



Culpeper County Public Schools

TO: Dr. Anthony S. Brads, Superintendent

FROM: Robert T. Hauman, Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: VDOE Public Release of SOL Scores

DATE: August 16, 2016

The VDOE has released overall division scores in a format similar to what we would have called the AMO (Annual Measureable Objectives) Report using the federal accountability system under the previous NCLB system. This report summarizes information by division, grade, and subgroup. The state has also released reports by school using the previous accountability system. It is important to note, state and federal accountability systems calculate data differently. Students counted in the calculations and how a school can earn recovery bonus points are different in each system. Results on these reports will be different than results on the final State Accreditation Report. In a report only available to division staff using the state accountability system, marked Preliminary-Not for Public Release, we see calculations slightly different than today's released report. VDOE indicates that these school reports will become public on September 14, 2016.

Below is a brief comparison of statewide Virginia results and Culpeper results:

	Virginia	Culpeper	Previous Year
English Reading Performance All Students	80	78	76
Math Performance All Students	80	83	82
Writing Performance All Students	77	73	73
History Performance All Students	86	86	84
Science Performance All Students	83	84	80

I have included some previous year information because I believe there is interest in considering the impact of the new calendar and SOL results. This information is skewed slightly because it includes elementary schools. The change in the elementary calendar did not impact their testing schedule. The impact of the calendar can only be seen when examining secondary (middle school and high school) results. I believe that once we see public school-wide results we will see increases in several areas within our secondary results. However, the calendar alone is not an indicator of all of the interventions that took place last year that contributed to an increase in scores.

Also noted in the VDOE release, SOL tests changed significantly last year with the application of critical-thinking skills and the adjustable difficulty level of CAT (Computer Adaptive Testing) questions. Like the results with previous versions of SOL assessments, the division will likely see another increase in scores once students become more comfortable with the new testing format.

Other notable "All Students" scores from today's release:

	Virginia	Culpeper	Previous Year
Grade 3 English: Reading	76	72	70
Grade 4 English: Reading	77	74	78
Grade 5 English: Reading	81	81	76
Grade 6 English: Reading	77	77	73
Grade 7 English: Reading	82	82	77
Grade 8 English: Reading	75	74	70
End-of-Course Reading	89	90	85
Grade 8 Writing	71	64	62
End-of-Course Writing	83	82	85
VA Studies (4 th grade)	87	88	86
Civics & Economics	87	86	84
World History I	84	83	82
World History II	86	87	86
VA & U.S. History	86	84	82
Grade 3 Mathematics	77	77	79
Grade 4 Mathematics	83	87	89
Grade 5 Mathematics	79	86	82
Grade 6 Mathematics	82	75	84
Grade 7 Mathematics	72	83	81
Grade 8 Mathematics	73	86	86
Algebra I	83	83	76
Algebra II	89	91	88
Geometry	80	83	77
Grade 5 Science	81	85	78
Grade 8 Science	79	81	74
Earth Science	84	81	81
Biology	84	85	83
Chemistry	88	91	84

As I noted earlier, this information is for "All Students" as measured by the previous federal accountability system. We have areas where we have made improvements with the smaller gap groups or subgroups, now known as reporting groups, but we also have areas for improvement.

I will certainly prepare to share school-specific information with the board as soon as possible after the reports are released by VDOE. Please let me know if there is any additional information