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STAAR® results for first 2017 administration
of 5th & 8th grade reading, mathematics released

AUSTIN – More than 80 percent of the state's fifth grade students successfully passed the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) mathematics test and more than three-quarter of the state's eighth graders successfully passed the STAAR reading test, according to preliminary results released today by the Texas Education Agency. The results reflect passing rates for the spring 2017 administration of STAAR in March.

Eighty-one percent of fifth and 74 percent of eighth-grade students passed the STAAR mathematics test on their first attempt. Seventy-one percent of fifth and 76 percent of eighth-grade students passed the STAAR reading test on their first attempt.

SUBJECT	GRADE	2016-2017
Reading	5	71%
	8	76%
Mathematics	5	81%
	8	74%

The passing totals reflect an increase in mathematics scores for both grades when compared to overall results for the first 2016 administration, when 76 percent of fifth graders and 69 percent of eighth graders passed mathematics on the first try. Reading scores saw a slight dip when compared the March 2016 passing rates, when 73 percent of fifth graders and 79 percent of eighth graders passed on the first try.

Beginning this school year, parents will be seeing new STAAR performance labels for their student: *Masters Grade Level*; *Meets Grade Level*; *Approaches Grade Level*; and *Does Not Meet Grade Level*. These do not represent any changes to the underlying definitions of performance, but are meant to provide clear, accurate information for parents in terms of how their child is performing.

- **Masters Grade Level** (Passing) – Performance in this category indicates that students are expected to succeed in the next grade or course with little or no academic intervention.
- **Meets Grade Level** (Passing) – Performance in this category indicates that students will have a high likelihood of success in the next grade or course but may still need some short-term, targeted academic intervention.

- **Approaches Grade Level** (Passing) – Performance in this category indicates that students are likely to succeed in the next grade or course with targeted academic intervention.
- **Does Not Meet Grade Level** – Performance in this category indicates that students are unlikely to succeed in the next grade or course without significant, ongoing academic intervention.

For the spring 2017 administration of STAAR in March, student performance in grade 5 and 8 reading and mathematics was as follows as compared to the 2016 results:

GRADE 5

2017 Reading (71% Passing)   **2016 Reading (73% Passing)**

2017	STUDENTS		2016	STUDENTS	
Masters Grade Level	94,593	25%	Masters Grade Level	90,021	24%
Meets Grade Level	76,292	20%	Meets Grade Level	81,502	22%
Approaches Grade Level	97,428	26%	Approaches Grade Level	100,829	27%
Does Not Meet Grade Level	110,857	29%	Does Not Meet Grade Level	102,308	27%
TOTAL	379,170		**TOTAL**	374,660	

2017 Mathematics (81% Passing)   **2016 Mathematics (76% Passing)**

2017	STUDENTS		2016	STUDENTS	
Masters Grade Level	92,847	24%	Masters Grade Level	74,441	19%
Meets Grade Level	94,105	24%	Meets Grade Level	89,172	23%
Approaches Grade Level	126,452	33%	Approaches Grade Level	128,325	34%
Does Not Meet Grade Level	73,793	19%	Does Not Meet Grade Level	91,138	24%
TOTAL	387,197		**TOTAL**	383,076	

GRADE 8

2017 Reading (76% Passing)   **2016 Reading (79% Passing)**

2017	STUDENTS		2016	STUDENTS	
Masters Grade Level	85,419	22%	Masters Grade Level	69,543	19%
Meets Grade Level	94,999	25%	Meets Grade Level	99,296	26%
Approaches Grade Level	106,818	28%	Approaches Grade Level	128,705	34%
Does Not Meet Grade Level	92,941	24%	Does Not Meet Grade Level	77,936	21%
TOTAL	380,177		**TOTAL**	375,480	

2017 Mathematics (74% Passing)			2016 Mathematics (69% Passing)		
2017	**STUDENTS**		**2016**	**STUDENTS**	
Masters Grade Level	39,842	12%	Masters Grade Level	26,162	8%
Meets Grade Level	98,158	30%	Meets Grade Level	95,092	30%
Approaches Grade Level	102,625	32%	Approaches Grade Level	100,601	31%
Does Not Meet Grade Level	83,242	26%	Does Not Meet Grade Level	98,050	31%
TOTAL	323,867		**TOTAL**	319,905	

The new STAAR performance labels will be part of the revamped Confidential Student Report that school districts and charters share with parents at the end of the year. Parents will begin receiving the improved Confidential Student Report in June. Details on additional parent resources that will be part of this report will be provided by TEA in the near future.

Under state law, Texas students in grades 5 and 8 must pass the STAAR reading and mathematics tests to be promoted to the next grade. Students who did not pass these exams have an opportunity to retake the tests in mid-May and will have a third opportunity in June.

State law requires students who do not pass these tests to be retained in their current grade – unless a parent appeals the retention and a local, campus-based grade placement committee unanimously agrees to promote them.

To review STAAR state-level reports for all grades, visit the Texas Education Agency website at http://tea.texas.gov/staar/rpt/sum/.

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Note: The Texas Education Agency currently does not have campus or district level results. Please contact your local school district or charter school for that information.