

## **Bibb County School District**

**Department of Communications / Community & School Affairs**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **2019 GEORGIA MILESTONES RESULTS RELEASED**

*Trend Shows Bibb Students Closing Gap with State, Particularly in Reading/ELA*

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(MACON, GA) - Today, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) released school- and district-level results for the spring administration of the 2019 Georgia Milestones Assessment System and students in Bibb County showed steady growth across the content areas. In particular, new high scores were achieved in English Language Arts (ELA)/Reading in third through ninth grades. This achievement celebrates the hard work students and teachers have put into focusing on the District's strategic priority of getting students reading on grade level.

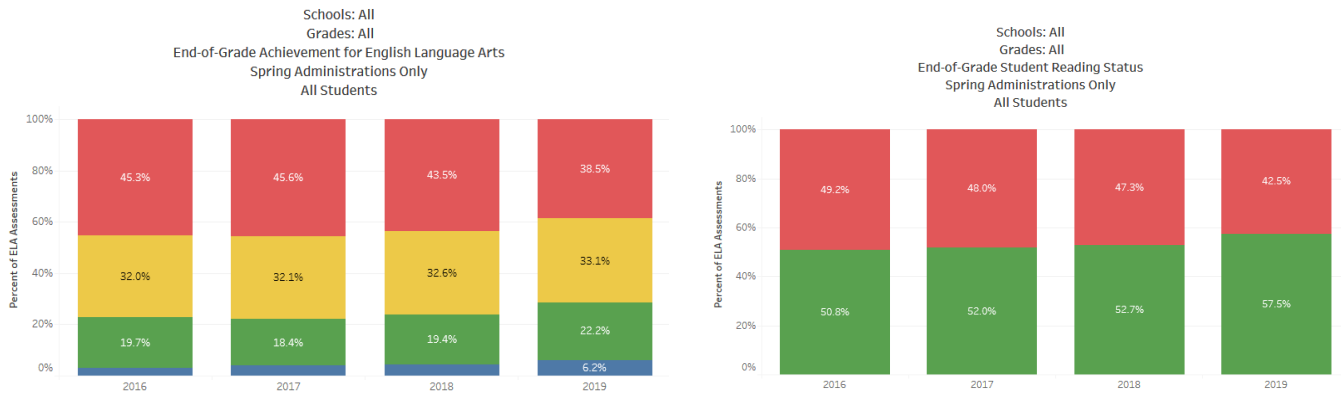
"I am truly excited by the data released from this administration of the Georgia Milestones. This year's increases in ELA demonstrate that we are moving in the right direction. Our scores show a trend of getting better each year, and I am proud to say we are closing the achievement gap with the state across multiple grades and content areas. I want to thank teachers for their dedication and hard work. This is Victory in Progress and definitely worth celebrating," Superintendent Dr. Curtis Jones said.

Georgia Milestones results are reported by proficiency levels that indicate student mastery of the tested grade-level standards in core content areas. The levels are Beginning Learner, Developing Learner, Proficient Learner and Distinguished Learner. The goal is for students to achieve ratings of Developing Learner or higher to demonstrate they are prepared to be promoted to the next grade level.

When monitoring the trend for ELA, 54.7 percent of students in third through eighth grade in 2016 scored at Developing Learner or higher. By spring 2019, the percentage of third through eighth grade students scoring at Developing Learner or higher had increased to 61.5 percent. Likewise, when monitoring the trend for the percentage of students in third through eighth grades reading on grade level, the total increased from 50.8 percent in 2016 to 57.5 percent in spring 2019.

**-MORE-**

*Vision: Each student will demonstrate strength of character and will be college or career ready.  
Mission: The Bibb County School District develops a highly trained staff and an engaged community dedicated to educating each student for a 21st century global society.*



While more Bibb students scored at Developing Learner or higher in ELA, the District also closed the achievement gap with the state in third through ninth grade ELA.

- In 2017, Bibb third-graders scoring at Developing Learner or higher were 20 percentage points below the state average. By 2019, Bibb third-graders closed that gap by 6 percentage points as 57 percent of Bibb third-graders scored at Developing Learner or higher in ELA compared to 71 percent of Georgia third-graders.
- In fourth grade, the ELA gap with the state also closed by 6 percentage points between 2017 and 2019.
- In fifth grade, the ELA gap with the state closed by 3 percentage points between 2017 and 2019.
- In sixth grade, the ELA gap with the state closed by 9 percentage points between 2017 and 2019, with Bibb sixth-graders scoring at Developing Learner or higher moving from 46 percent in 2017 to 59 percent in 2019 while the state only moved from 70 percent in 2017 to 74 percent in 2019.
- In seventh grade, the ELA gap with the state also closed by 9 percentage points between 2017 and 2019, with Bibb seventh-graders scoring at Developing Learner or higher moving from 47 percent in 2017 to 57 percent in 2019 while the state only moved from 71 percent in 2017 to 72 percent in 2019.
- In eighth grade, the ELA gap with the state closed by 2 percentage points between 2017 and 2019.
- In ninth grade Literature, the gap with the state closed by 4 percentage points between 2017 and 2019.

The trending increase in ELA and reading data for Bibb County can be attributed to various factors, including the implementation of the District’s Literacy Plan, an increase in the use of assessments and Accelerated Reader, the support of community partners like United Way of Central Georgia and Mercer University who are working to increase the number of volunteers serving as reading tutors, and the hard work of Bibb County teachers who are implementing consistent targeted remediation for students.

As one example of how schools have made improvements, at Skyview Elementary 76.3 percent of students in third through fifth grade scored at Developing Learner or higher in 2016. By 2019, 93.5 percent of third through fifth grade students at Skyview scored at Developing Learner or higher. “At Skyview teachers work in professional learning communities weekly to analyze both STAR Reading and Write Score data,” said Skyview School Principal Sara Carlson. “Teachers use their data to inform small-group instruction and instruction during their grade-level intervention block. Incorporating literacy in all we do is an expectation throughout the school in every content area.”

Among high school students, the most notable increase for Bibb County was in Physical Science. In 2017, 32 percent of high school students scored at Developing Learner or higher in Physical Science compared to 67 percent of students in Georgia. By 2019, 72 percent of Bibb high school students scored at Developing Learner or higher in Physical Science compared to 74 percent of students in Georgia.

*A review of the Bibb County School District’s Georgia Milestones results for 2019 appear on the next pages.*

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### 3 Year Comparison - GA Milestones Results Elementary End of Grade Results

Milestones Results	2019 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)	2018 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)	2017 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade ELA Bibb</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>53%</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade ELA State	71%	67%	73%
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Math Bibb</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>71%</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Math State	82%	83%	80%
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Bibb</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>56%</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA State	75%	73%	73%
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Bibb</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>69%</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math State	82%	84%	82%
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Bibb</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>61%</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade ELA State	76%	76%	74%
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Bibb</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>64%</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math State	76%	76%	75%
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Bibb</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>53%</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science State	70%	69%	69%
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Bibb</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>60%</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies State	78%	76%	73%

### 3 Year Comparison - GA Milestones Results Middle School End of Grade Results

Milestones Results	2019 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)	2018 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)	2017 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)
<b>6th Grade ELA Bibb</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>46%</b>
6th Grade ELA State	74%	68%	70%
<b>6th Grade Math Bibb</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>52%</b>
6th Grade Math State	78%	76%	76%
<b>7th Grade ELA Bibb</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>47%</b>
7th Grade ELA State	72%	72%	71%
<b>7th Grade Math Bibb</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>56%</b>
7th Grade Math State	78%	77%	77%
<b>8th Grade ELA Bibb</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>64%</b>
8th Grade ELA State	80%	78%	80%
<b>8th Grade Math Bibb</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>56%</b>
8th Grade Math State	73%	75%	76%
<b>8th Grade Science Bibb</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>36%</b>
8th Grade Science State	62%	62%	58%
<b>8th Grade Social Studies Bibb</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>58%</b>
8th Grade Social Studies State	78%	78%	75%

### 3 Year Comparison - GA Milestones Results High School End of Course Results

Milestones Results	2019 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)	2018 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)	2017 Percent of Students Developing, Proficient and Distinguished (Levels 2, 3 & 4)
<b>9th Grade Literature Bibb</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>76%</b>
9th Grade Literature State	87%	82%	89%
<b>American Literature Bibb</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>64%</b>
American Literature State	80%	79%	82%
<b>Coordinate Algebra Bibb</b>	<b>-%</b>	<b>-%</b>	<b>-%</b>
Coordinate Algebra State	-%	69%	70%
<b>Analytical Geometry Bibb</b>	<b>-%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>28%</b>
Analytical Geometry State	-%	63%	68%
<b>Algebra I Bibb</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>48%</b>
Algebra State	73%	72%	70%
<b>Geometry Bibb</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>57%</b>
Geometry State	71%	69%	75%
<b>Biology Bibb</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>55%</b>
Biology State	71%	71%	70%
<b>Physical Science Bibb</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>32%</b>
Physical Science State	74%	73%	67%
<b>US History Bibb</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>48%</b>
US History State	78%	77%	76%
<b>Economics Bibb</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>53%</b>
Economics State	75%	76%	72%