

Little Rock Assessment Report

Spring 2018-2019

The Little Rock School District (LRSD) was placed under the direction of the Commissioner of Education in January 2015 as a result of being classified in Academic Distress. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver originally classified 7 schools in the LRSD as Priority and in the lowest 5% of schools as measured by multi-year performance of students on the state accountability assessment; 16 of the schools classified as in Focus status (schools that are among the 10% of schools with the widest performance gaps between all students and the aggregate performance of students from low income families, students identified with disabilities, and English Language Learners). Targeted Achievement Gap Group (TAGG) was the term used in the Flexibility Waiver to reference this aggregated set of student populations as a whole. The state classification Academic Distress was removed with the passing of Act 930 of 2017. This was replaced with Levels of Support as part of Act 930. The State Board of Education classified the Little Rock School District in need of Level 5 support on July 13, 2017. Priority and Focus schools were federal designations that were removed when the Arkansas ESSA plan was approved on January 16, 2017. Based on 2018 School Letter Ratings, 22 of LRSD schools received a letter grade of "D" or "F." Eight of the schools have been identified in need of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI).

Assessment Program

The Little Rock School District selected NWEA as their state K-2 assessment which is required to be administered to all students in grades K-2 three times per year in both reading and math. Kindergarten students will start by taking MAP Growth K-2 Reading and Math. Students in second grade that are independent readers transition to the the MAP Growth 2-5 reading and math assessments. Students in grade 6 and above can take the MAP 6+ assessment when ready. LRSD is administering MAP Growth assessments as outlined in Table 1.

Table 1

MAP Growth Subject Test	Grades
Math	K-10
Reading	K-10
Language Usage	2-5
Science	3-10

Assessment Data

NWEA™ provides districts with two pieces of data from their assessments - norms for achievement and growth over time. The scale score is given as a RIT score and is used for a basis for reporting and comparison. The figures in the charts below show progress across the 2018-2019 administrations.

MAP Growth Reading

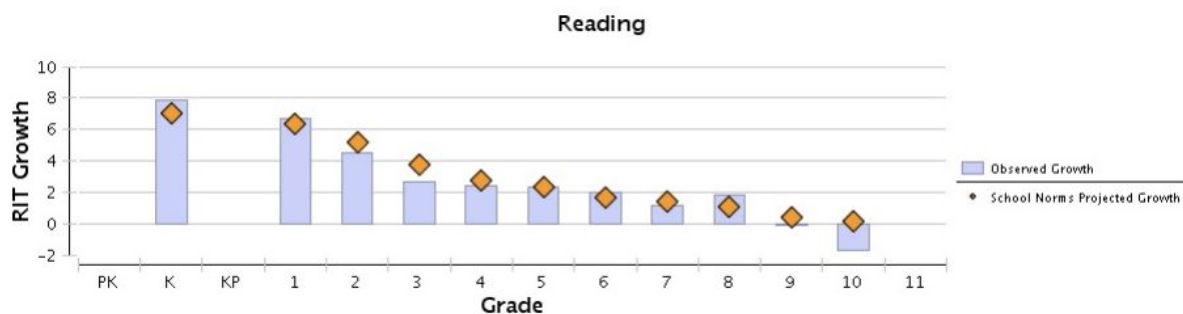
In the LRSD, 4315 students (25.24%) took MAP Growth K-2, 6461 students (37.79%) took MAP Growth 2-5 and 6320 students (36.97%) took MAP Growth 6+. Table 2 shows the number of tests administered by grade in the Spring 2019 administration. The data indicate that approximately 40% of LRSD's second graders are still taking MAP Growth K-2, which is lower than the state average of 30%.

	MAP Growth K-2		MAP Growth 2-5		MAP Growth 6+	
	N	% of total	N	% of total	N	% of total
K	1800	10.53%				
1	1777	10.39%				
2	738	4.32%	1084	6.34%		
3			1790	10.47%		
4			1759	10.29%		
5			1828	10.69%		
6					1568	9.17%
7					1335	7.81%
8					1372	8.03%
9					1116	6.53%
10					929	5.43%
Total	4315	25.24%	6461	37.79%	6320	36.97%

Between the Winter and Spring administrations of NWEA MAP Growth, LRSD students did show improvements in mean RIT score in grades K-8. Students did exceed their projected growth in grades K, 1, 5, 6 and 8. During the fall administration, no grades had met or exceeded their growth goals. The growth is shown in Table 3 by referencing the **School Conditional Growth**. The chart shows the predicted growth based on NWEA's norming group versus LRSD's observed growth during the spring administration. In grades K, 1, 5, 6, 8 and 9, the percentile rankings in the Spring 2019 administration are higher than or equal to those of the Winter 2019 administration, indicating that students in those grades are making progress based on this assessment.

Table 3 Winter 2019 to Spring 2019 Reading Growth Summary

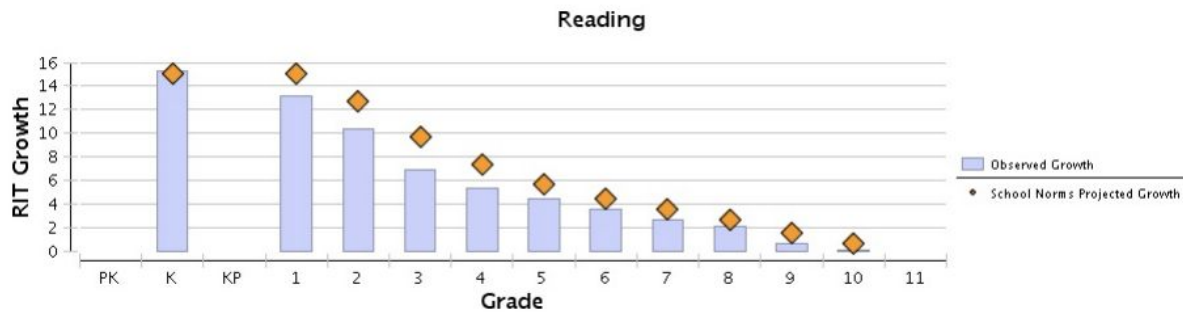
Reading		Comparison Periods						Growth Evaluated Against									
Grade (Spring 2019)	Growth Count	Winter 2019			Spring 2019			Growth		School Norms			Student Norms				
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile	
PK	0	**			**			**					**				
K	1730	147.0	12.0	37	154.9	13.7	43	7.9	0.2	7.0	0.67	75	1,730	932	54	52	
KP	0	**			**			**					**				
1	1693	165.3	15.7	26	172.0	16.5	28	6.7	0.2	6.4	0.27	61	1,693	870	51	49	
2	1751	178.8	17.0	30	183.2	16.8	26	4.5	0.2	5.2	-0.74	23	1,751	841	48	44	
3	1711	188.2	17.9	18	191.0	17.5	15	2.7	0.2	3.8	-1.10	14	1,711	740	43	38	
4	1676	196.1	18.1	16	198.5	17.8	15	2.4	0.2	2.8	-0.62	27	1,676	816	49	45	
5	1754	202.0	17.6	13	204.3	17.5	13	2.3	0.2	2.3	0.01	50	1,754	878	50	46	
6	1467	206.0	17.9	12	208.0	17.2	13	2.0	0.2	1.7	0.31	62	1,467	760	52	48	
7	1275	210.0	18.0	17	211.2	18.1	16	1.2	0.3	1.4	-0.23	41	1,275	640	50	47	
8	1266	212.8	18.4	21	214.6	17.7	24	1.8	0.3	1.1	0.71	76	1,266	697	55	54	
9	102	202.9	18.1	1	202.8	18.5	1	-0.1	1.1	0.4	-0.51	31	102	48	47	42	
10	104	210.8	15.4	11	209.0	16.4	7	-1.7	0.8	0.2	-1.66	5	104	42	40	37	
11	0	**			**			**					**				



Between the Fall and Spring administrations of NWEA MAP Growth, LRSD students did show improvements in mean RIT score. However, the projected growth was only met in K as shown in Table 4 by referencing the **School Conditional Growth Index**. The chart shows the predicted growth based on NWEA's norming group versus LRSD's observed growth during the Spring administration. At all grades except K, the percentile ranking in the Spring 2019 administration was lower than that of the Fall 2018 administration, indicating that across the full span of the year, students are losing ground based on this assessment.

Table 4 Fall 2018 to Spring 2019 Reading Growth Summary

Reading		Comparison Periods						Growth Evaluated Against									
Grade (Spring 2019)	Growth Count†	Fall 2018			Spring 2019			Growth		School Norms			Student Norms				
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile	
PK	0	**			**			**					**				
K	1679	139.7	10.0	41	155.0	13.7	44	15.3	0.2	15.0	0.10	54	1,679	833	50	46	
KP	0	**			**			**					**				
1	1641	159.0	14.3	39	172.1	16.6	29	13.1	0.2	15.0	-0.79	22	1,641	685	42	38	
2	1693	173.2	16.9	41	183.6	16.7	28	10.4	0.2	12.7	-1.09	14	1,693	661	39	35	
3	1636	184.5	17.8	29	191.4	17.5	16	6.9	0.2	9.7	-1.65	5	1,636	577	35	31	
4	1605	193.7	18.2	25	199.0	17.5	16	5.3	0.2	7.3	-1.39	8	1,605	638	40	36	
5	1668	200.5	17.4	20	204.9	17.1	16	4.4	0.2	5.7	-0.87	19	1,668	723	43	40	
6	1279	205.0	18.1	17	208.5	16.9	14	3.6	0.3	4.5	-0.59	28	1,279	567	44	41	
7	1060	208.8	18.1	19	211.5	18.1	17	2.7	0.3	3.5	-0.48	32	1,060	504	48	44	
8	1069	213.5	16.8	31	215.6	16.7	29	2.1	0.3	2.7	-0.30	38	1,069	523	49	48	
9	853	217.7	19.6	36	218.5	20.1	33	0.7	0.3	1.5	-0.35	36	853	378	44	49	
10	603	219.6	18.7	46	219.7	19.2	43	0.1	0.3	0.7	-0.27	39	603	258	43	52	
11	0	**			**			**					**				



NWEA provides a report indicating the percentage of students who are on track to be in each reporting category (In Need of Support, Close, Ready and Exceeding) for ACT Aspire for students in grade 3-8. Of the students tested in LRSD over 78% are predicted to score in the In Need of Support and Close categories on ACT Aspire Reading as shown in the chart below. This is an increase of 2% from the prediction after their Winter administration. It is important to note that NWEA is in the process of updating their linking study for reporting these comparisons.

Chart 1. Prediction toward ACT Aspire Performance Spring 2019

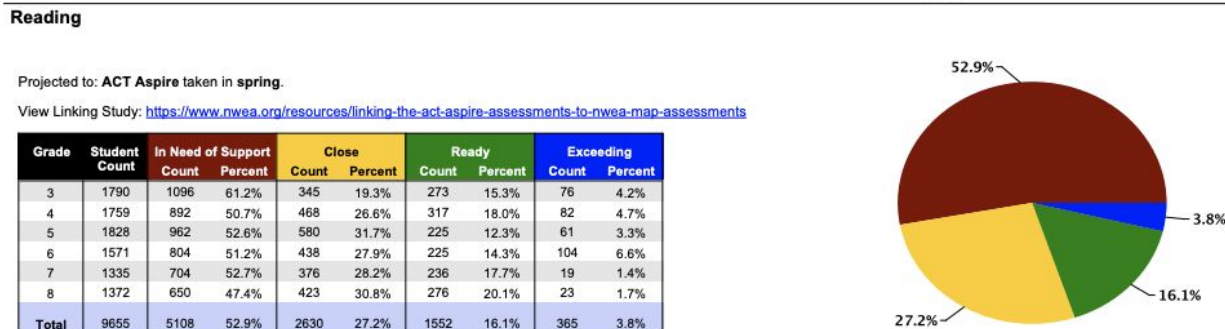


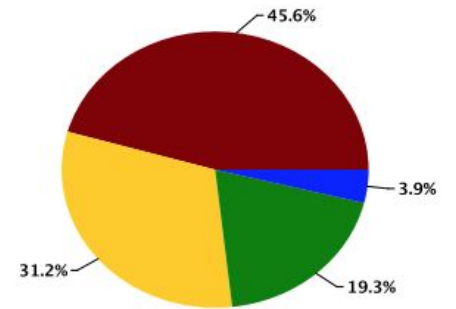
Chart 2. Prediction toward ACT Aspire Performance Winter 2019

Reading

Projected to: ACT Aspire taken in spring.

View Linking Study: <https://www.nwea.org/resources/linking-the-act-aspire-assessments-to-nwea-map-assessments>

Grade	Student Count	In Need of Support		Close		Ready		Exceeding	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
3	1698	870	51.2%	415	24.4%	327	19.3%	86	5.1%
4	1690	698	41.3%	536	31.7%	365	21.6%	91	5.4%
5	1748	811	46.4%	603	34.5%	283	16.2%	51	2.9%
6	1394	622	44.6%	426	30.6%	265	19.0%	81	5.8%
7	1188	590	49.7%	359	30.2%	222	18.7%	17	1.4%
8	1139	445	39.1%	426	37.4%	251	22.0%	17	1.5%
Total	8857	4036	45.6%	2765	31.2%	1713	19.3%	343	3.9%



MAP Growth Math

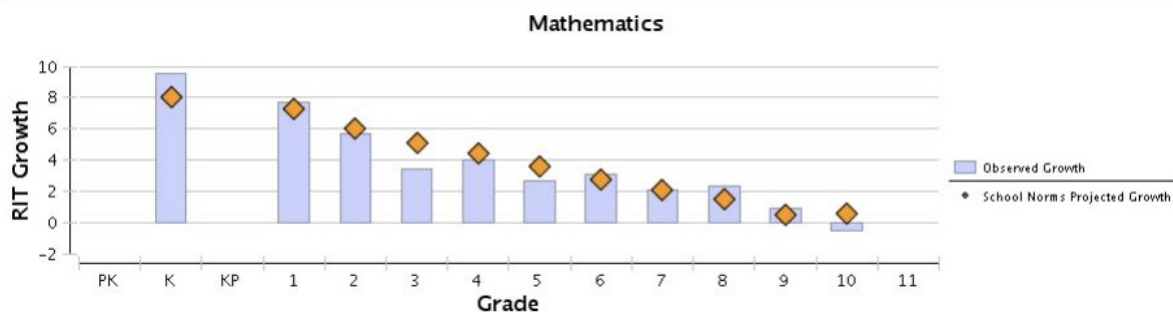
In the Little Rock School district, 4303 students (24.89%) took MAP Growth K-2 Math, 6468 students (37.42%) took MAP Growth 2-5 Math and 6516 students (37.69%) took MAP Growth 6+ Math. Table 5 shows the administration by grade. The data indicate that LRSD is transitioning students to the next level of assessment appropriately.

	MAP Growth K-2		MAP Growth 2-5		MAP Growth 6+	
	N	% of total	N	% of total	N	% of total
K	1797	10.40%				
1	1769	10.23%				
2	737	4.26%	1083	6.26%		
3			1788	10.34%		
4			1762	10.19%		
5			1835	10.61%		
6					1553	8.98%
7					1393	8.06%
8					1392	8.05%
9					1181	6.83%
10					997	5.77%
Total	4303	24.89%	6468	37.42%	6516	37.69%

Between the Winter and Spring administrations of NWEA MAP Growth, LRSD students did show improvements in mean RIT score in grades K-8. Students did exceed their projected growth in grades K, 1, 6, 8 and 9. During the fall administration no grades had met or exceeded their growth goals. The growth is shown in Table 6 by referencing the **School Conditional Growth Index**. The chart shows the predicted growth based on NWEA's norming group versus LRSD's observed growth during the spring administration. In grades K, 1, 6, 7, 8 and, the percentile rankings in the Spring 2019 administration are higher than or equal to those of the Winter 2019 administration, indicating that students in those grades are making progress based on this assessment.

Table 6 Winter 2019 to Spring 2019 Reading Growth Summary

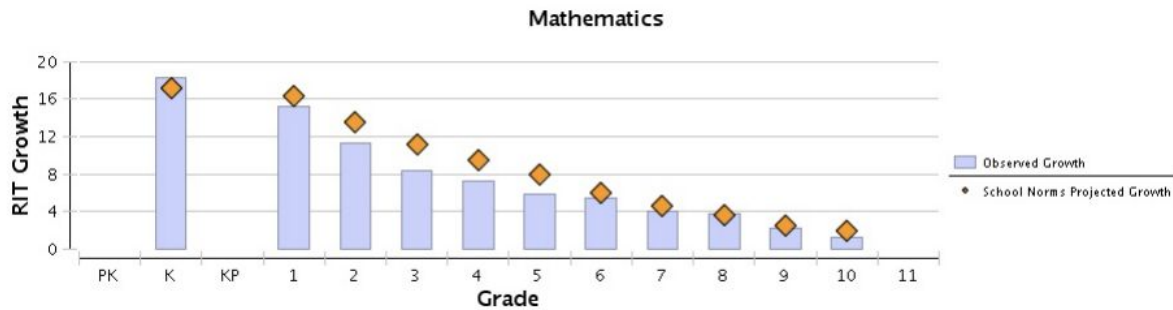
Mathematics		Comparison Periods						Growth Evaluated Against								
Grade (Spring 2019)	Growth Count†	Winter 2019			Spring 2019			Growth		School Norms			Student Norms			
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile
PK	0	**			**			**				**				
K	1725	145.3	14.6	30	154.8	15.7	39	9.5	0.2	8.0	1.14	87	1,725	1054	61	60
KP	0	**			**			**				**				
1	1672	167.0	16.0	23	174.7	17.2	26	7.7	0.2	7.3	0.34	63	1,672	856	51	47
2	1738	180.0	14.1	24	185.7	14.4	23	5.7	0.2	6.0	-0.25	40	1,738	802	46	42
3	1711	190.1	14.0	15	193.5	14.1	10	3.4	0.1	5.1	-1.90	3	1,711	649	38	31
4	1673	198.5	15.1	9	202.5	15.9	8	4.0	0.2	4.4	-0.40	34	1,673	767	46	42
5	1777	206.6	17.1	11	209.3	17.9	9	2.7	0.1	3.6	-0.85	20	1,777	785	43	40
6	1469	210.3	17.4	8	213.4	17.5	8	3.1	0.2	2.8	0.34	63	1,469	794	54	47
7	1333	214.9	19.3	10	217.0	19.9	10	2.1	0.2	2.1	-0.03	49	1,333	664	50	46
8	1310	219.6	20.2	16	221.9	20.3	19	2.3	0.2	1.5	0.86	80	1,310	708	54	51
9	95	213.0	19.4	2	213.9	20.8	3	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.41	66	95	51	54	48
10	100	219.5	16.7	13	219.0	19.7	11	-0.5	0.9	0.6	-1.00	16	100	49	49	43
11	0	**			**			**				**				



Between the Fall and Spring administrations of NWEA MAP Growth, LRSD students did show improvements in mean RIT score. However, the projected growth was only met in grades K and 8 as shown in Table 7 by referencing the **School Conditional Growth Index**. The chart shows the predicted growth based on NWEA's norming group versus LRSD's observed growth during the Spring administration. At all grades except K, 8 and 9, the percentile ranking in the Spring 2019 administration were lower than that of the Fall 2018 administration, indicating that across the full span of the year, students are losing ground based on this assessment in grades 1-7 and 10.

Table 7 Fall 2018 to Spring 2019 Math Growth Summary

Mathematics		Comparison Periods						Growth Evaluated Against									
Grade (Spring 2019)	Growth Count†	Fall 2018			Spring 2019			Growth		School Norms			Student Norms				
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile	
PK	0	**			**			**					**				
K	1674	136.9	12.2	33	155.0	15.6	40	18.2	0.2	17.1	0.42	66	1,674	947	57	55	
KP	0	**			**			**					**				
1	1633	159.5	15.3	31	174.7	17.3	26	15.2	0.2	16.3	-0.43	33	1,633	735	45	42	
2	1697	174.6	14.1	35	185.9	14.4	24	11.3	0.2	13.5	-0.95	17	1,697	628	37	34	
3	1643	185.5	13.8	20	193.8	14.2	11	8.4	0.2	11.2	-1.54	6	1,643	522	32	28	
4	1620	195.4	15.1	14	202.7	15.9	9	7.3	0.2	9.5	-1.15	13	1,620	566	35	31	
5	1722	203.8	16.7	14	209.6	17.7	10	5.8	0.2	7.9	-0.93	18	1,722	553	32	29	
6	1346	208.2	16.6	10	213.5	17.1	9	5.4	0.2	6.0	-0.38	35	1,346	559	42	40	
7	1148	212.9	18.6	10	216.9	19.8	9	4.0	0.2	4.6	-0.36	36	1,148	543	47	42	
8	1165	217.9	19.2	17	221.7	20.0	18	3.8	0.2	3.6	0.12	55	1,165	585	50	47	
9	960	225.3	22.9	29	227.5	23.3	29	2.2	0.3	2.5	-0.14	45	960	478	50	47	
10	793	229.8	21.5	49	231.1	22.9	46	1.3	0.3	2.0	-0.33	37	793	388	49	47	
11	0	**			**			**					**				



NWEA provides a report indicating the percentage of students who are on track to be in each reporting category (In Need of Support, Close, Ready and Exceeding) for ACT Aspire for students in grade 3-8. Of the students tested in the LRSD, over 83% are predicted to score in the In Need of Support and Close categories on ACT Aspire Math as shown in Chart 3 below. This is an increase from the 78% prediction during the Fall administration as shown in Chart 4. It is important to note that NWEA is in the process of updating their linking study for reporting these comparisons.

Chart 3. Prediction toward ACT Aspire Performance Spring 2019

Mathematics

Projected to: **ACT Aspire** taken in **spring**.

View Linking Study: <https://www.nwea.org/resources/linking-the-act-aspire-assessments-to-nwea-map-assessments>

Grade	Student Count	In Need of Support		Close		Ready		Exceeding	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
3	1788	809	45.2%	625	35.0%	311	17.4%	43	2.4%
4	1762	703	39.9%	799	45.3%	229	13.0%	31	1.8%
5	1836	719	39.2%	820	44.7%	251	13.7%	46	2.5%
6	1553	740	47.6%	558	35.9%	210	13.5%	45	2.9%
7	1393	875	62.8%	282	20.2%	185	13.3%	51	3.7%
8	1392	886	63.6%	272	19.5%	141	10.1%	93	6.7%
Total	9724	4732	48.7%	3356	34.5%	1327	13.6%	309	3.2%

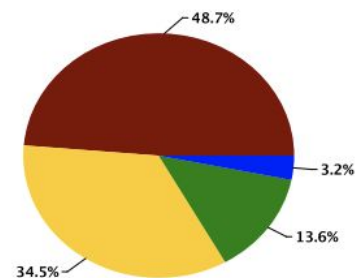


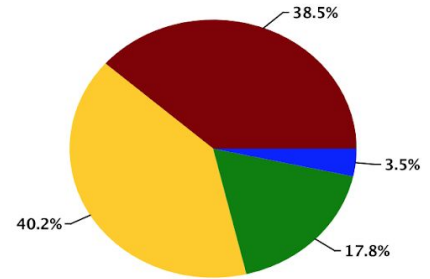
Chart 4. Prediction toward ACT Aspire Performance Winter 2019

Mathematics

Projected to: ACT Aspire taken in spring.

View Linking Study: <https://www.nwea.org/resources/linking-the-act-aspire-assessments-to-nwea-map-assessments>

Grade	Student Count	In Need of Support		Close		Ready		Exceeding	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
3	1712	510	29.8%	665	38.8%	453	26.5%	84	4.9%
4	1702	438	25.7%	891	52.4%	347	20.4%	26	1.5%
5	1805	483	26.8%	935	51.8%	327	18.1%	60	3.3%
6	1463	556	38.0%	626	42.8%	241	16.5%	40	2.7%
7	1256	785	62.5%	270	21.5%	155	12.3%	46	3.7%
8	1235	762	61.7%	301	24.4%	111	9.0%	61	4.9%
Total	9173	3534	38.5%	3688	40.2%	1634	17.8%	317	3.5%



Summary

This is LRSD's first year to administer NWEA district-wide, so there is not stable historical data for comparison at this time. Between the fall and spring administrations, the district overall is showing the growth that is expected in some grades, but not all. Many schools scored in the very low percentile(s) during the fall administration, and even lower during the winter and spring administrations. In 2017-2018 LRSD had 22% Ready/Exceeding in reading and 36% Ready/Exceeding in math on the ACT Aspire Summative Assessment.