NJSLA Results: Spring 2026 Administrations

Closter Public Schools

November 19, 2026

Notable Achievements in 2025-26

Student Competition Success, Academic Honors, & School Recognition

Music & Performing Arts

- Best Communities for Music Education award from the NAMM Foundation.
- Six TMS Students earned a spot in Region Orchestra; One selected for Bergen County Band.

STEM & Science Olympiad

- TMS Science Olympiad Team attended national competition after placing 1st in regional and state contests.
- TMS MathCounts Team earned 5th place in the Bergen-Hudson Chapter.

Mathematics & Academic Leagues

- NJ Math League: 7th grade earned 1st in Bergen County; 9th in Region; 8th Grade earned 4th in Bergen.
- Algebra CML: Placed 6th out of 154 schools internationally.
- National Leagues: 4th place nationally in Science & Language Arts Leagues.

Sustainability & Certification

- TMS was awarded Green Flag Certification (Sustainability) in 2025 and 2026.
- Demonstrated ongoing commitment to environmental leadership and sustainable practices districtwide.

Notable Achievements in 2025-26

Professional Learning, Leadership, Student Profile & Curriculum Enhancement

Professional Learning

- Expanded professional learning opportunities to strengthen instruction & support diverse learners.
- HES staff provided with literacy PD (Focus Grant) & NVCC Math Curriculum PD.

Leadership

- Developed Profile of a Closter Learner rubrics to guide character & learning districtwide.
- HES and TMS Principal's Advisory Committees met regularly.
- Replaced TMS lockers, the HES blacktop, and network infrastructure.

Curriculum Collaboration

- Science teachers collaborated with the Northern Valley Curriculum Consortium to enhance instructional strategies and instructional units.

SEL & Growth Analysis

- SWOT Analysis in connection to social emotional learning programs at HES and TMS to look at how they support student learning attributes and growth.

A New Assessment in 2026: The NJSLA-A

ELA and Mathematics: three changes at once

1 New Format

Adaptive testing

Replaces the fixed-form test. Question difficulty adjusts to each student's responses.

2 New Standards

2023 NJSLS

Aligned to the updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards set by the NJDOE.

3 New Scoring

New cut scores

A new score scale, with performance levels redefined by the State Board in September 2026.

2026 establishes a new baseline.

The NJDOE has stated that 2026 results cannot be compared to prior years. Prior-year data in this presentation is included as required for QSAC; it is not a valid measure of improvement or decline.

Science (NJSLA-S, grades 5 and 8) did not change to an adaptive format.

NJSLA Performance Levels



For ELA and Mathematics

Level 1: Not yet meeting grade level-expectations

Level 2: Partially meeting grade level expectations

Level 3: Approaching grade level expectations

Level 4: Meeting grade level expectations

Level 5: Exceeding grade level expectations

The goal for all students

For Science

Level 1: Below proficient

Level 2: Near proficiency

Level 3: Proficient

Level 4: Advanced Proficient

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2024, 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations English Language Arts – Percentages

Level 1: Not Yet Meeting Expectations

Level 2: Partially Meeting Expectations

Level 3: Approaching Expectations

Level 4: Meeting Expectations

Level 5: Exceeding Expectations

Grade	Level 1 2024	Level 1 2025	Level 1 2026	Level 2 2024	Level 2 2025	Level 2 2026	Level 3 2024	Level 3 2025	Level 3 2026	Level 4 2024	Level 4 2025	Level 4 2026	Level 5 2024	Level 5 2025	Level 5 2026
3	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	19%	19%	10%	44%	49%	48%	24%	23%	32%
4	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	21%	32%	34%	30%	47%	52%	41%
5	<10%	<10%	<10%	12%	<10%	10%	17%	13%	<10%	56%	51%	50%	14%	21%	30%
6	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	13%	17%	45%	45%	34%	45%	36%	36%
7	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	12%	31%	36%	38%	56%	57%	40%
8	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	12%	10%	<10%	38%	29%	39%	46%	57%	46%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2024, 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations English Language Arts – Percentages of Level 4 & 5

NJSLA ELA - CLOSTER			
Grade	2024	2025	2026
3	68%	71%	80%
4	78%	86%	70%
5	70%	72%	80%
6	90%	81%	70%
7	87%	93%	78%
8	84%	86%	85%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2024, 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Mathematics – Percentages

Level 1: Not Yet Meeting Expectations
Level 2: Partially Meeting Expectations
Level 3: Approaching Expectations
Level 4: Meeting Expectations
Level 5: Exceeding Expectations

Grade	Level 1 2024	Level 1 2025	Level 1 2026	Level 2 2024	Level 2 2025	Level 2 2026	Level 3 2024	Level 3 2025	Level 3 2026	Level 4 2024	Level 4 2025	Level 4 2026	Level 5 2024	Level 5 2025	Level 5 2026
3	<10%	<10%	<10%	10%	<10%	10%	19%	16%	<10%	36%	44%	37%	31%	32%	43%
4	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	17%	10%	12%	47%	44%	39%	24%	36%	40%
5	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	25%	15%	14%	44%	54%	28%	20%	21%	49%
6	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	18%	24%	18%	49%	39%	27%	29%	31%	46%
7	<10%	<10%	<10%	12%	<10%	<10%	17%	15%	22%	47%	43%	46%	21%	32%	20%
8	11%	10%	<10%	21%	21%	17%	23%	18%	24%	39%	47%	37%	<10%	<10%	21%
Algebra	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	53%	45%	34%	44%	55%	65%
Geometry	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	11%	33%	<10%	89%	67%	>90%

Notes: *Some students in grade 8 participated in the NJSLA Algebra I assessment in place of the 8th grade math assessment. The NJSLA Math 8 outcomes are not representative of grade 8 performance as a whole. Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2024, 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Mathematics – Percentages of Level 4 & 5

NJSLA MATH - CLOSTER			
Grade	2024	2025	2026
3	67%	76%	79%
4	71%	80%	80%
5	64%	75%	77%
6	78%	70%	73%
7	68%	76%	66%
8	45%	51%	58%
Algebra	97%	>95%	>95%
Geometry	>95%	>95%	>95%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2024, 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Science – Percentages

Level 1: Below Proficient
Level 2: Near Proficiency
Level 3: Proficient
Level 4: Advanced Proficiency

Grade	Level 1 2024	Level 1 2025	Level 1 2026	Level 2 2024	Level 2 2025	Level 2 2026	Level 3 2024	Level 3 2025	Level 3 2026	Level 4 2024	Level 4 2025	Level 4 2026
5	17%	15%	13%	33%	34%	32%	37%	30%	34%	13%	20%	20%
8	<10%	<10%	<10%	32%	33%	37%	28%	28%	34%	30%	30%	22%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2024, 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Science – Percentages of Level 3 & 4

NJSLA Science - CLOSTER			
Grade	2024	2025	2026
5	50%	50%	54%
8	58%	58%	56%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations English Language Arts – Percentages (Levels 1 and 2)

Level 1: Not Yet Meeting Expectations

Level 2: Partially Meeting Expectations

Grade	Level 1 2025 District	Level 1 2025 State	Level 1 2026 District	Level 1 2026 State	Level 2 2025 District	Level 2 2025 State	Level 2 2026 District	Level 2 2026 State
3	<10%	19%	<10%	11%	<10%	16%	<10%	21%
4	<10%	14%	<10%	12%	<10%	13%	<10%	15%
5	<10%	13%	<10%	11%	<10%	13%	10%	22%
6	<10%	11%	<10%	12%	<10%	13%	<10%	15%
7	<10%	12%	<10%	11%	<10%	11%	<10%	16%
8	<10%	13%	<10%	15%	<10%	12%	<10%	12%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations English Language Arts – Percentages (Levels 3 and 4)

Level 3: Approaching Expectations Level 4: Meeting Expectations

Grade	Level 3 2025 District	Level 3 2025 State	Level 3 2026 District	Level 3 2026 State	Level 4 2025 District	Level 4 2025 State	Level 4 2026 District	Level 4 2026 State
3	19%	20%	10%	19%	49%	37%	48%	33%
4	<10%	20%	21%	26%	34%	38%	30%	25%
5	13%	21%	<10%	15%	51%	41%	50%	39%
6	13%	21%	17%	22%	45%	41%	34%	34%
7	<10%	20%	12%	17%	36%	32%	38%	38%
8	10%	18%	<10%	20%	29%	36%	39%	33%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations English Language Arts – Percentages (Level 5)

Level 5: Exceeding Expectations

Grade	Level 5 2025 District	Level 5 2025 State	Level 5 2026 District	Level 5 2026 State
3	23%	8%	32%	15%
4	52%	16%	41%	21%
5	21%	11%	30%	13%
6	36%	15%	36%	17%
7	57%	25%	40%	18%
8	57%	21%	46%	21%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Mathematics– Percentages (Levels 1 and 2)

Level 1: Not Yet Meeting Expectations

Level 2: Partially Meeting Expectations

Grade	Level 1 2025 District	Level 1 2025 State	Level 1 2026 District	Level 1 2026 State	Level 2 2025 District	Level 2 2025 State	Level 2 2026 District	Level 2 2026 State
3	<10%	10%	<10%	18%	<10%	16%	10%	19%
4	<10%	9%	<10%	16%	<10%	19%	<10%	14%
5	<10%	11%	<10%	15%	<10%	19%	<10%	16%
6	<10%	11%	<10%	12%	<10%	23%	<10%	20%
7	<10%	10%	<10%	15%	<10%	21%	<10%	18%
8	10%	30%	<10%	28%	21%	27%	17%	20%
Algebra 1	<10%	13%	<10%	15%	<10%	26%	<10%	23%
Geometry	<10%	4%	<10%	6%	<10%	12%	<10%	16%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Mathematics– Percentages (Levels 3 and 4)

Level 3: Approaching Expectations Level 4: Meeting Expectations

Grade	Level 3 2025 District	Level 3 2025 State	Level 3 2026 District	Level 3 2026 State	Level 4 2025 District	Level 4 2025 State	Level 4 2026 District	Level 4 2026 State
3	16%	24%	<10%	14%	44%	37%	37%	31%
4	10%	25%	12%	24%	44%	39%	39%	32%
5	15%	26%	14%	23%	54%	34%	28%	31%
6	24%	26%	18%	27%	39%	31%	27%	23%
7	15%	31%	22%	29%	43%	32%	46%	28%
8	18%	23%	24%	29%	47%	20%	37%	16%
Algebra 1	<10%	23%	<10%	23%	45%	31%	34%	30%
Geometry	<10%	28%	<10%	27%	33%	44%	<10%	25%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Mathematics– Percentages (Level 5)

Level 5: Exceeding Expectations

Grade	Level 5 2025 District	Level 5 2025 State	Level 5 2026 District	Level 5 2026 State
3	32%	13%	43%	18%
4	36%	8%	40%	15%
5	21%	10%	49%	15%
6	31%	9%	46%	17%
7	32%	7%	20%	10%
8	<10%	1%	21%	7%
Algebra 1	55%	7%	65%	10%
Geometry	67%	12%	>95%	26%

Comparison of Closter's Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Science– Percentages (Levels 1 and 2)

Level 1: Below Proficient

Level 2: Near Proficiency

Grade	Level 1 2025 District	Level 1 2025 State	Level 1 2026 District	Level 1 2026 State	Level 2 2025 District	Level 2 2025 State	Level 2 2026 District	Level 2 2026 State
5	15%	31%	13%	32%	34%	39%	32%	41%
8	<10%	34%	<10%	33%	33%	47%	37%	48%

Level 3: Proficient

Level 4: Advanced Proficiency

Grade	Level 3 2025 District	Level 3 2025 State	Level 3 2026 District	Level 3 2026 State	Level 4 2025 District	Level 4 2025 State	Level 4 2026 District	Level 4 2026 State
5	30%	22%	34%	21%	20%	8%	20%	6%
8	28%	14%	34%	14%	30%	5%	22%	5%

Comparison of Closter's Student Tested Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations English Language Arts – Percentages

Number of Students Tested (Rate of Participation)

Grade	2025	2026	Difference
3	119/123 (97%)	117/117 (100%)	+3%
4	123/128 (96%)	125/126 (99%)	+3%
5	149/150 (99%)	126/126 (100%)	+1%
6	134/134 (100%)	151/152 (99%)	-1%
7	160/160 (100%)	136/136 (100%)	0%
8	147/147 (100%)	158/159 (99%)	-1%

Comparison of Closter's Student Tested Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Mathematics– Percentages

Number of Students Tested (Rate of Participation)

Grade	2025	2026	Difference
3	122/123 (99%)	120/120 (100%)	+1%
4	127/128 (99%)	132/133 (99%)	0%
5	151/152 (99%)	128/128 (100%)	+1%
6	137/137 (100%)	151/153 (99%)	-1%
7*	145/145 (100%)	111/111 (100%)	0%
8*	72/72 (100%)	78/78 (100%)	0%
Algebra 1	73/73 (100%)	95/96 (99%)	-1%
Geometry	18/18 (100%)	14/14 (100%)	0%

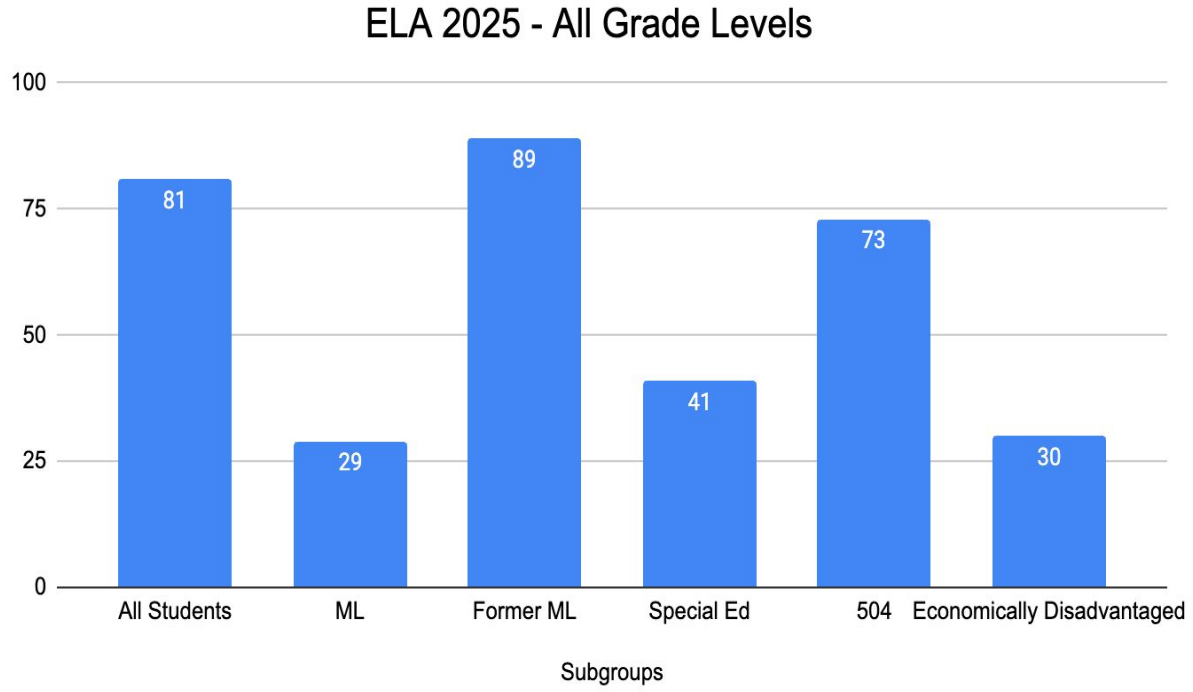
Note: *Some students in grades 7 & 8 participated in the NJSLA Algebra I or Geometry assessment in place of the grade level math assessment.

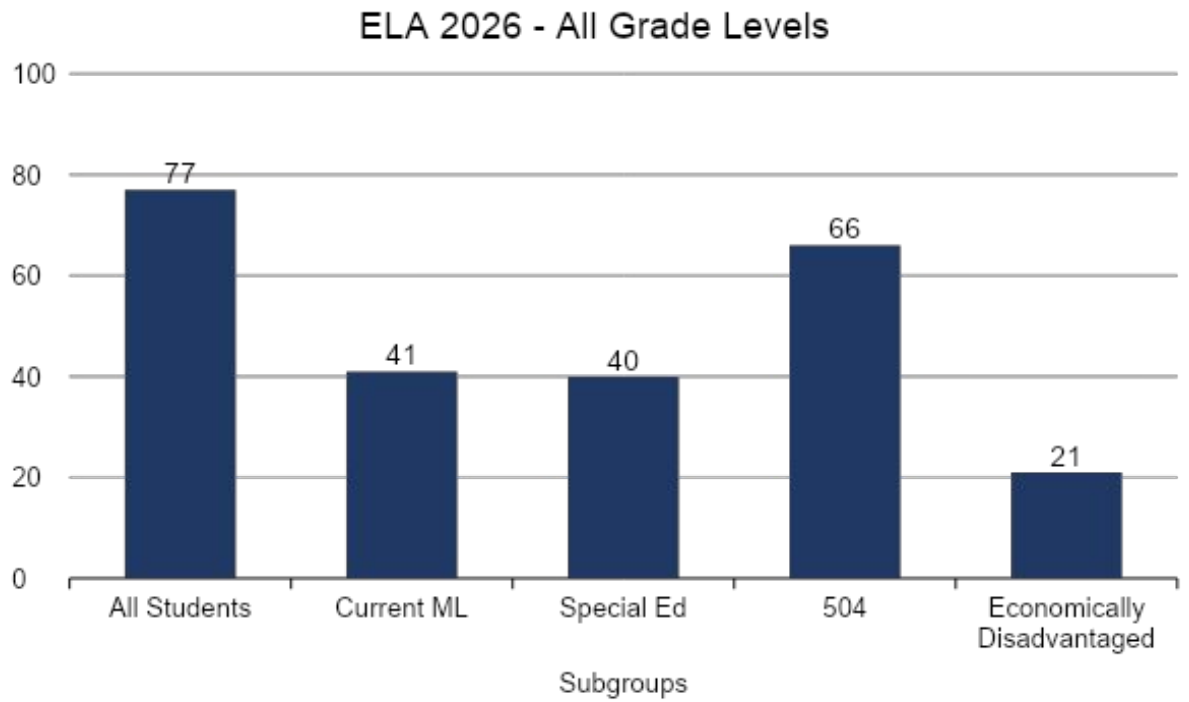
Comparison of Closter's Student Tested Spring 2025 and 2026 NJSLA Administrations Science– Percentages

Number of Students Tested (Rate of Participation)

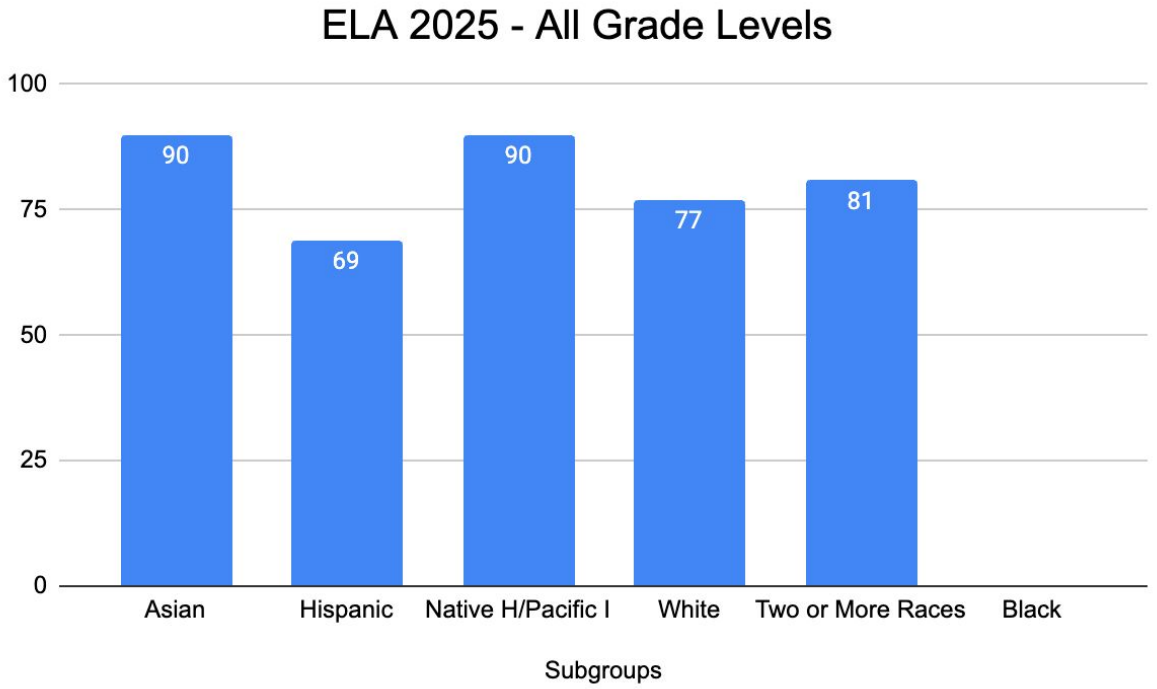
Grade	2025	2026	Difference
5	153/155 (99%)	126/127 (99%)	0%
8	148/148 (100%)	158/159 (99%)	-1%

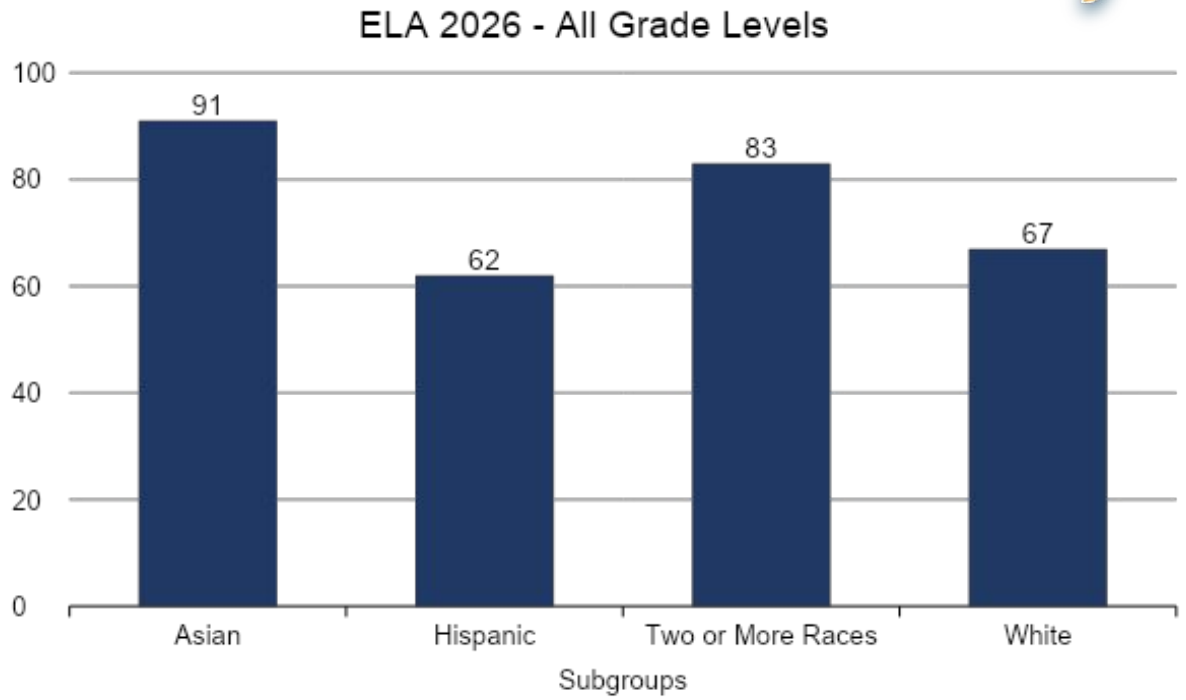
Comparison of Closter's Subgroup Spring 2025 and Spring 2026 NJSLA Administration English Language Arts - Percentages (Meeting or Exceeding)





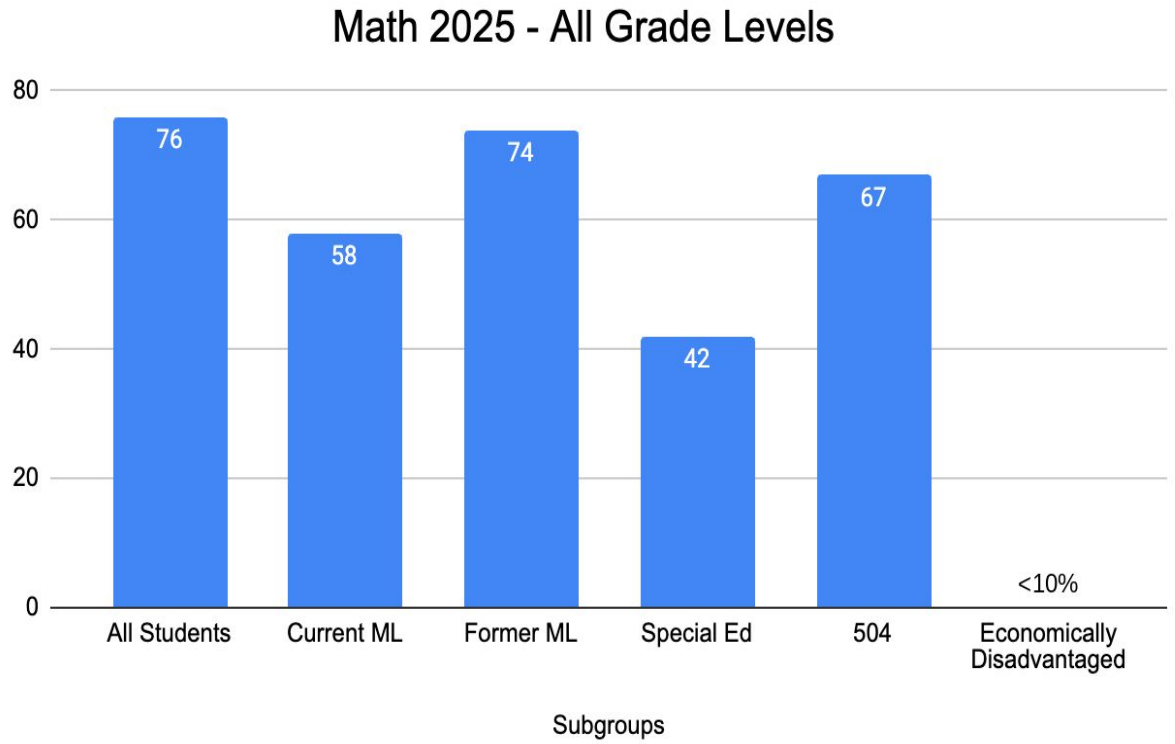
Comparison of Closter's Subgroup Spring 2025 and Spring 2026 NJSLA Administration English Language Arts - Percentages (Meeting or Exceeding)

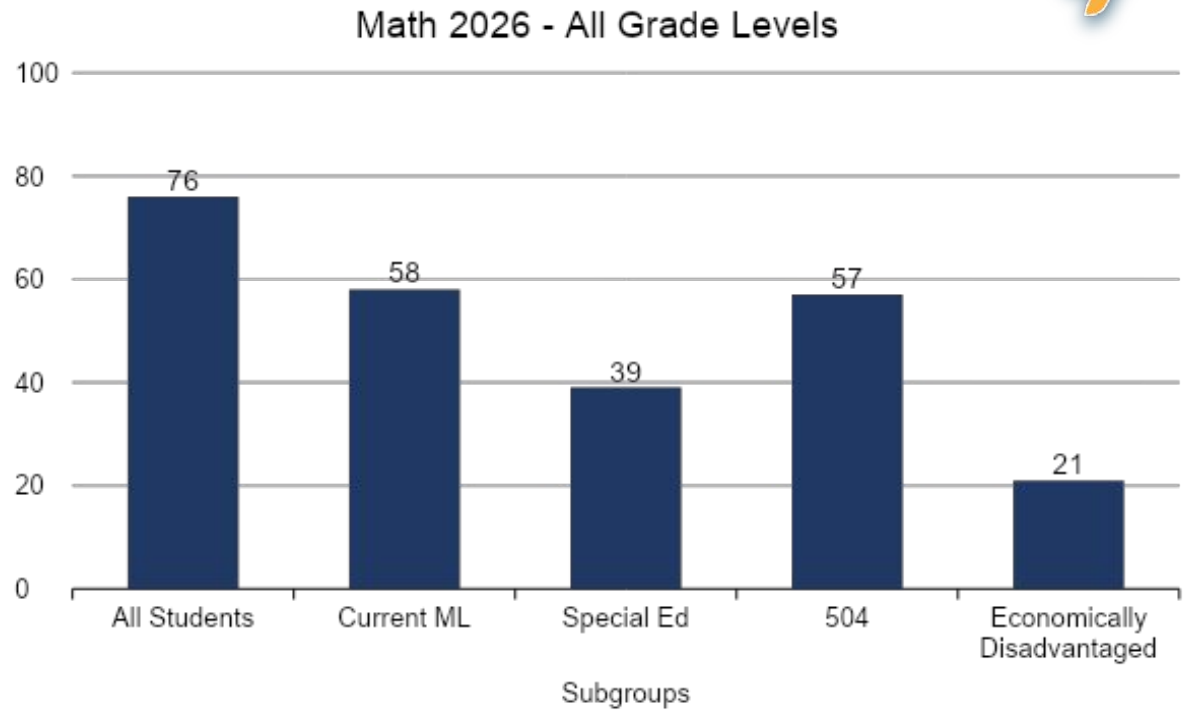




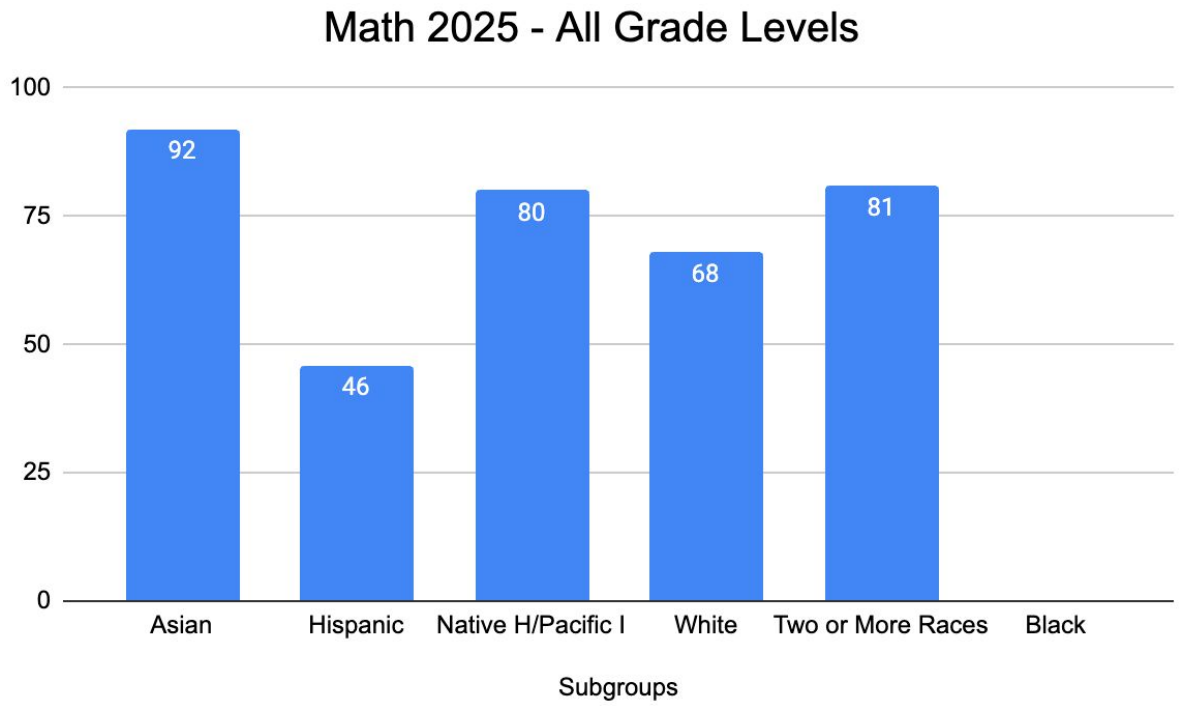
There were fewer than 10 Black students, so the data is not reported.

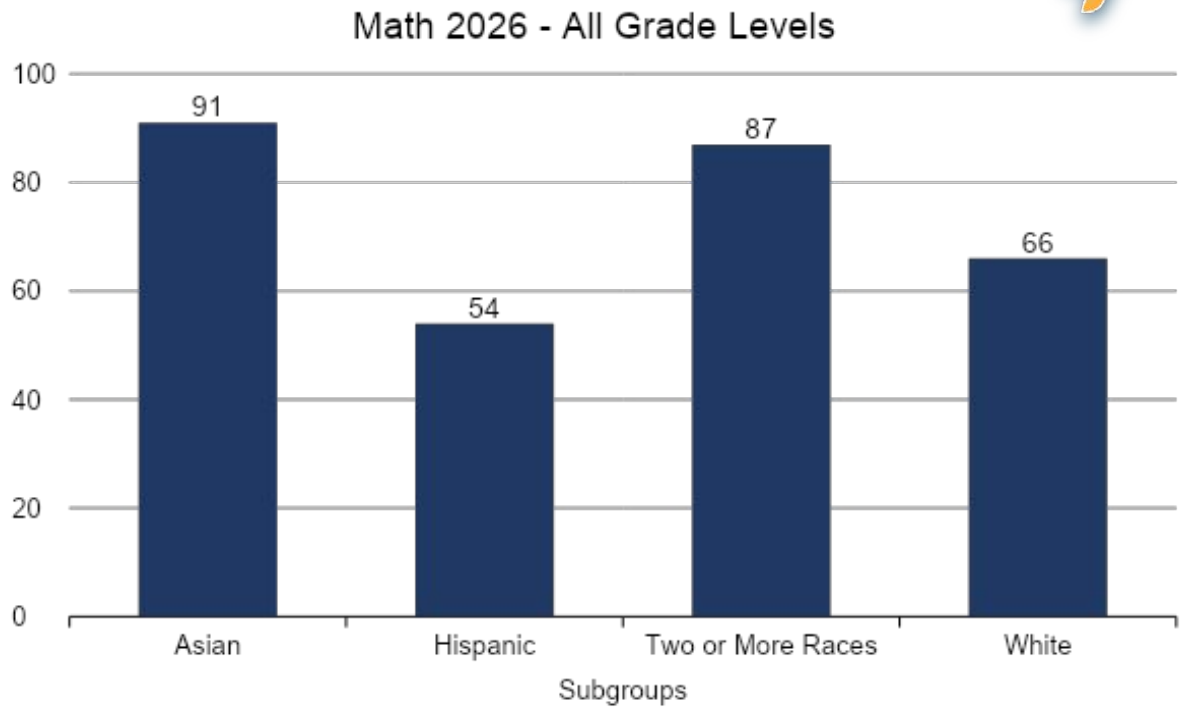
Comparison of Closter's Subgroup Spring 2025 and Spring 2026 NJSLA Administration Math - Percentages (Meeting or Exceeding)





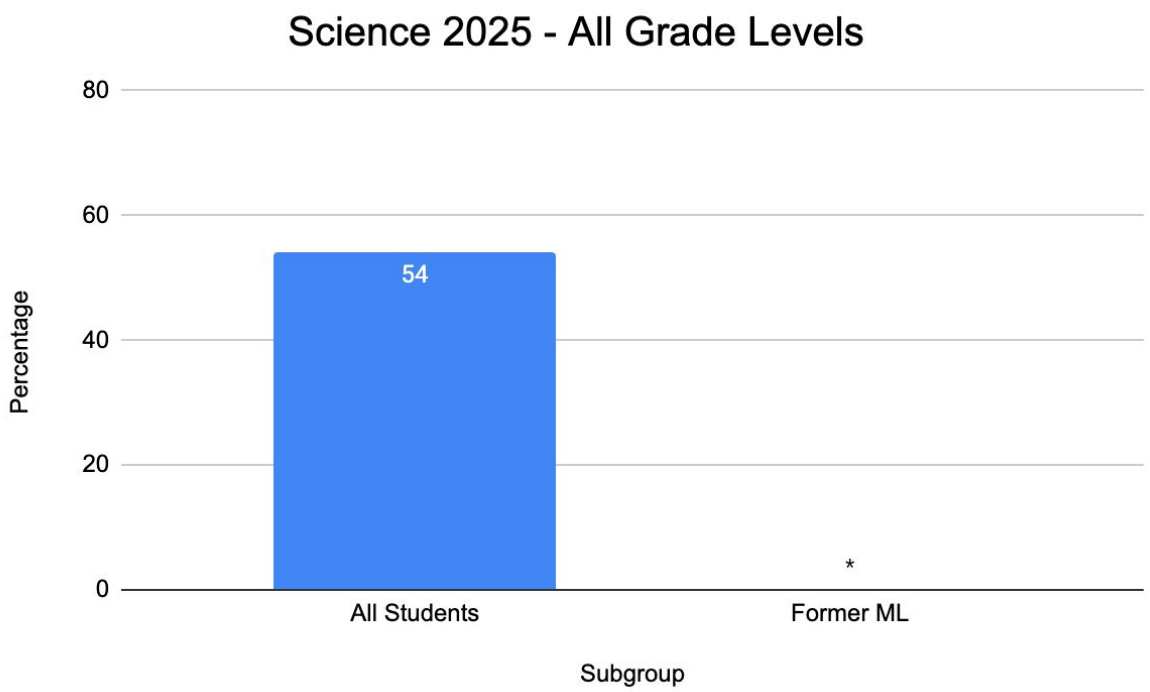
Comparison of Closter's Subgroup Spring 2025 and Spring 2026 NJSLA Administration Math - Percentages (Meeting or Exceeding)



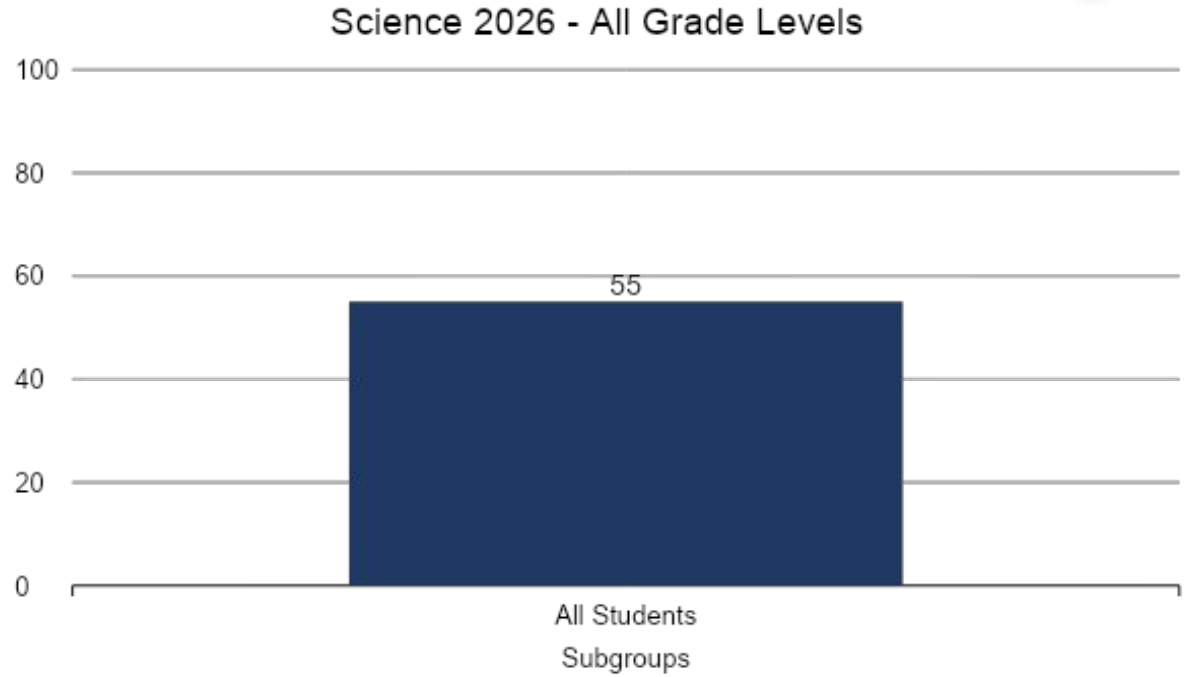


There were fewer than 10 Black students, so the data is not reported.

Comparison of Closter's Subgroup Spring 2025 and Spring 2026 NJSLA Administration Science - Percentages (Meeting or Exceeding)

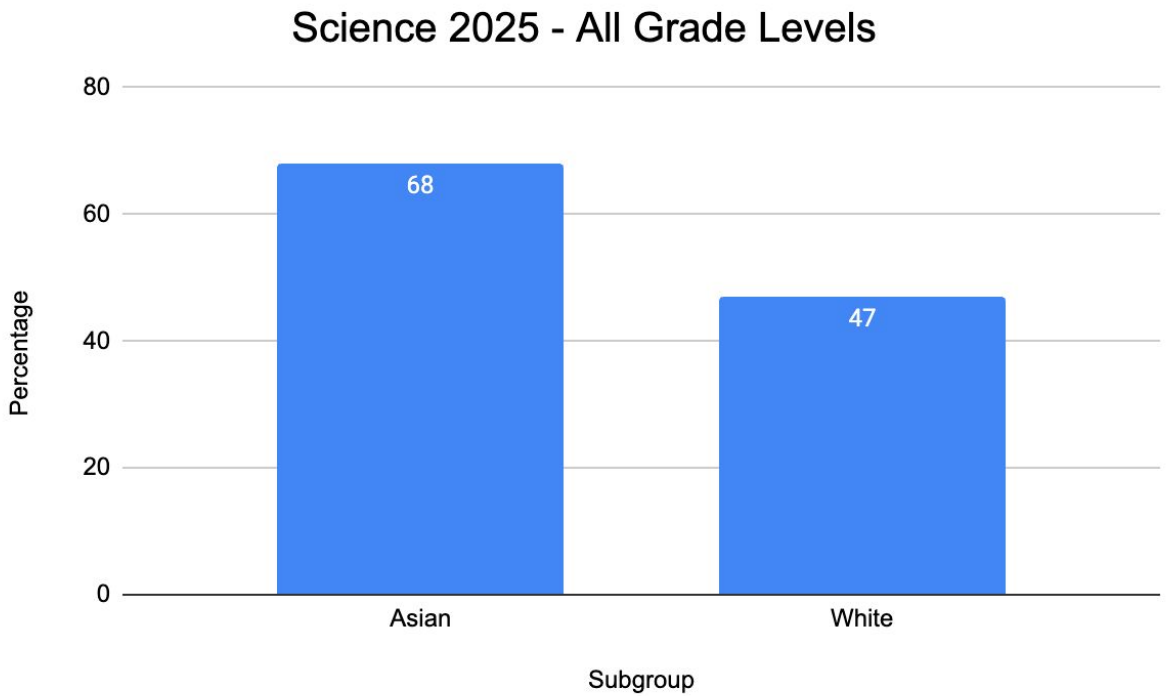


There were fewer than 10 students in the Special Education, Current ML and Former ML subgroups, so the data is not reported.

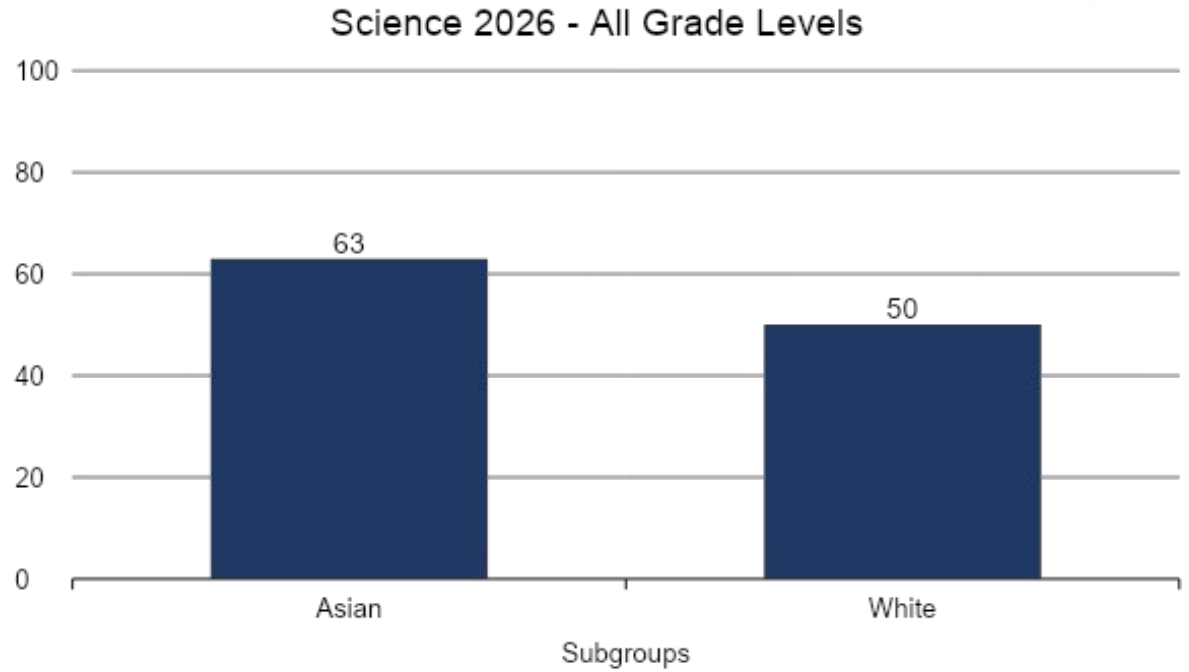


There were fewer than 10 students in the Special Education, 504, and Current ML subgroups, so the data is not reported.

Comparison of Closter's Subgroup Spring 2025 and Spring 2026 NJSLA Administration Science - Percentages (Meeting or Exceeding)



There were fewer than 10 students in the Black, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Two or More Races, so the data is not reported.



There were fewer than 10 students in the Black, Hispanic, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and Two or More Races, so the data is not reported.

Intervention Strategies for 2026-27

Hillside Elementary School

Academic Assistance Program

We offered an Academic Assistance Summer Program in 2026 to students in grades K-4 and will continue the after-school Academic Assistance Program in ELA and mathematics twice a week for grades K-4.

Targeted Literacy Training (NJTSS-StrongER)

We wlll provide targeted literacy training for teachers and administrators, using the NJTSS-StrongER Grant and the FOCUS grant, to shift instructional practices toward evidence-aligned structured literacy principles and to use universal screening across tiers.

Early Grade Benchmark Monitoring (Grades K–1)

We will continue to implement Aimsweb benchmark and progress monitoring in grades K–1. Early identification and frequent progress monitoring allow us to address foundational skill gaps in K–1, before they affect performance on grade 3 NJSLA.

LinkIt! Progress Monitoring (Grades 2–4)

We will continue to implement LinkIt! benchmark and progress monitoring in grades 2–4 (fall, winter, spring) and teachers will engage in ongoing data analysis. Standards-aligned benchmark data helps teachers pinpoint specific skill gaps and adjust instruction throughout the year, strengthening student learning.

K–4 Math & ELA Intervention Committees

K–4 math and language arts committees will review benchmark data, analyze grade-level trends, and develop targeted intervention resources to support students at all performance levels.

Intervention Strategies for 2026-27

Hillside Elementary School

DIBELS Literacy Training

We provided teachers with a full-day DIBELS training session over the summer of 2026 and a follow-up training session in October 2026, so they can check reading progress, spot early reading difficulties, and help identify risk factors for conditions like dyslexia.

Family Information Sessions

We will host family information sessions throughout the year to help parents understand their child's early literacy screener data, learn about the supports available at HES, and find ways to strengthen their child's reading skills at home.

K–4 Math Coaching Sessions

We will have three Math Coaching Sessions, provided by the Northern Valley Curriculum Center, for K-4 staff to review data and plan mathematics instruction.

Monthly Counseling Lessons

Counselors will provide in-person class lessons on a monthly basis. These lessons build self-regulation, persistence, and coping skills that help students stay focused and engaged in learning.

Parent Presentations & Roundtables

Counselors and members of the Child Study Team will host parent presentations and roundtables.These sessions will offer practical strategies and resources to support children's academic, social, and emotional growth at home, strengthening the home-school partnership so students receive consistent support in both settings.

Intervention Strategies for 2026-27

Tenakill Middle School

6th Grade Math Instructional Time

We will continue to double the amount of instructional time for math in 6th grade to provide more instructional time for mastery of standards.

Math Class Size Management

We are maintaining our small class sizes in math in grades 5-8.

Math Diagnostic & Intervention

We will Utilize our math diagnostic and intervention program for our basic skills math program (MasterTrack).

Grade 5 Writing Curriculum

Teacher are continuing the implementation of the *Units of Study in Writing* for grade 5.

LinkIt! Benchmark Assessment Data Review

Data review and analysis will take place in September, January, and June for progress monitoring and to inform instruction in ELA, math, and science.

WIN (What I Need) Support Period

We have created and implemented of the WIN academic support period (1x per week - Thursdays) for all students.

High-Intensity ESL Instruction

We have added a Second ESL teacher to support high intensity ESL instruction in the special education resource room setting.

SMARTS Executive Functioning

We are introducing the SMARTS executive functioning curriculum for special education students in Study Skills to teach skills including organizing, prioritizing, flexible thinking, and self-checking,.

Intervention Strategies for 2026-27

Tenakill Middle School

Academic Assistance Programs

Continuing the after school Academic Assistance Programs: three days per week from October to May, which provides small group support and targeted instruction in math and ESL

Summer Academic Program

Offered the Summer Program in July 2026 to provide small group support and targeted instruction in math and language arts and will offer it in July 2027

New Student Screening (DIBELS)

Continue screening new students in grades 5-6 using DIBELS (ORF and MAZE)

Dyslexia Staff Training

Dyslexia training for special education staff and identified mandated staff members (January 2027)

Ongoing Professional Development

Providing Professional Development on an ongoing basis using a coaching model for ELA, mathematics and science through the Northern Valley Curriculum Center


MINDFUL COMMUNICATOR
CRITICAL THINKER
SELF-DIRECTED LEARNER
EMPOWERED DECISION MAKER
RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN
WELL-BALANCED INDIVIDUAL
PROFILE OF A
Closter Public Schools
Hillside
Tenakill
CLOSTER LEARNER