taking fewer than 6 credits, students will complete all credits in which they are enrolled).



The assurance provided by NMCA in June of 2021 shows that school exceeded their goal for year 2.

Student Attendance/Retention/Recurrent Enrollment

Year	Student Attendance Target: 95%	Student Retention Target: 70%	Student Recurrent Enrollment Target: 80%
Year 1	98%	69%	32%
Year 2	94%	72%	61%
Year 3	94%	76%	77%
Year 4	95%	87%	66%

Teacher Retention Rate:

Year	Retention Rate
Year 1	67%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	93%
Year 4	Not Available

Financial Compliance

Enrollment Trends as reported in STARS 120D

Grades Served	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
4	22	24	43	44
5	47	29	43	49
6	77	68	86	98
7	101	124	157	151
8	137	116	160	168
9	214	232	217	227
10	172	182	243	187
11	170	154	178	205
12	145	154	153	168
Total	1,085	1,083	1,280	1,297

Staffing as reported in OBMS, measured in Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)

Year	Reg Ed Teacher	Reg Ed EA	SPED Teacher	SPED EA	Support Services	Admin / Support	Principal Head Admin	TOTAL All Funds
FY19	30.50		9.50		4.99	3.74	1.26	49.99
FY20	35.50		10.00		6.00	4.00	3.20	58.70
FY21	51.00		13.00		10.50	4.00	3.00	81.50
FY22	49.70		12.50		9.47	6.00	3.00	80.67

FTE paid for with operational funds

Year	Reg Ed Teacher	Reg Ed EA	SPED Teacher	SPED EA	Support Services	Admin/ Support	Principal Head Admin	TOTAL Operational
FY19	24.00		7.50		3.39	3.74	.66	39.29
FY20	29.50		8.50		5.15	4.00	3.20	50.35
FY21	43.00		10.00		9.00	4.00	3.00	69.00
FY22	38.00		8.00		6.62	5.00	3.00	60.62

Actual SEG Funding and Operational Expenses, in whole dollars, by Function Code:

Function	Function Name	FY19	%	FY20	%	FY21	%	FY22	%
1000	Direct Instruction	6,517,168	83%	7,157,848	80%	9,366,592	74%	9,454,311	82%
2100	Student Support	571,068	7%	734,980	8%	982,300	8%	893,939	8%
2200	Instructional Support	72,092	1%	18,587	0%			11,336	0%
2300	Central Administration	145,243	2%	147,579	2%	154,830	1%	175,044	2%
2400	School Administration	216,375	3%	475,453	5%	480,922	4%	593,967	5%
2500	Central Services	110,621	1%	156,495	2%	100,945	1%	100,520	1%
2600	Maintenance and Operations	248,469	3%	223,060	2%	255,969	2%	289,092	3%
2700-5999	All Other Function Codes			25,016	0%	1,383,887	11%		
Total Operational Expense Fund 11000		7,881,036		8,939,019		12,725,446		11,518,209	
Total Operational Revenue Fund 11000		12,124,681	65%	8,766,745	102%	12,146,245	105%	11,256,584	102%

Operational Cash Balance:

From audited financial reports

Year	Amount	% Increase (Decrease)
FY19 – 7/1 Beginning Balance	370,710	
FY19 – 6/30 Ending Balance	748,823	>100%
FY20 – 6/30 Ending Balance	4,991,680	>100%
FY21 – 6/30 Ending Balance	4,819,406	(3%)
FY22 – 6/30 Ending Balance - <i>Projected</i>	2,751,184	(43%)

Audit Findings:

From audited financial reports – FY22 audit results are not available due to the timing of the release of audit reports.

Contract Year	TOTAL	Repeat Findings	Material Weakness	Significant Deficiency	Disclaimed Audit
FY19	3	0	0	2	No
FY20	3	0	0	0	No
FY21	1	0	0	0	No

Governing Body Performance

Board Membership and Officers: Did the board have all required officers and all required members in place during each fiscal year of the contract term, and were notifications of changes in membership submitted timely?

Contract Year	Chair	Vice-Chair	Secretary	Full Membership	Timely Notification of Vacancies
FY19	Not Tracked			5	No
FY20	Yes	Yes	Yes	6	N/A
FY21	Yes	Yes	Yes	5	Yes
FY22	Yes	Yes	No	5	N/A

Governing Board Training: Did all members of the board complete the required training hours of 8 hours per year for continuing members and 10 hours for new members? **Note:** Black shading indicates that the member did not serve a full year; yellow indicates that the member did not complete all required training hours. An asterisk indicates the school has a 2-hour fiscal exemption. A red number indicates member did not complete all required hours.

Board Members	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Mark Boitano (Chair)	8	8	10	8
Paul Gessing (Vice Chair)	8	8	7	8
Jerry Schalow	11	8	0	9
Patrick Chavez	0	8	8	8
Letha Oman		10	8	8
Jeanie Armstrong	10	8		

Performance Framework Summary

Indicator ratings for contract years 1-3 are complete, though academic indicators 1 and 2 were not available for years 2 and 3 due to the lack of statewide assessment data. Some of the ratings for year 3 are Assurances or Not Applicable due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ratings for Year 4 (school year 2021-22) are complete for the indicators rated Meets Standard, Working to Meet Standard, and Does Not Meet Standard. The remaining indicators will be complete in the final version of Part A, which will be sent to schools on September 2, 2022.

Performance Framework Indicators	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Academic Performance				
1 State Accountability System	Does Not Meet	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
2 Subgroup Performance	Pending	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
3 Mission-Specific Goals				
Organizational and Financial Performance				
1a Mission and Educational Program	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
1b State Assessment Requirements	Meets Standard	Working to Meet	Not Reviewed	Rated 9/2
1c Rights of Students with Disabilities	Working to Meet	Working to Meet	Working to Meet	Rated 9/2
1d Rights of English Learners	Working to Meet	Working to Meet	Working to Meet	Rated 9/2
1e Meeting Program Requirements	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Assurances	Rated 9/2
1f NM DASH Plan	Working to Meet	N/A	N/A	Rated 9/2
2a Financial Reporting and Compliance	Meets Standard	Working to Meet	Working to Meet	Rated 9/2
2b Accounting Principles	Meets Standard	Does Not Meet	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
2c Responsive to Audit Findings	Meets Standard	Working to Meet	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
2d Managing Grant Funds	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Rated 9/2
2e Staffing for Fiscal Management	Working to Meet	Working to Meet	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
2f Internal Controls	N/A	N/A	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
3a Governance Requirements	Working to Meet	Meets Standard	Working to Meet	Rated 9/2
3b Nepotism, Conflict of Interest	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Assurances	Rated 9/2
3c Reporting Requirements	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Assurances	Rated 9/2
4a Rights of All Students	Does Not Meet	Working to Meet	Assurances	Meets Standard
4b Attendance and Retention	Does Not Meet	Working to Meet	Working to Meet	Rated 9/2
4c Staff Credentialing	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Meets Standard
4d Employee Rights	Does Not Meet	Working to Meet	Assurances	Meets Standard
4e Background Checks, Ethics	Does Not Meet	Working to Meet	Assurances	Meets Standard
5a Facilities	Does Not Meet	Meets Standard	Assurances	Meets Standard
5b Transportation	N/A	N/A	Assurances	N/A
5c Health and Safety	Working to Meet	Working to Meet		Meets Standard
5d Handling Information	Meets Standard	Meets Standard	Assurances	Rated 9/2