



TENNESSEE

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

SY24-25 UPDATE

JANUARY 23, 2025

PRE-OPENING UPDATES

- Pre-Opening
 - Commission staff have kicked off the pre-opening process as of November
 - Seven schools are undergoing the pre-opening process this year:
 - Invictus Nashville (Nashville)
 - Empower Memphis (Memphis)
 - KIPP Global Elementary (Nashville)
 - Encompass Community School (Nashville)
 - LEAD SE Elementary (Nashville)
 - Nurses Middle College (Nashville)
 - Wooddale Middle School (Memphis)
 - The Commission is also working with NEI to open Nashville Collegiate Prep high school next year using a truncated facility and grade level expansion checklist.



PRE-OPENING UPDATES

- Monthly operator meetings for updates on the pre-opening process and schools' progress throughout the checklist and ready to open criteria.
- Monthly best practice presentations for all pre-opening participants regarding topics of interest for that month.
 - Governing board members are encouraged to attend specific presentations
 - Topics such as data, enrollment, special populations, accountability, and policy creation are covered



ENROLLMENT FOR NEW AND EXPANDING SCHOOLS (SY24-25)

School	Type	Grades	Projected Enrollment	*Actual Enrollment
KIPP Antioch Global Middle School	New Start	5-6	132	112
Rutherford Collegiate Prep	New Start	K-6	765	371
Nashville Collegiate Prep	Expanding	K-8	954	798
Cornerstone Prep School	Expanding	K-2	130	87
Libertas School of Memphis	Expanding	K-6	459	482
Tennessee Nature Academy	Expanding	5-7	202	206
KIPP Antioch Global High School	Expanding	9-10	250	249

*Source: SIS as of January 14, 2025



CONNECTING WITH GOVERNING BOARDS

- Commission staff are meeting with governing boards to foster collaboration and transparent communication.
- Staff presentation covers accountability systems, school performance, and a time for Q&A with board members
- Board members continue to express appreciation for the thorough presentations and data provided.



CONNECTING WITH GOVERNING BOARDS

- Schools/networks covered to date include:
 - Tennessee Nature Academy
 - Rocketship
 - Capstone Education Group
 - IOTA Community Schools
- Remaining governing boards will be visited in the coming months.



BLUFF CITY PROBATIONARY STATUS RECOMMENDATION



BCHS: ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Metric	SY23-24
Student Outcomes	Does Not Meet: Letter Grade C
Mission-specific Goal	Meets
Comparative Performance: All Students	ELA: Does Not Meets
	Math: Does Not Meet
	Science: Falls Far Below
	Social Studies: n/a
Comparative Performance: Subgroups	BHN - ELA: Does Not Meet
	BHN - Math: Does Not Meet
	ED - ELA: Does Not Meet
	ED - Math: Does Not Meet
	EL - ELA: Does Not Meet
	EL - Math: suppressed
	SWD - ELA: Meets
	SWD - Math: Meets
TVAAS Composite	Exceeds
Academic Overall	MEETS STANDARD



BCHS: ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Metric	SY23-24	SY22-23
Student Outcomes	Does Not Meet: Letter Grade C	Falls Far Below: Letter Grade F
Mission-specific Goal	Meets	Meets
Comparative Performance: All Students	ELA: Does Not Meets	ELA: Does Not Meet
	Math: Does Not Meet	Math: Does Not Meet
	Science: Falls Far Below	Science: Does Not Meet
	Social Studies: n/a	Social Studies: Falls Far Below
Comparative Performance: Subgroups	BHN - ELA: Does Not Meet	BHN - ELA: Does Not Meet
	BHN - Math: Does Not Meet	BHN - Math: Does Not Meet
	ED - ELA: Does Not Meet	ED - ELA: Does Not Meet
	ED - Math: Does Not Meet	ED - Math: Does Not Meet
	EL - ELA: Does Not Meet	EL - ELA and Math: suppressed
	EL - Math: suppressed	
	SWD - ELA: Meets	SWD - ELA: suppressed
	SWD - Math: Meets	SWD - Math: suppressed
TVAAS Composite	Exceeds	Falls Far Below
Academic Overall	MEETS STANDARD	DOES NOT MEET STANDARD



BCHS: SITE VISIT FINDINGS

- Strengths:
 - Cultural reset with previous principal returning
 - Students and parents cite satisfaction with the school and feel safe
 - Classroom observations were calm, and majority of students engaged in lessons
 - Governing board is engaged and knowledgeable
 - School has increased enrollment year over year. Parents cite small class size as a benefit of the school



BCHS: NEAREST NEIGHBOR

School Name	LEA / School Type	SY23-24 Letter Grade	SY22-23 Letter Grade
Bluff City High School	TPCSC / Charter - IOTA	C	F
Kirby High School	MSCS / Zoned	D	F
Southwind High School	MSCS / Zoned	B	D
Wooddale High School	MSCS / Zoned	F	F
Memphis School of Excellence (6-12)	MSCS / Charter	C	C
Power Center Academy High School - Hickory Hill	MSCS / Charter	C	D



BCHS: NEAREST NEIGHBOR

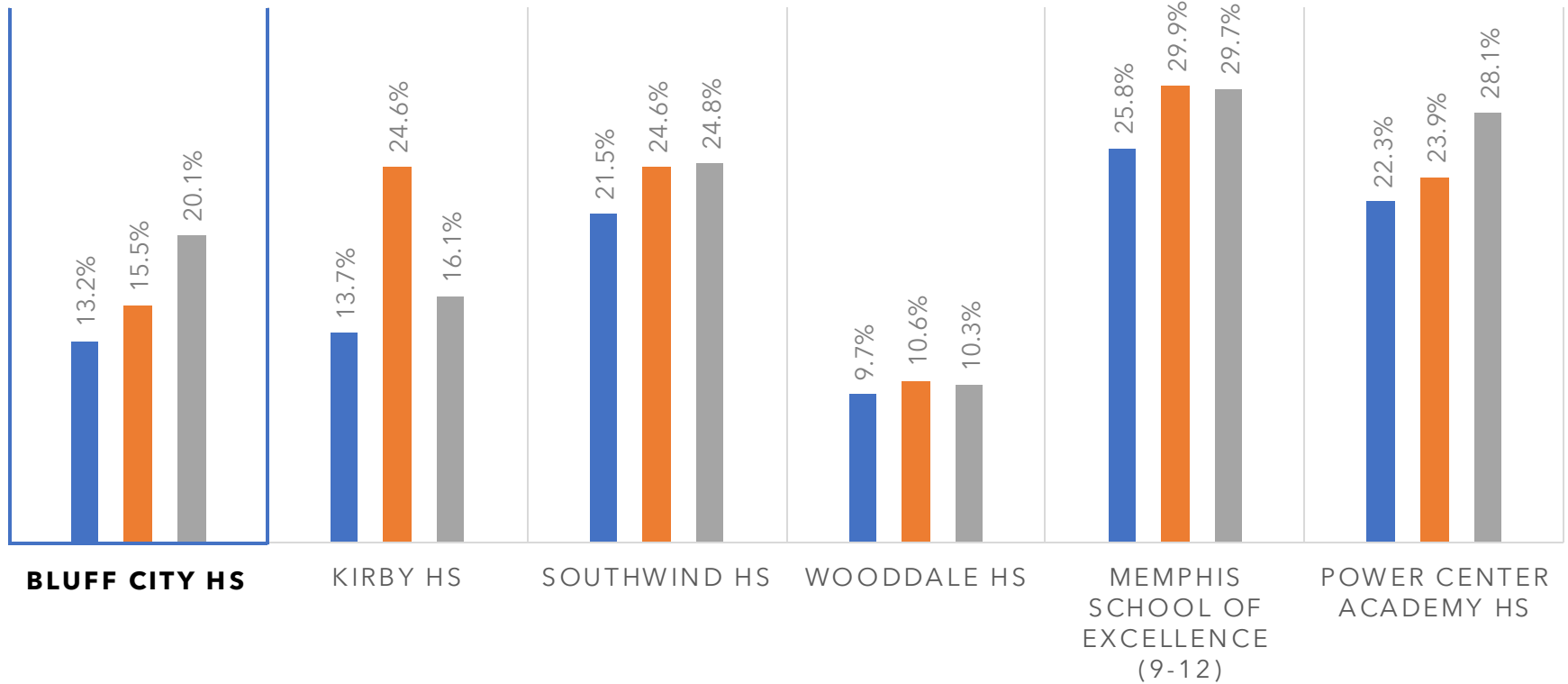
School Name	SY23-24 TVAAS Composite	SY22-23 TVAAS Composite	SY21-22 TVAAS Composite
Bluff City High School	5	1	1
Kirby High School	2	1	1
Southwind High School	5	1	1
Wooddale High School	1	1	1
Memphis School of Excellence (6-12)	5	5	5
Power Center Academy High School - Hickory Hill	5	3	1



BCHS: NEAREST NEIGHBOR

ELA SUCCESS RATE

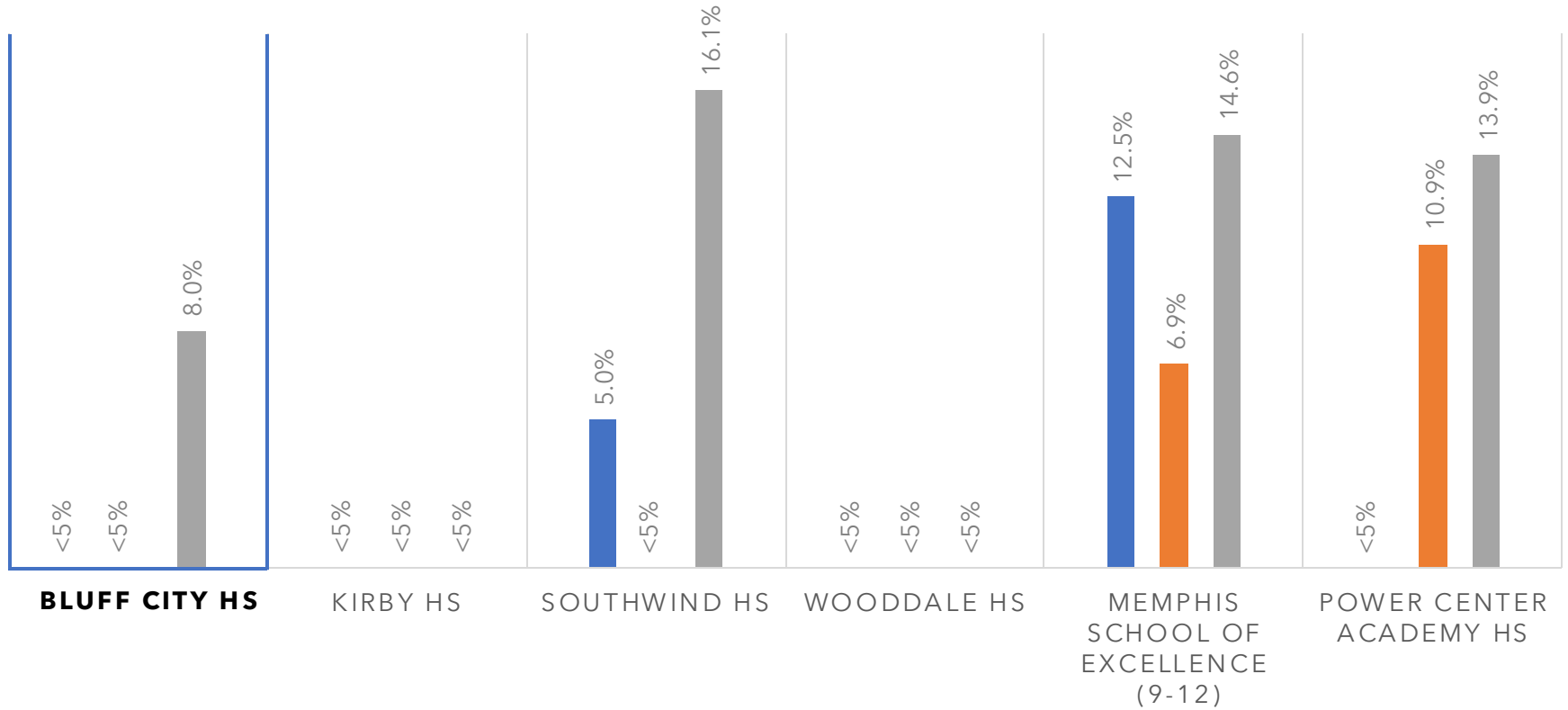
■ SY21-22 Success Rate ■ SY22-23 Success Rate ■ SY23-24 Success Rate



BCHS: NEAREST NEIGHBOR

MATH SUCCESS RATE

■ SY21-22 Success Rate ■ SY22-23 Success Rate ■ SY23-24 Success Rate



BCHS: NEAREST NEIGHBOR

School Name	SY23-24 Chronic Absenteeism Rate	SY22-23 Chronic Absenteeism Rate	SY21-22 Chronic Absenteeism Rate
Bluff City High School	56.0%	66.3%	62.4%
Kirby High School	41.0%	37.0%	24.2%
Southwind High School	23.7%	23.0%	13.9%
Wooddale High School	56.7%	23.2%	21.9%
Memphis School of Excellence (6-12)	19.1%	23.9%	35.4%
Power Center Academy High School - Hickory Hill	25.3%	38.1%	40.7%



BLUFF CITY PROBATIONARY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

- Bluff City made academic progress in SY23-24 and **meets standard** on the Commission's School Performance Framework.
 - This is the first time the school has met standard on the academic section of the Commission's framework.
 - Significant improvements in ELA proficiency.
 - School is a **TVAAS 5** school with a **C letter grade**.
 - Enrollment has increased year over year.



BLUFF CITY PROBATIONARY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

- Challenges remain:
 - Chronic absenteeism continues to be a concern, higher than surrounding schools.
 - Inconsistent leadership and turnover at the school poses questions regarding SY24-25 data.
 - Consistent staffing continues to be challenge.



BLUFF CITY PROBATIONARY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

- Recommendation: move from Tier 3 to Tier 2 intervention.
 - Tier 3 - Notice of Probationary Status
 - Tier 2 - Notice of Deficiency
 - Honors progress the school has made but continues the plan of correction and consistent checkpoints with staff.
- Bluff City will submit renewal application in April 2026. The school understands the next year is critical for renewal prospects.



RENEWAL CRITERIA CREATION



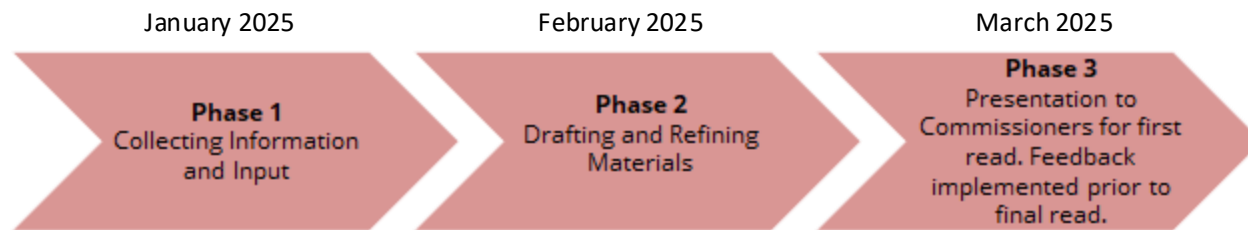
RENEWAL CRITERIA CREATION

- Commission staff are working to develop renewal criteria for all Commission schools.
 - The previous renewal criteria was to handle ASD transition schools.
 - Those were unique given:
 - Limited time under the Commission before renewal
 - Turnaround school setting



RENEWAL CRITERIA CREATION

- Commission staff will use the following approach to develop these criteria:



- Stakeholder engagement with current school operators has begun with an informational survey



RENEWAL CRITERIA CREATION

- This renewal criteria will be evaluated frequently throughout a school's charter term.
 - Provide operators updates (on track/off track) in relation to the criteria throughout the tenure of the charter agreement, particularly during the interim evaluation.
- Draft renewal criteria will be provided to Commissioners for first reading at the March meeting and for final reading at the July meeting.



STUDENT SUPPORTS UPDATES



SCHOOL PROGRAMS PROGRESS

- SY2024-2025 Priorities Updates
 - Professional Development
 - SPS Team Structure
 - Risk Assessment



SPECIAL POPULATIONS TEAM

- Special Populations Team
 - Expanded special populations team has helped SPS team better support school needs and ensure compliance
 - Examples:
 - Beginning of year records/TN Pulse requests
 - Training on new state programs (ILP-D, ELPA21)
 - Meeting 1:35 ESL teacher ratio as LEA
 - Q1 Special Populations Compliance



RISK ASSESSMENT

- Risk Assessment
 - Successfully rolled out first risk assessment for SY24-25
 - Provided training and offered 1:1 meetings with schools, as needed
 - Reduction in administrative burden:
 - Desktop monitoring
 - Subrecipient monitoring instrument
 - Have received positive feedback from our schools
 - Contributed to positive results on Authorizer Evaluation



SCHOOL SAFETY UPDATES

- School Safety Data Collected to Date
 - Fall threat assessment
 - School safety walkthroughs
 - SRO survey



FALL THREAT ASSESSMENT

- Submitted November 30, 2024
 - 22 total threat assessments across 10 schools (59%)
 - Most common result of the threat assessment was a "Student Suspended from School" (11), followed by "Threat Deemed Not Viable" (9)
 - Most common form of threat was "Verbal" (14), followed by "Social Media" (9)
- Schools have threat assessment processes in place to identify and investigate threats and whether they are viable threat
- Next report is due at the end of February



SCHOOL SAFETY WALKTHROUGHS

- School safety rubric was first developed and implemented last school year
- Conducted during annual site visit by Commission staff
- To date, no major finds have been observed
- Commission schools prioritize school safety through secure building access, guest sign-in procedures, and other school safety processes throughout classrooms spaces



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICE SURVEY

- TDOE collected School Resource Officer (SRO) and School Security Officer (SSO) training data in Fall 2024
 - SRO: Certified law enforcement agency assigned to a school
 - SSO: Employee of school assigned to security
- School level breakdown:
 - 2 of 17 schools (12%) have an SRO
 - 13 of 17 schools (76%) have an SSO
 - 2 of 17 schools (12%) have neither an SRO or SSO



EARLY LITERACY DATA

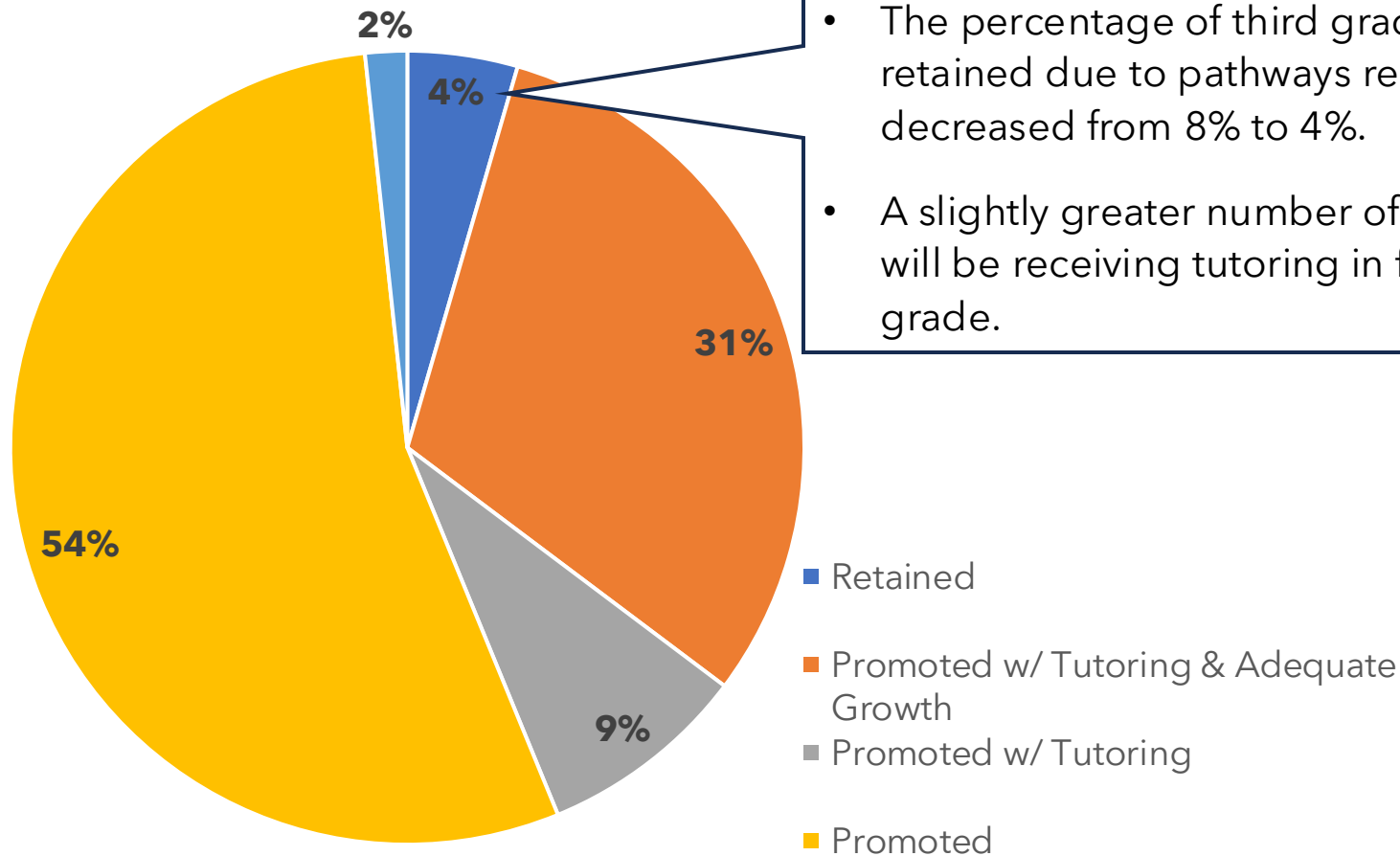


K-2 LITERACY REQUIREMENTS

- Under the Tennessee Literacy Success Act, all schools serving grades K-5 must:
 - Submit a Foundational Literacy Plan to the TDOE for review and approval.
 - Use materials aligned to the Tennessee Academic Standards.
 - Use approved universal student screeners three times/year and submit data to TDOE.
 - Send Home Literacy Reports to parents after the universal screener if a deficiency is detected.



SY23-24 COMMISSION SCHOOLS: THIRD GRADE PATHWAYS

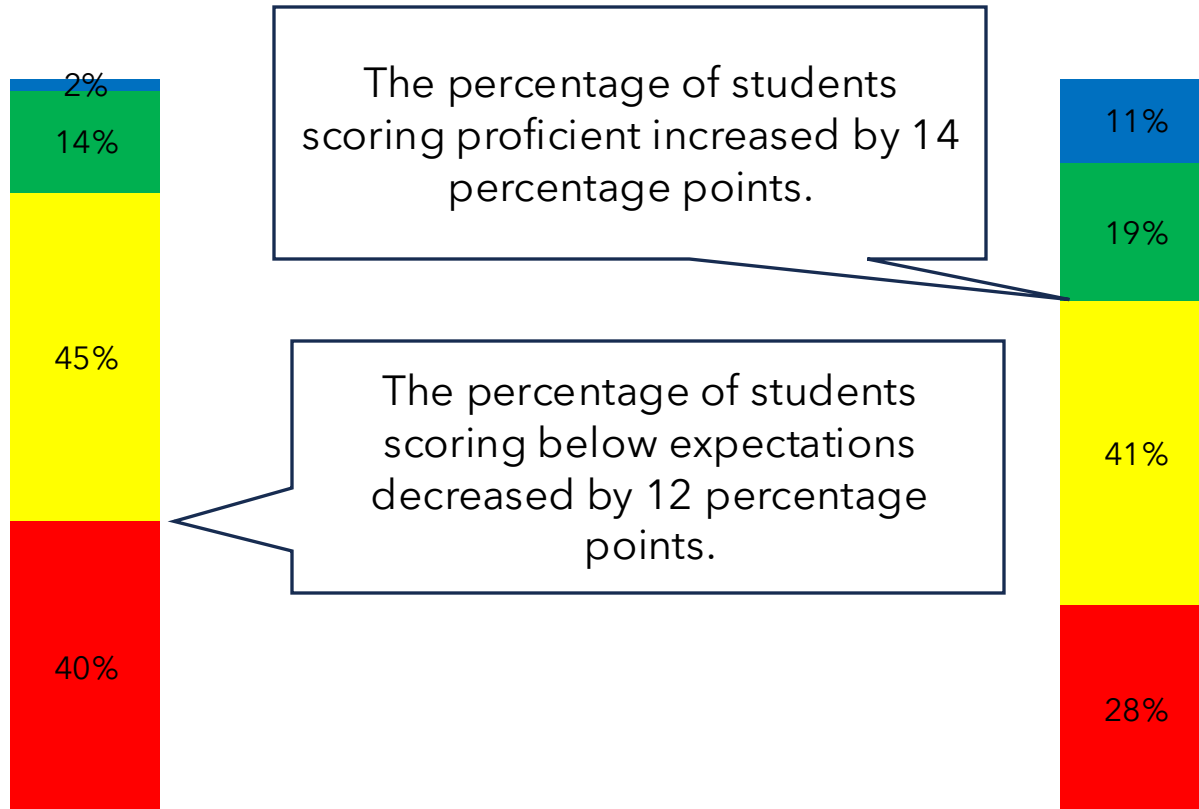


SY23-24 COMMISSION SCHOOLS: FOURTH GRADE PATHWAYS

- For schools authorized by the Commission in SY23-24:
 - 2.5% of the students on the adequate growth pathway were retained
 - 37.3% were promoted with additional tutoring in fifth grade.



TPCSC COHORT COMPARISON



SY22-23 Second Grade Performance Levels

SY23-24 Third Grade Performance Levels

■ Below Expectations ■ Approaching Expectations ■ Met Expectations ■ Exceeded Expectations





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