



TRITON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NEWBURY • ROWLEY • SALISBURY

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To: Parents/Guardians
From: Sandra J. Halloran, Ed.D
Date: October 27, 2009
Re: State releases growth data for schools and districts

Today the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education released school and district growth reports. The median or “typical” student at each of the district’s schools grew at the following percentiles in English language arts and mathematics, according to the state’s new growth model released on Tuesday that compares students with similar MCAS score histories. Results also show that the median or “typical” student in the **Triton Regional School District** grew at the percentiles noted in the following table.

Percentage of Student Growth on MCAS from 2008 to 2009: Newbury Elementary School

	<u>ELA</u>		<u>Math</u>	
	<i>NES</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>NES</i>	<i>District</i>
Grade 4	54	53	57	58
Grade 5	71	56	71	70
Grade 6	81	67	71	72

Percentage of Student Growth on MCAS from 2008 to 2009: Pine Grove School

	<u>ELA</u>		<u>Math</u>	
	<i>PGS</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>PGS</i>	<i>District</i>
Grade 4	53	53	61	58
Grade 5	58	56	70	70
Grade 6	60	67	75	72

Percentage of Student Growth on MCAS from 2008 to 2009: Salisbury Elementary School

	<u>ELA</u>		<u>Math</u>	
	<i>SES</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>SES</i>	<i>District</i>
Grade 4	52	53	54	58
Grade 5	48	56	64	70
Grade 6	57	67	72	72

Percentage of Student Growth on MCAS from 2008 to 2009: Triton Middle School

	<u>ELA</u>		<u>Math</u>	
	<u>TMS</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>TMS</u>	<u>District</u>
Grade 7	35	35	52	52
Grade 8	34	35	48	48

Percentage of Student Growth on MCAS from 2008 to 2009: Triton High School

	<u>ELA</u>		<u>Math</u>	
	<u>THS</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>THS</u>	<u>District</u>
Grade 10	50	49	46	47

This is the first time Massachusetts has used a growth model to evaluate student performance. The results measure individual student progress on the state's assessment test by tracking the scores from one year to the next. Whereas basic test results reflect how a student performed on a particular assessment, growth reports detail how much the student's performance has changed from year to year compared to students with similar test score histories.

School and district growth reports are developed by aggregating the student growth percentiles for all students in the school or district to determine the median student growth percentile. Results are calculated only for students in grades 4–8 who have two or more consecutive years of MCAS results and students in grade 10 with MCAS results from grade 8.

According to the growth model results, high growth is defined as growth in a subject at or above the 60th percentile, typical growth is between the 40th and 60th percentile, and low growth is below the 40th percentile.

Growth for individual students is measured by comparing the change in his or her MCAS performance from one year to the next to that of their "academic peers," other students in the state with a similar MCAS performance history. This "student growth percentile" (SGP) indicates how high or low a student's growth was as compared to their academic peers.

This year's growth report includes results for student in grades 4–8 and grade 10 in English language arts and mathematics. The data is calculated using historical MCAS results going back at least two years.

Growth data alone does not create a full picture of school, district or student performance; the reports are meant to be used in conjunction with MCAS achievement level results.

Should you have questions regarding this information please contact your child's principal.