



Superintendent's Report

October 14, 2025

Class of 2025
Decision Profile



2025 WHS College Decision Profile Overview



Post Graduate Plans for the Class of 2025

There were 208 graduates in the Class of 2025 and 94% will be continuing their education:

93% enrolled in a four-year college/university

1% enrolled in a two-year college

6% choosing other options: Military, Gap Year, Employment



Top 10 College Applications - Class of 2025

1. University of Massachusetts, Amherst (128 applicants, 67 accepted, 14 attending)
2. Northeastern University (70 applicants, 24 accepted, 10 attending)
3. University of Connecticut (59 applicants, 35 accepted, 2 attending)
4. Fairfield University (56 applicants, 23 accepted, 9 attending)
5. Boston College (52 applicants, 11 accepted, 5 attending)
6. University of New Hampshire (45 applicants, 35 accepted, 0 attending)
7. Quinnipiac University (43 applicants, 36 accepted, 7 attending)
8. Boston University (42 applicants, 6 accepted, 0 attending)
9. Providence College (42 applicants, 15 accepted, 3 attending)
10. Pennsylvania State University (40 applicants, 18 accepted, 3 attending)

* Data based on student self-report for acceptance numbers.

Top 10 Colleges Attending - Class of 2025



Name	# of Students
University of Massachusetts-Amherst	14
Northeastern University	10
Fairfield University	9
Quinnipiac University	7
Boston College	5
Stonehill College	5
Bentley University	4
College of the Holy Cross	4
Merrimack College	4
Syracuse University	4



Early Action/Early Decision Data- Emerging Trends

ED continues to change the admission landscape- at WHS 39% of the class of 2025 applied either ED1 or ED2

Breaking down this year's early acceptances:

- Early Decision: 69 applications, 34 were accepted (50%)
- Early Decision II: 14 applications, 8 were accepted (57%)
- Early Action: 966 applications, 627 were accepted (66%)

Curriculum/Program Reviews

Curriculum Review

The Westwood Public Schools Curriculum Review Process ensures that all content areas and district programs are high-quality, rigorous, aligned with state standards and utilizing research-based best practices, and most importantly, *yielding excellent outcomes for all students.*

The Curriculum Review cycle consists of three phases:
Audit + Analyze, Research + Development, and Implement + Assess.

WPS Curriculum Review Cycle

Launching:	● K-5 Literacy ● 9-12 Guidance
Review In Progress:	● Performing Arts ● Visual Arts
In Implementation:	● Wellness ● World Language ● Library Media/Digital Literacy and Computer Science
Up Next:	● Science and Engineering

Visual & Performing Arts

- **Spring 2025: Vision work with departments**
- **Fall 2025**
 - Launching (PA) and continuing (VA) Steering Committee meetings
 - Administering student and family surveys
 - Compiling curriculum maps, materials, and documents/data
 - Walkthroughs, peer observations, shadowing students
- **Winter-Spring 2026**
 - Analysis of data gathered: *To what extent is the current curriculum rigorous, relevant, and comprehensive? To what extent is the current curriculum aligned with state standards and research-based practices? To what extent is the curriculum culturally responsive, engaging, and effective for all learners?*
 - Identify goals and/or gaps, and create a theory of action to guide next steps

K-5 Literacy - Launching

- Last ELA/Literacy Curriculum Review done pre-pandemic
 - **Key K-5 Finding:** Curriculum and resources vary between classrooms and grade levels
 - **2020 Recommendation:** Adopt and implement specific Teachers College Reading and Writing Units of Study
- Evolving literacy landscape, with growing Science of Reading research and legislative action around early literacy curriculum
- WPS wants to make sure teachers have the best tools to do the job, and also be ready to respond to state requirements

K-5 Literacy Timeline

- **Fall 2025**

- Launch Steering Committee
- Administer student, teacher, and family surveys
- Compile curriculum maps, materials, and documents/data

- **Winter-Spring 2026**

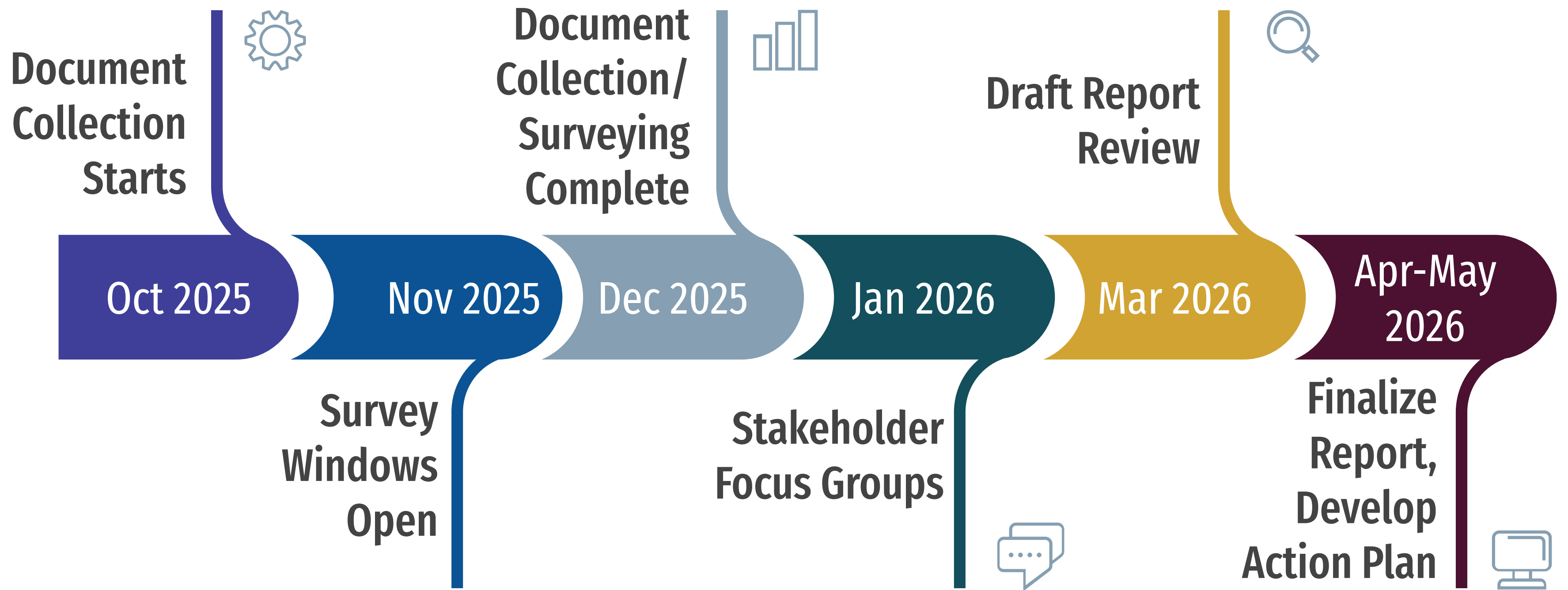
- Conduct walkthroughs, peer observations, shadow students
- Research literacy best practices, and high quality curricular materials available
- Identify promising curricular materials to pilot in 2026-2027

- **School Year 2026-2027**

- Pilot ~3 literacy programs
- Conduct labsites and visit other schools implementing these programs
- Make a recommendation for WPS adoption for SY2027-2028

9-12 Guidance - Launching

- First Guidance Program Review in WPS memory
- Partnering with MASCA
 - ***“The MASCA Program Review Committee will provide a holistic, strengths-based assessment of a school counseling department’s efforts to develop a comprehensive program which supports students’ academic, social/emotional, and college/career readiness. ”***
- MASCA will review documents, survey staff, students, and families to produce a draft report in March
- WPS will then convene a Steering Committee to review the report, prioritize recommendations, and create an implementation plan beginning in Spring 2026



MASCA Program Review Timeline

Questions?

Student Travel Update

Summer Capital Projects



Sheehan Electric Service Upgrade



Sheehan Electric Service Upgrade



Sheehan KG Classroom Univent Upgrade



Sheehan Addition of Hot Water Boilers



High School Kitchen, Tilt Skillet



High School Kitchen, Dishwasher



High School Cafeteria Furniture



TMS Breakout Spaces 124 & 125



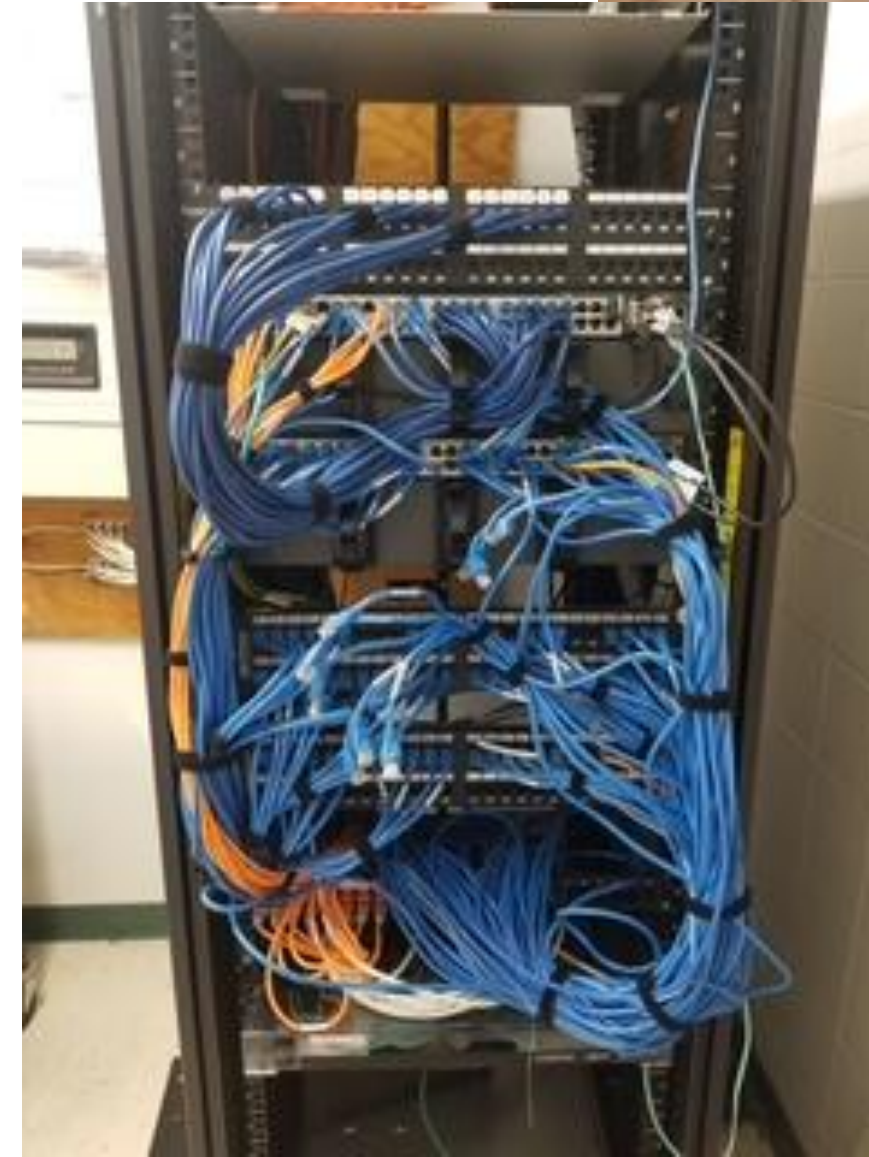
TMS Addition of security cameras



TMS 8th Gr. Modular New Roof



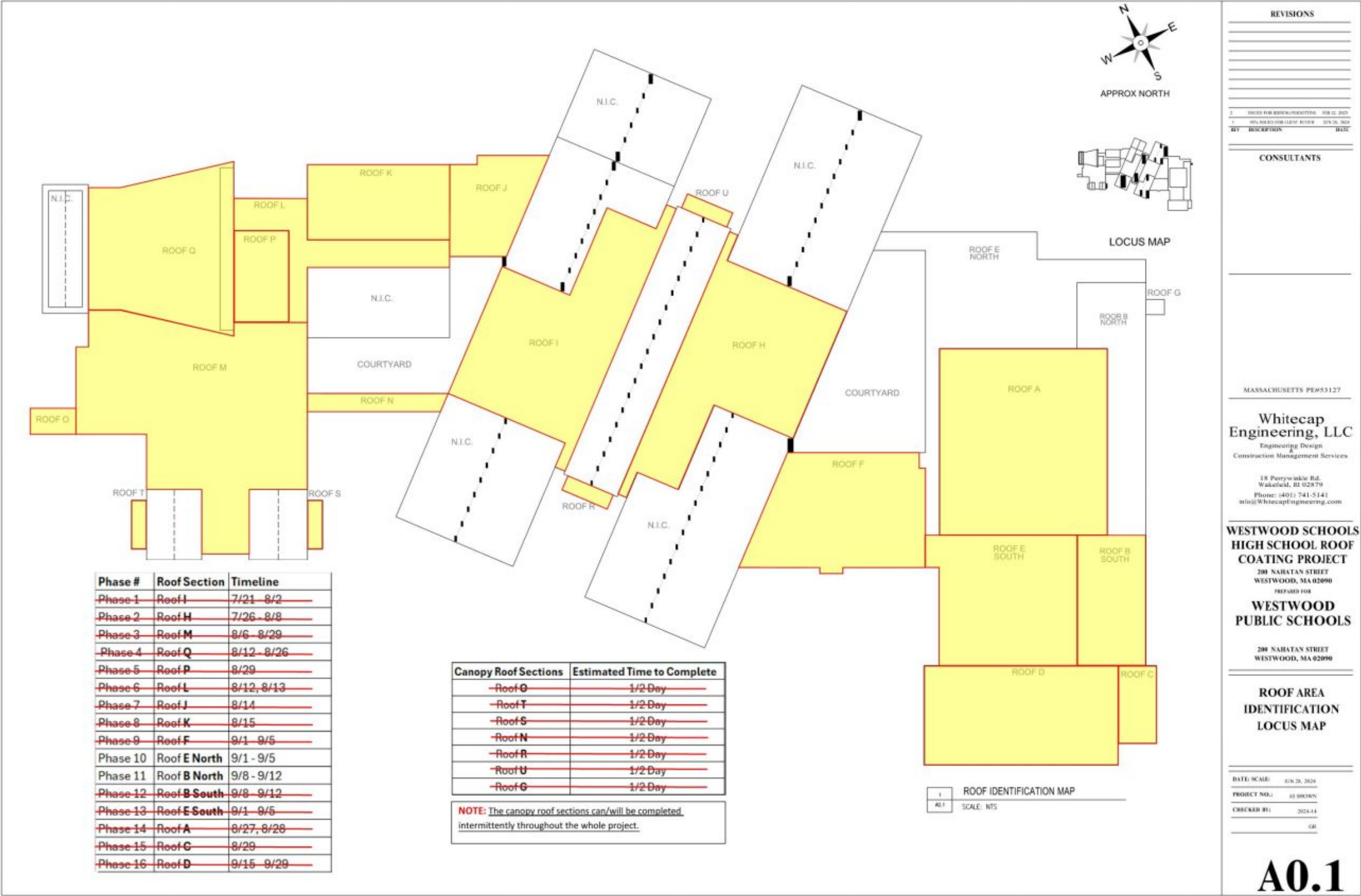
TMS 8th Gr. Modular New Roof



MJ Phones to VOIP, PA, Bells, and Clocks



HS Roof Restoration



HS Roof Restoration



HS Roof Restoration



HS Roof Restoration: Pool Roof



HS Roof Restoration



HS EV Charging Stations



HS Solar Canopy



HS Solar Canopy

Westwood Public Schools Community Forums



- Forum #1: October 17, 9:30 AM, Westwood Public Library
- Forum #2: October 29, 6:30 PM, [virtual via Zoom](#)
- Forum #3: November 10, 6:30 PM, Westwood Public Library

Join us to discuss the WPS 2025 district-wide facilities plan and provide feedback before the School Committee's decision in December 2025.

For more information:

[April 2025 School Committee Meeting Slides](#)

Facilities Plan Video Series: [Part 1](#) & [Part 2](#)



2025 MCAS

Data Presentation

Key Findings

- Continuation of overall high performance, with percentage Meeting/Exceeding increasing from 2024 in most areas
- Strong Student Growth Percentiles, and performance in comparison to like/nearby districts remains highly competitive
- Civics assessment performance an area to examine more closely
- Continued achievement gaps highlight importance of Strategic Plan priorities

Different Ways to Look at Data

- Looking at Westwood achievement over time
- Analyzing Student Growth data alongside achievement measures
 - Comparisons to like/nearby districts

Different Ways to Look at Data

- Percent Meeting/Exceeding
 - The percentage of students whose scores are in the categories of “Meeting” or “Exceeding” Expectations, as opposed to “Partially Meeting” or “Not Meeting”
- Average Scaled Score
 - The average scaled score of all students who took the MCAS
- Student Growth Percentile (SGP)
 - A measure of student growth; for an individual student, their percentile rank compared to other students statewide with similar score histories
 - At the school/district level, SGP is the average of all students’ SGPs

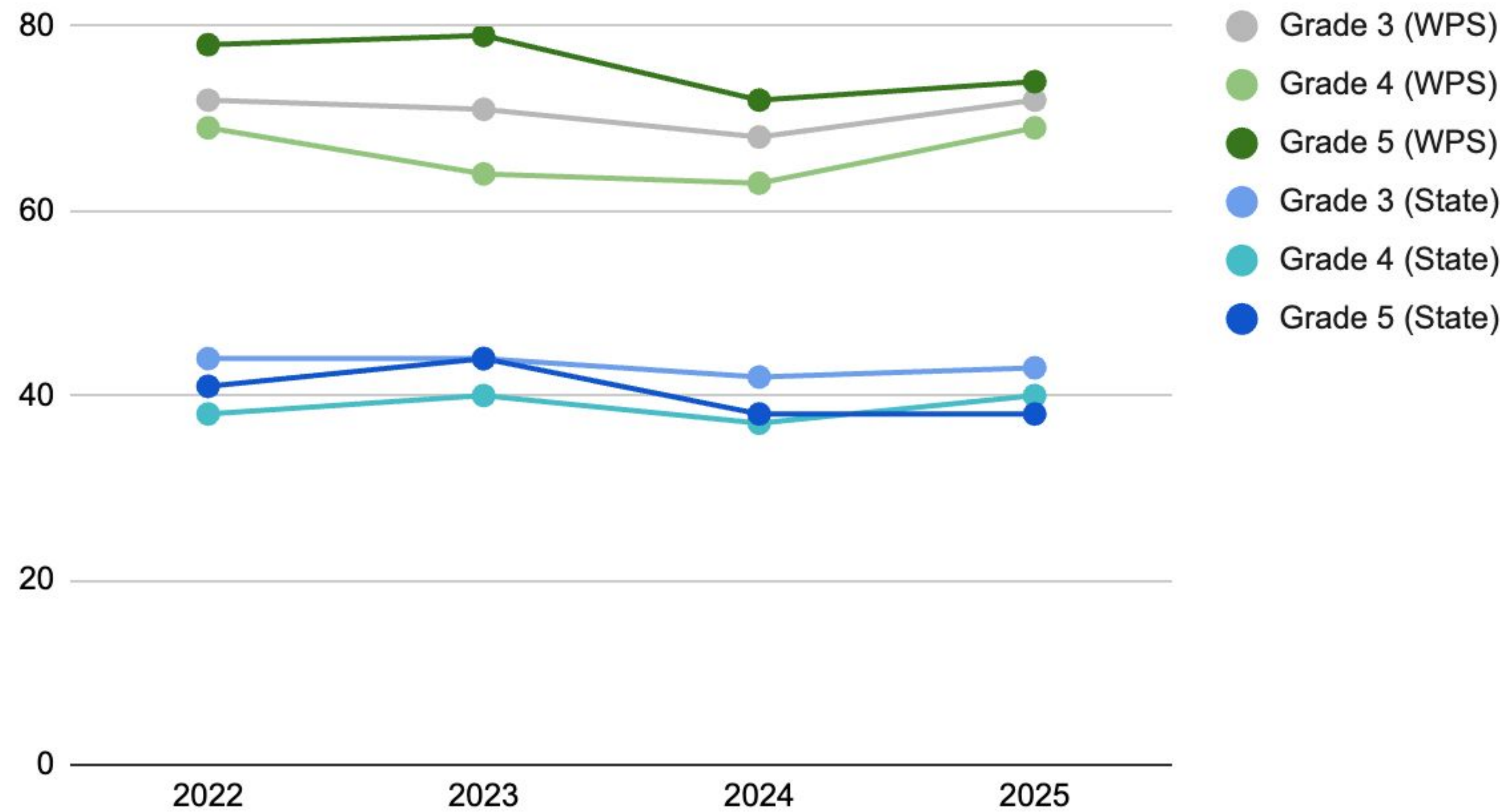
Districts Used for Comparison to Westwood Data		
The Education Collaborative (TEC) Districts	High-Performing Districts	DART Districts (selected by DESE)
Canton Dedham Dover-Sherborn Holliston Hopkinton Medfield Medway Millis Natick Needham Norwood Walpole Wayland	Acton-Boxborough Andover Belmont Concord-Carlisle Dover-Sherborn Hopkinton Lexington Lincoln Sudbury Needham Sharon Wayland Wellesley Weston Winchester	Dighton-Rehoboth Duxbury Hamilton-Wenham Hanover Hingham Longmeadow North Reading Reading Scituate Wayland

ELA

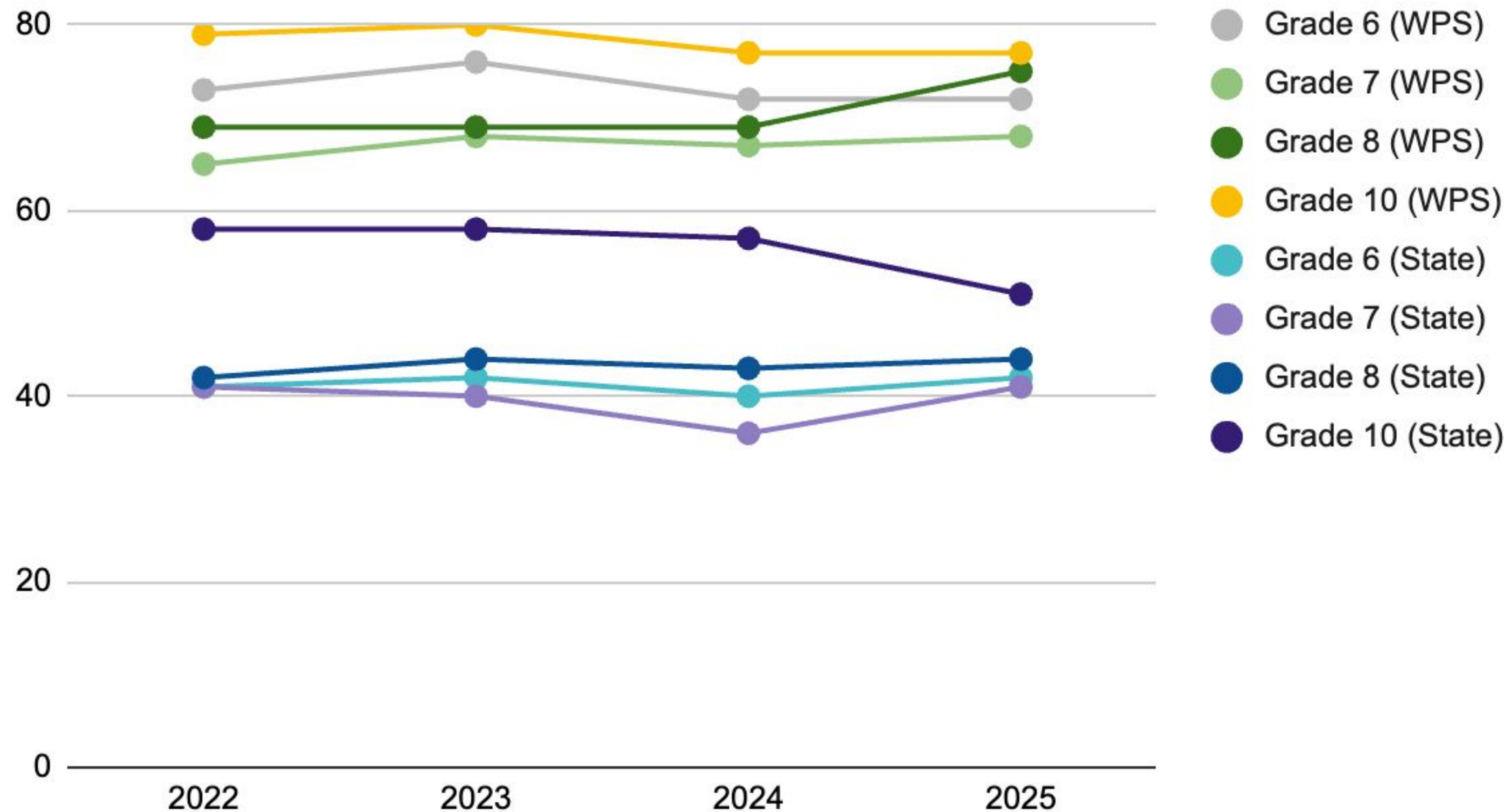
ELA Key Findings

- Continuation of overall high performance, with percent Meeting/Exceeding holding steady or slightly increasing in all grades
- Each elementary school SGP exceeding typical growth
- Notable improvement in Grade 8, from 69% Meeting/Exceeding in 2024 to 75%
- Grade 10 achievement very strong, with 77% Meeting/Exceeding Expectations

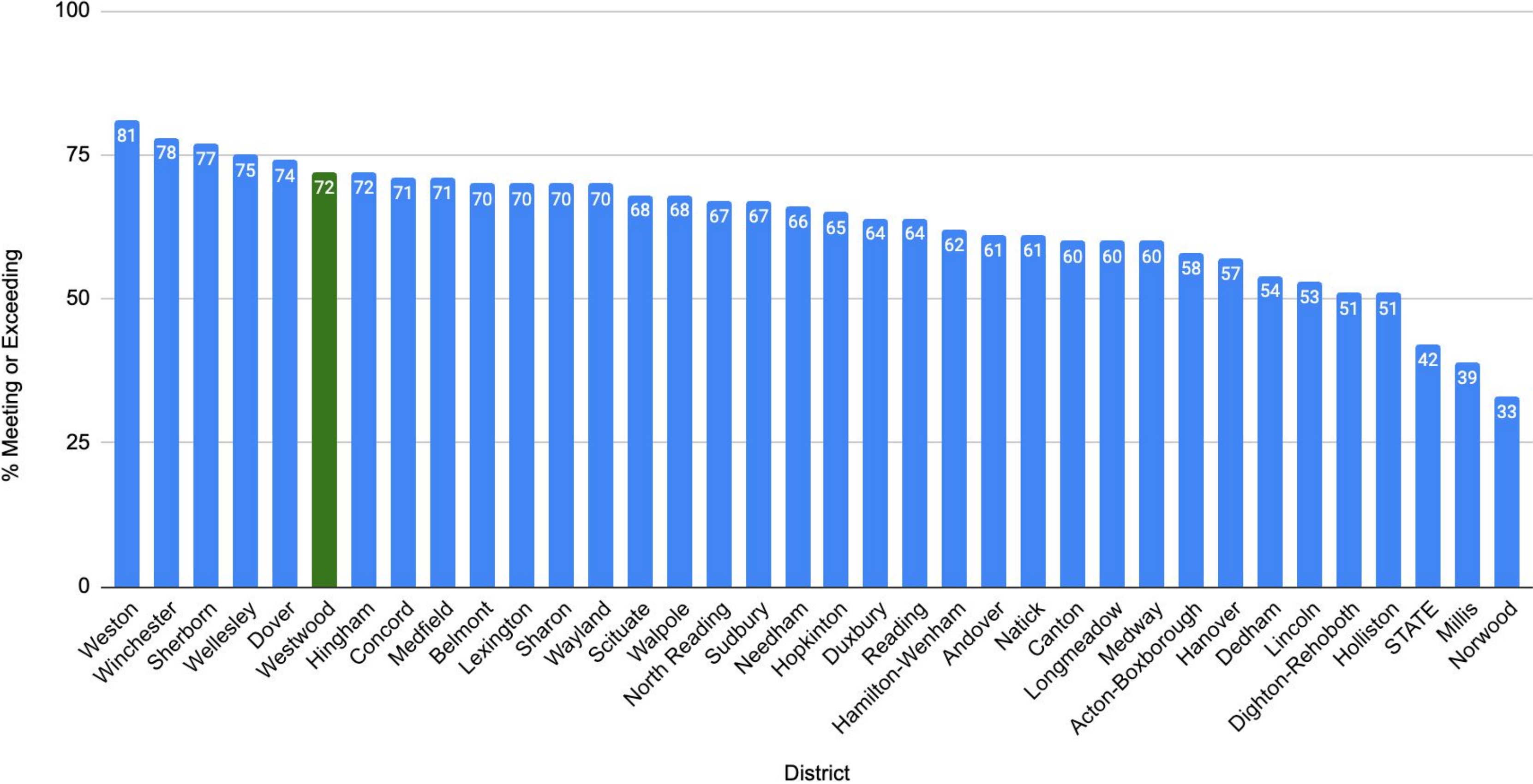
ELA Meeting & Exceeding Expectations Grades 3-5



ELA Meeting & Exceeding Expectations Grades 6-8, 10

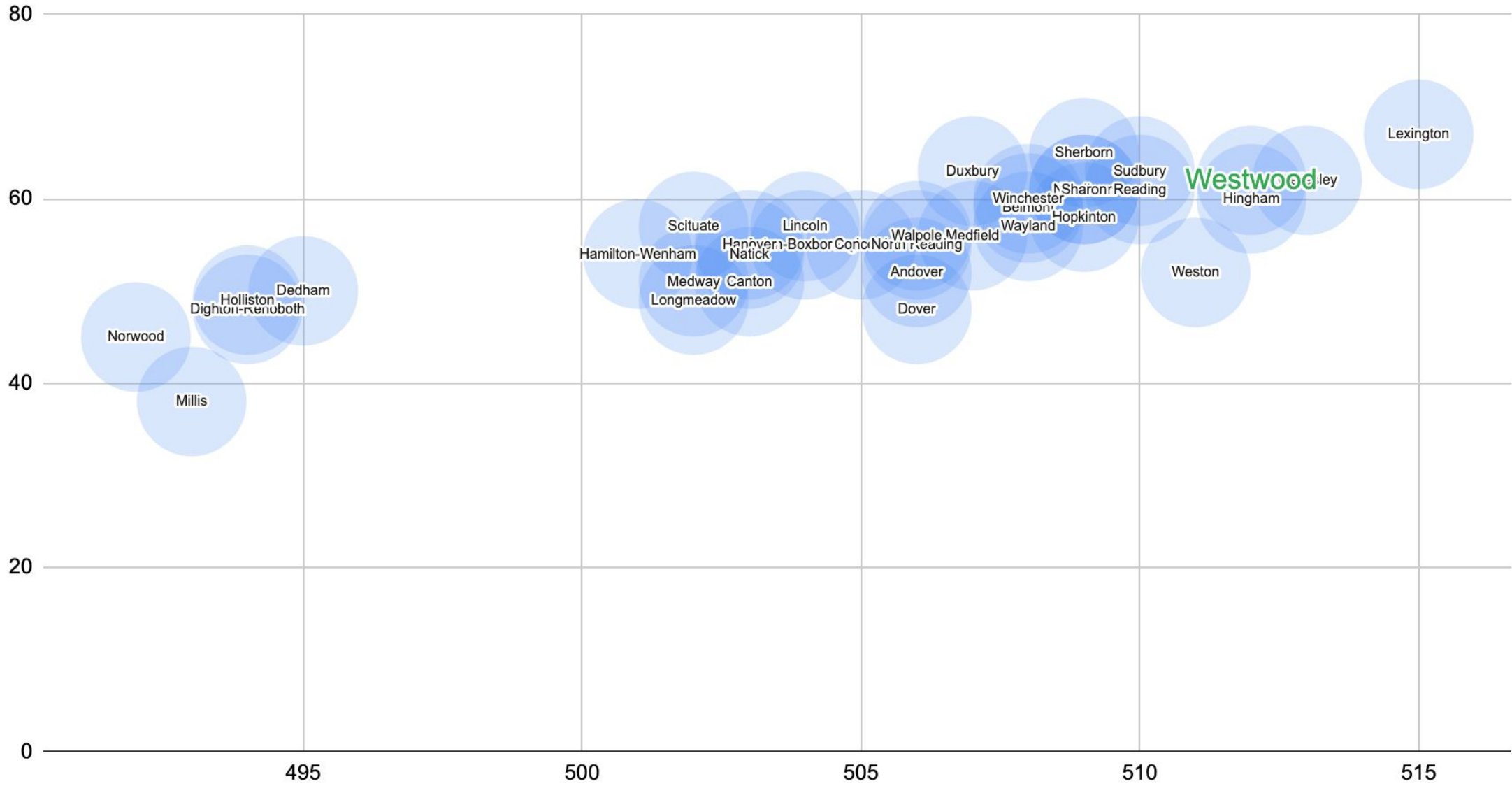


2025 Grade 3 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

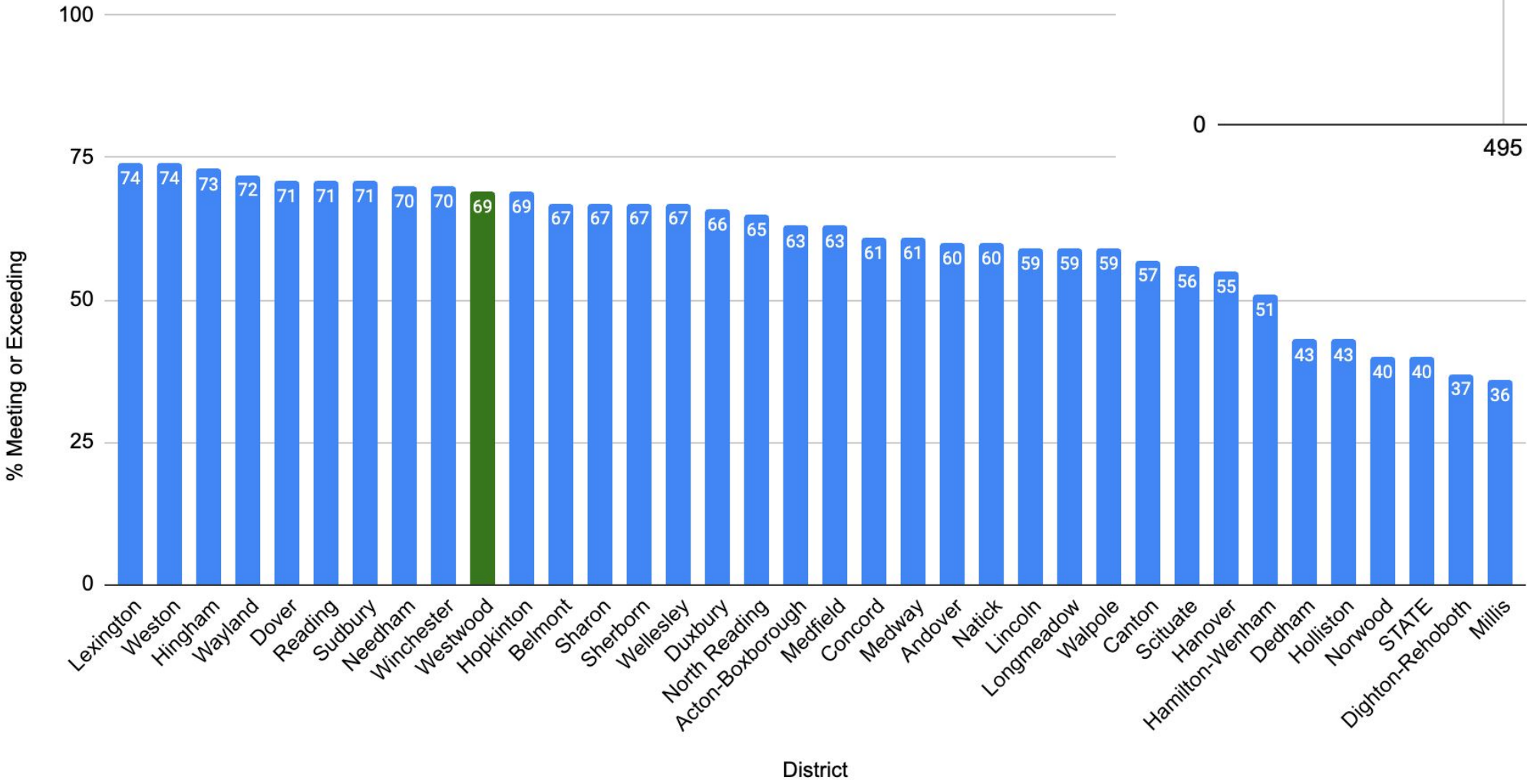


Grade 4 ELA

Grade 4 ELA - SGP and Scaled Score

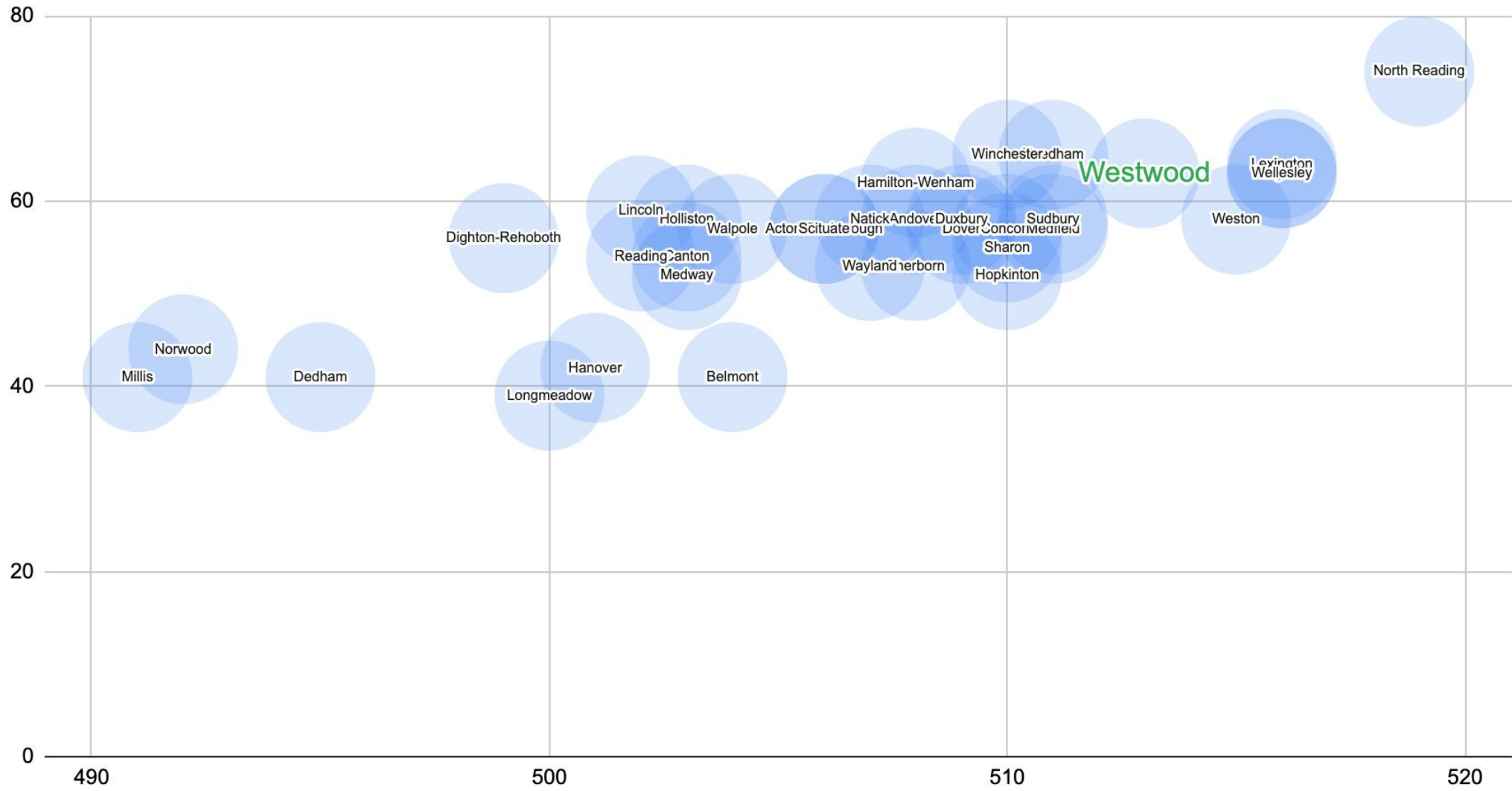


2025 Grade 4 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps



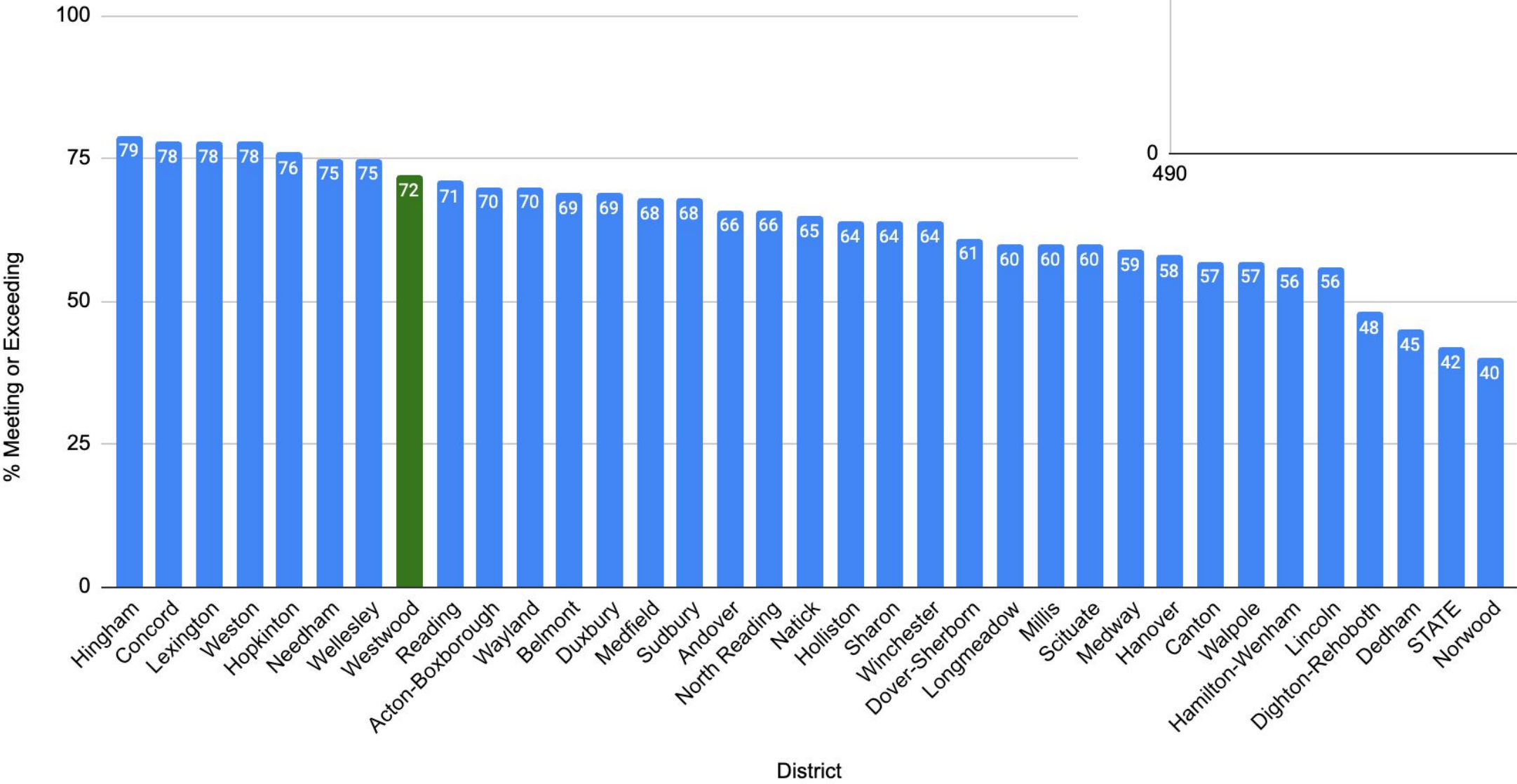
Grade 5 ELA

2025 Grade 5 ELA - Scaled Score and SGP

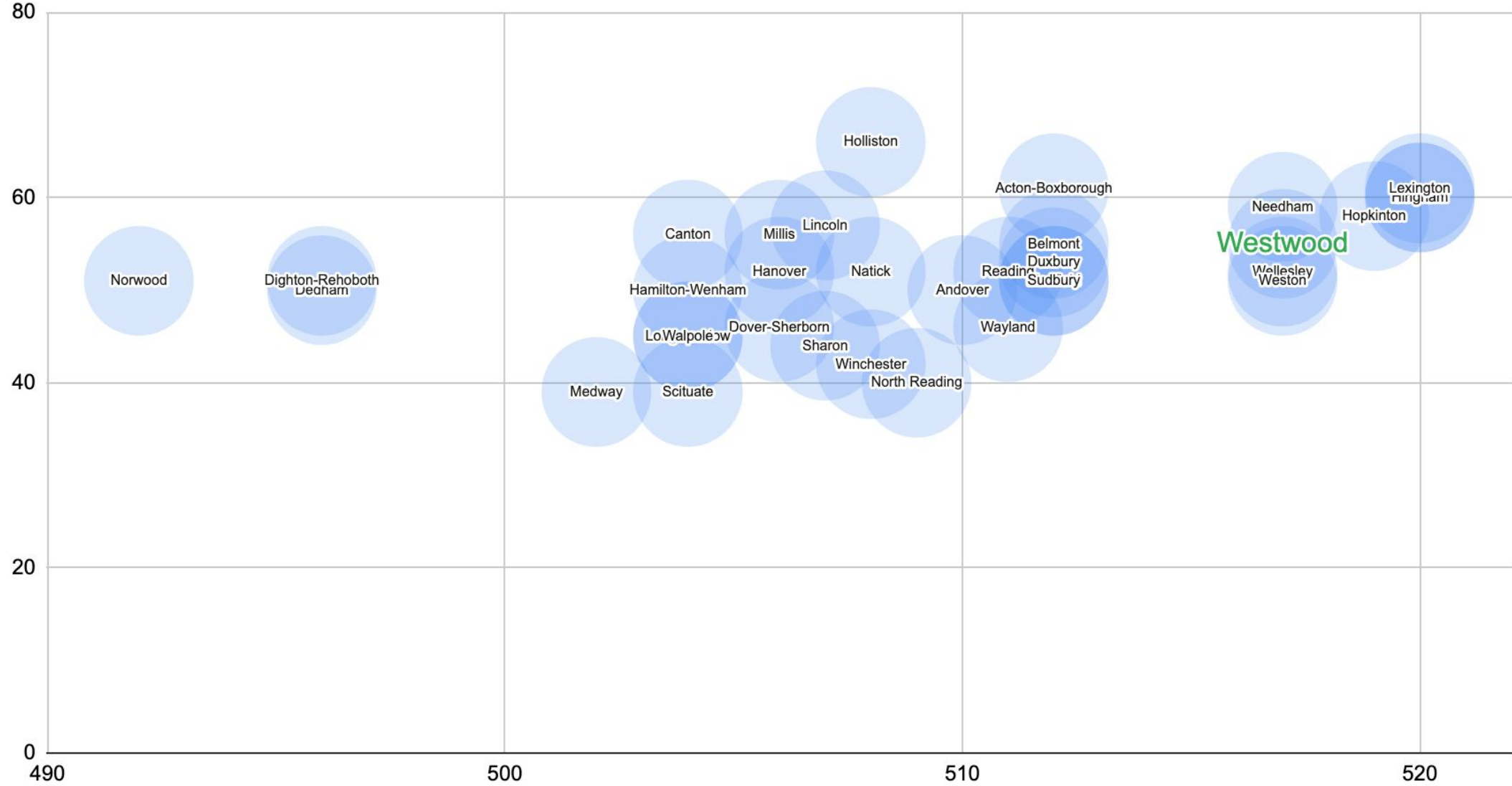


Grade 6 ELA

2025 Grade 6 ELA Meet + Exceed Comp

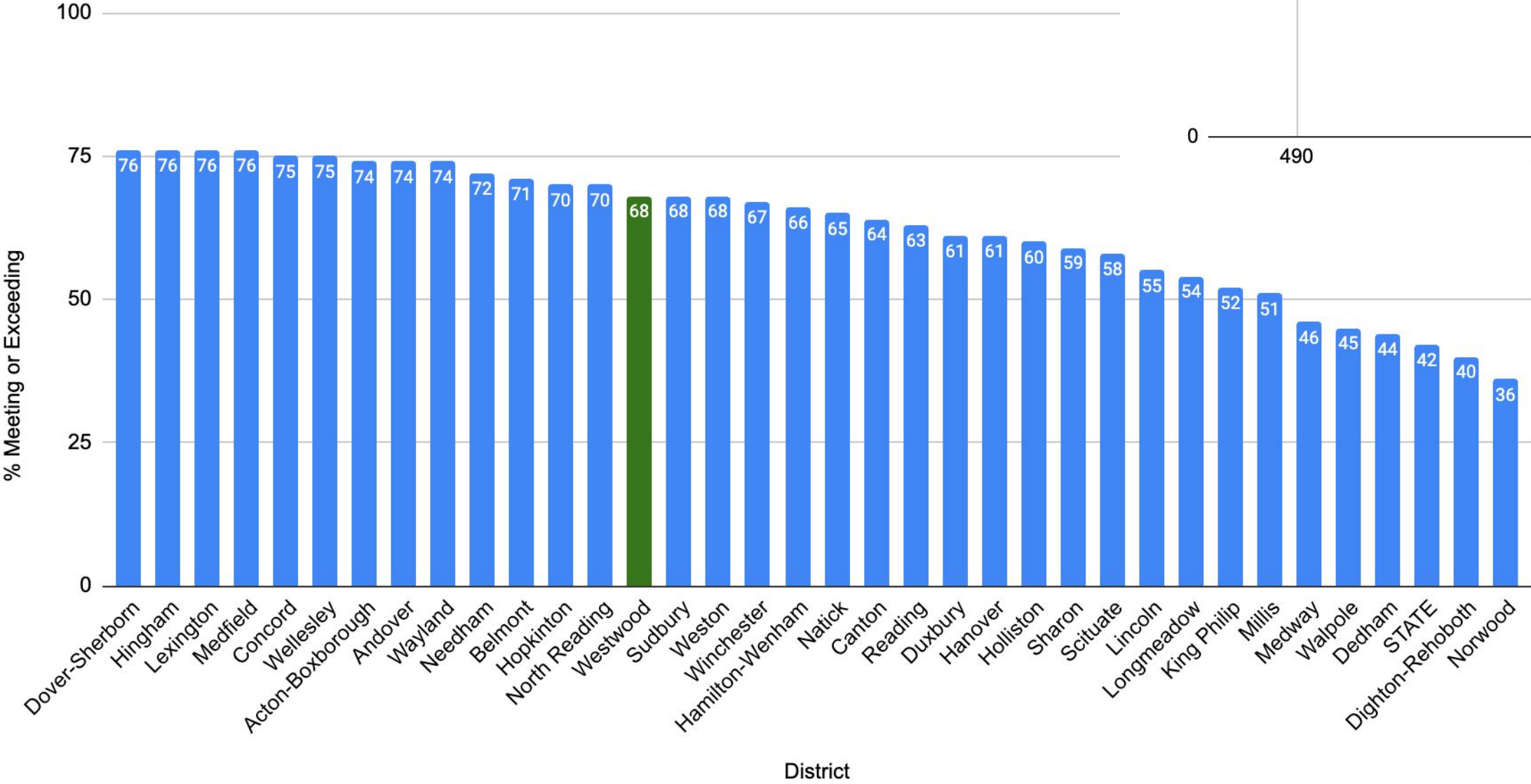


2025 Grade 6 ELA - Scaled Score and SGP

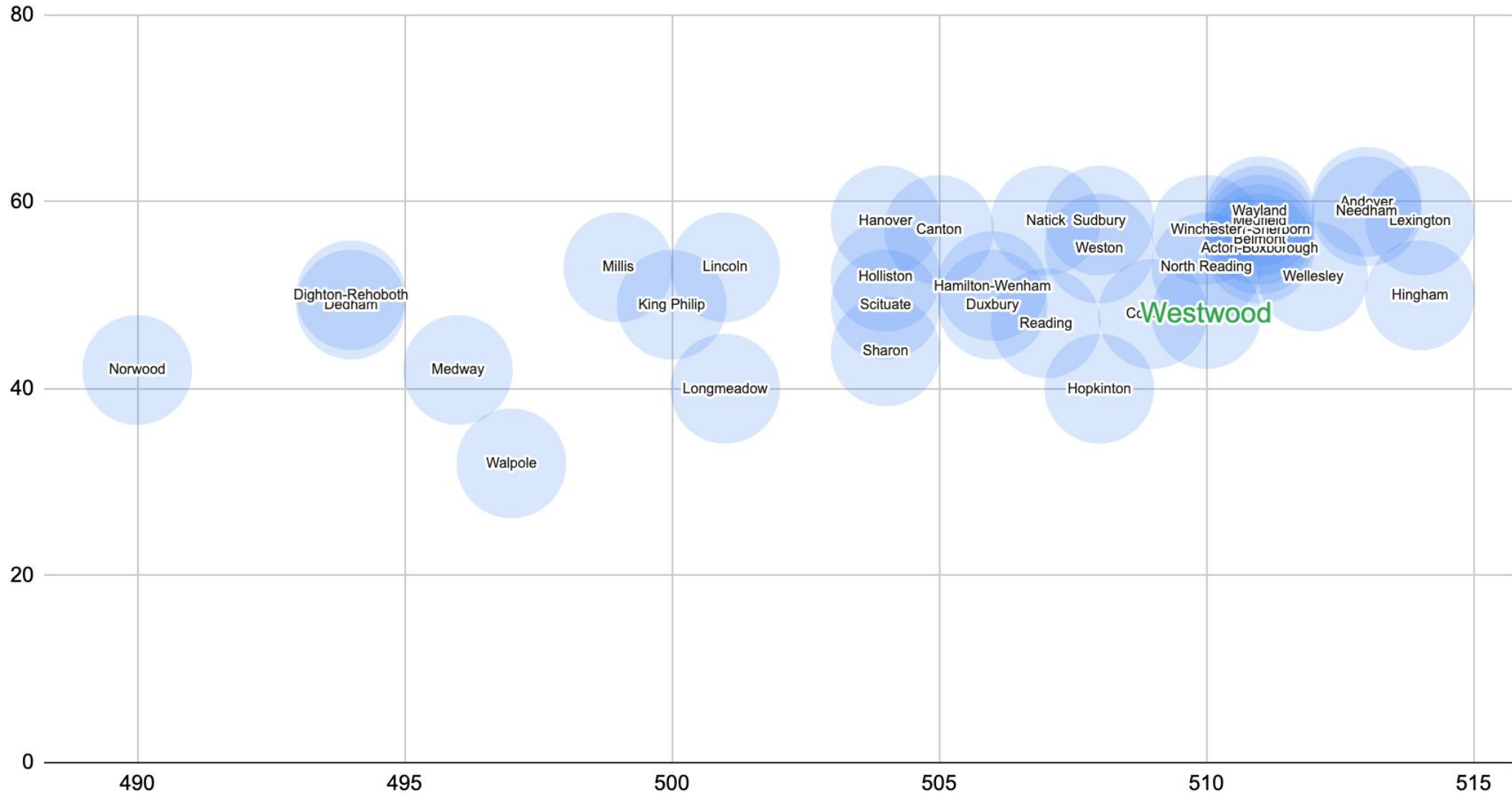


Grade 7 ELA

2025 Grade 7 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

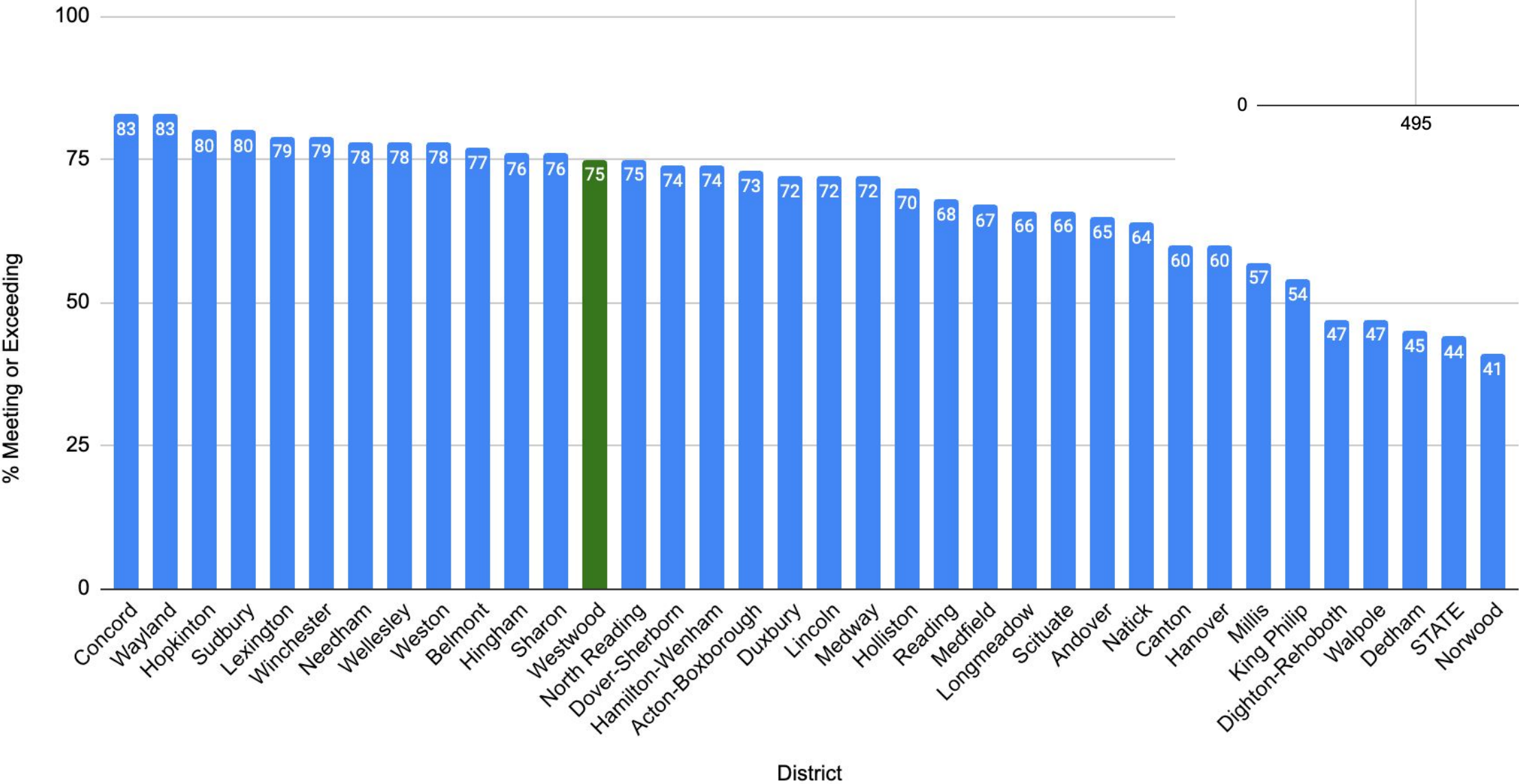


2025 Grade 7 ELA - Scaled Score and SGP

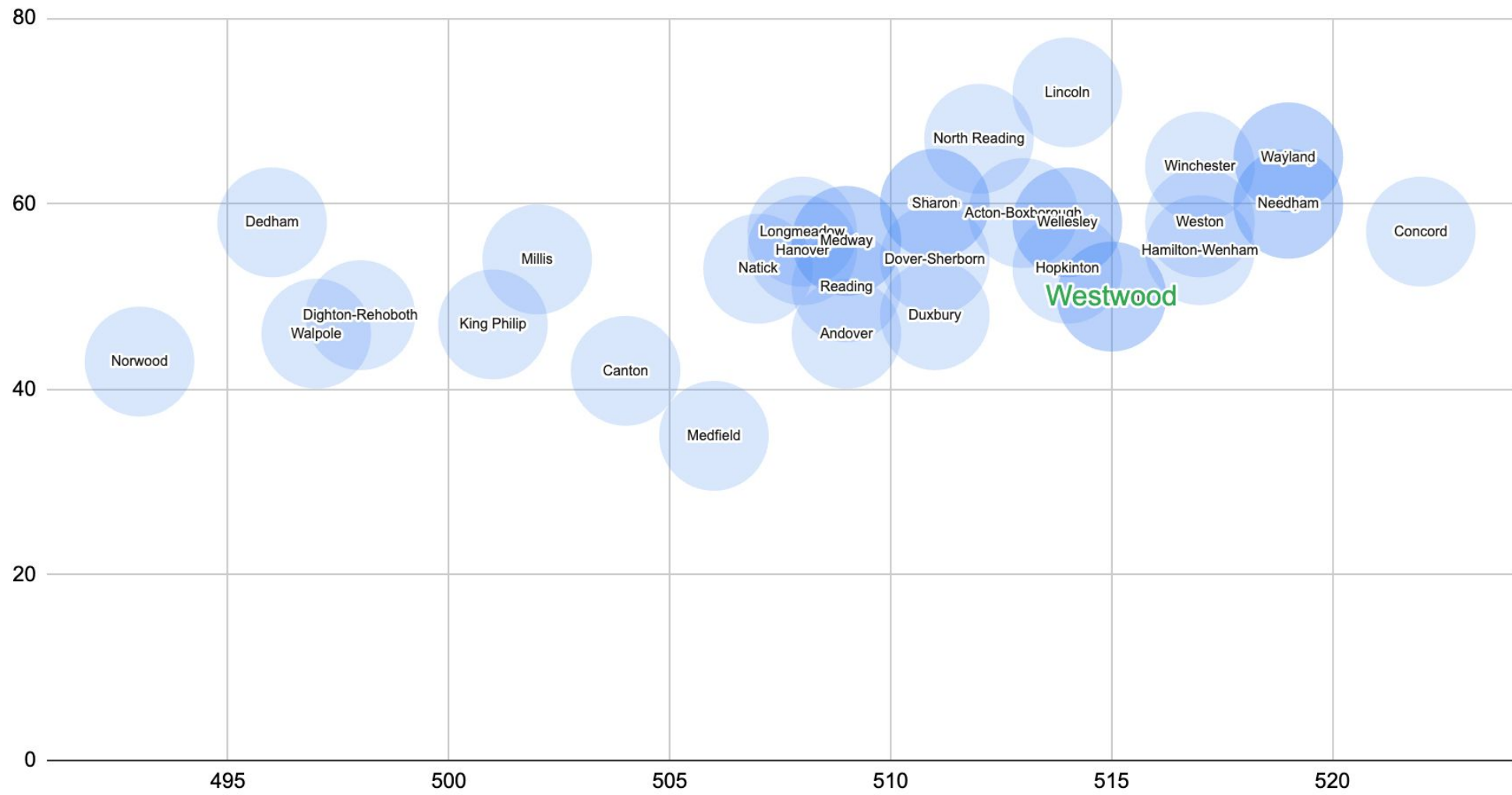


Grade 8 ELA

2025 Grade 8 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

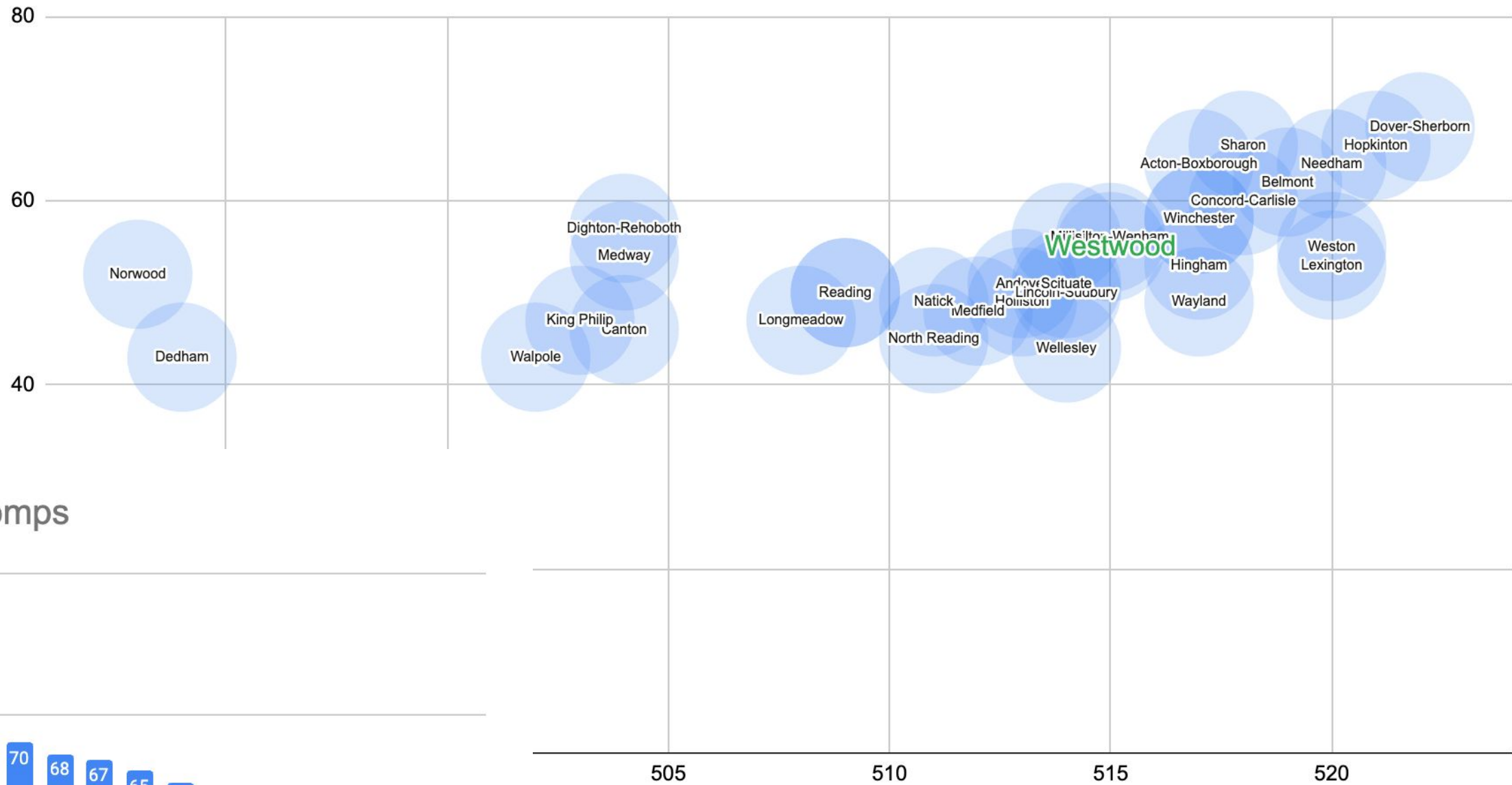


2025 Grade 8 ELA - Scaled Score and SGP

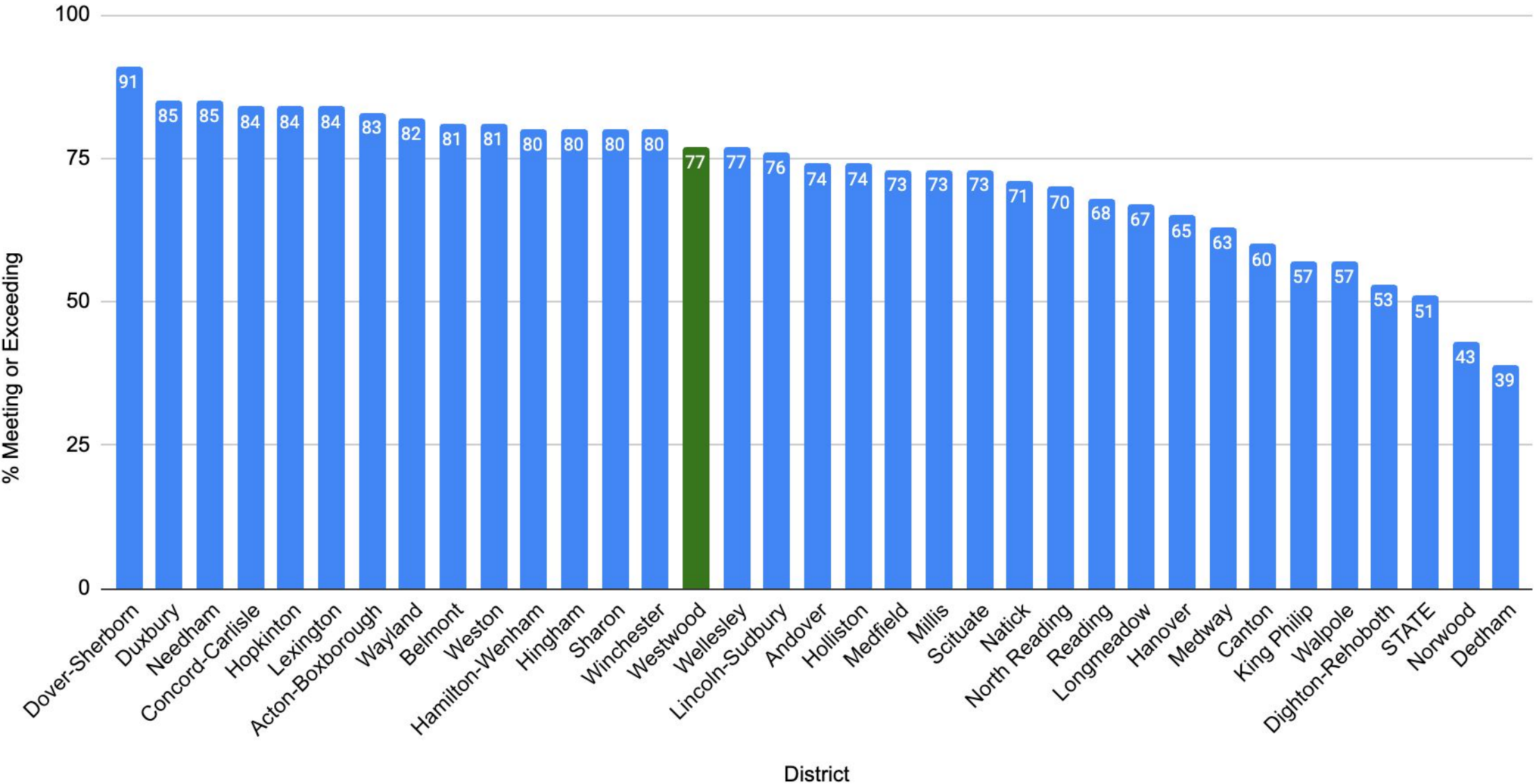


Grade 10 ELA

2025 Grade 10 ELA - Scaled Score and SGP



2025 Grade 10 ELA Meet + Exceed Comps

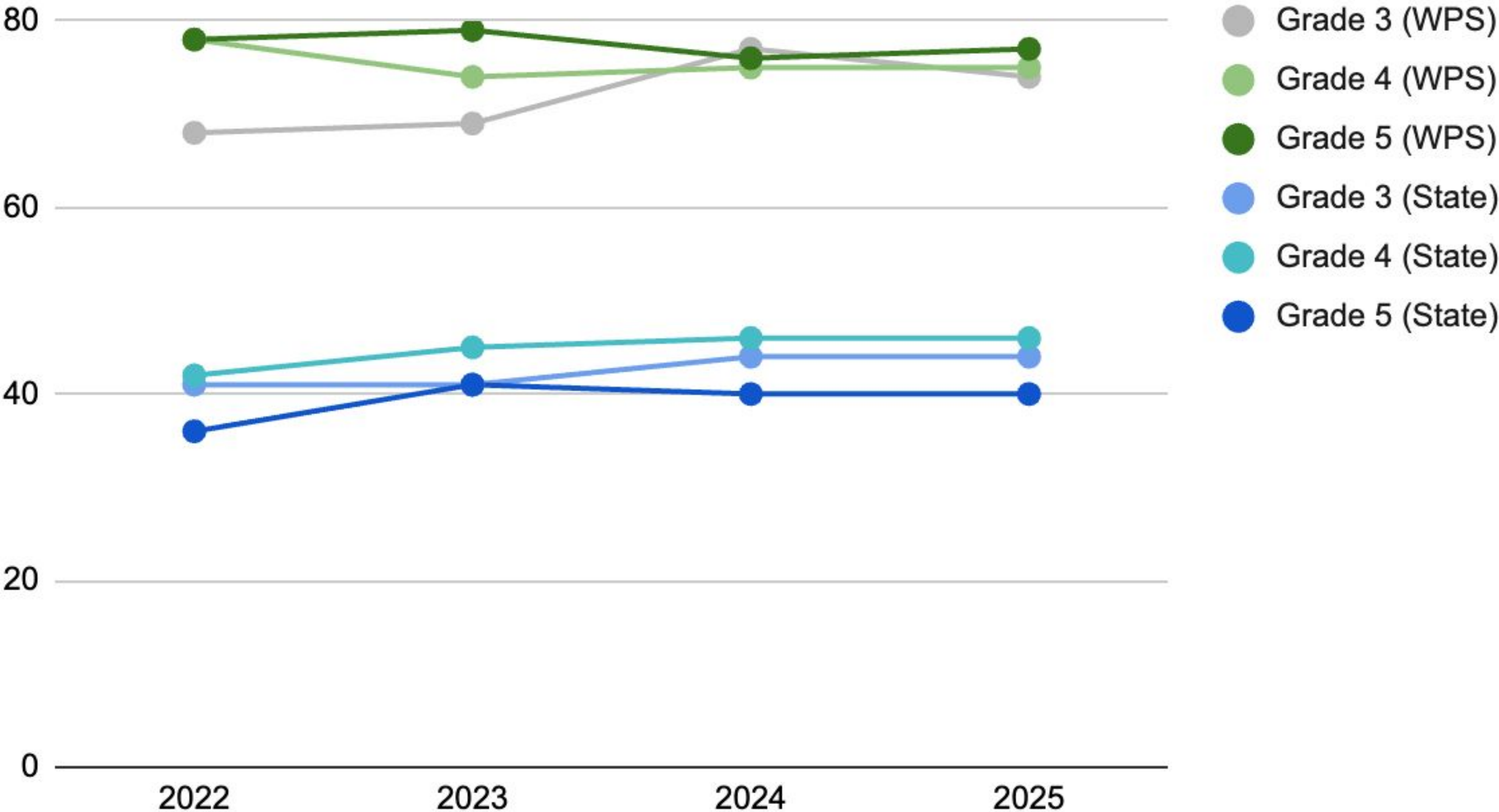


Math

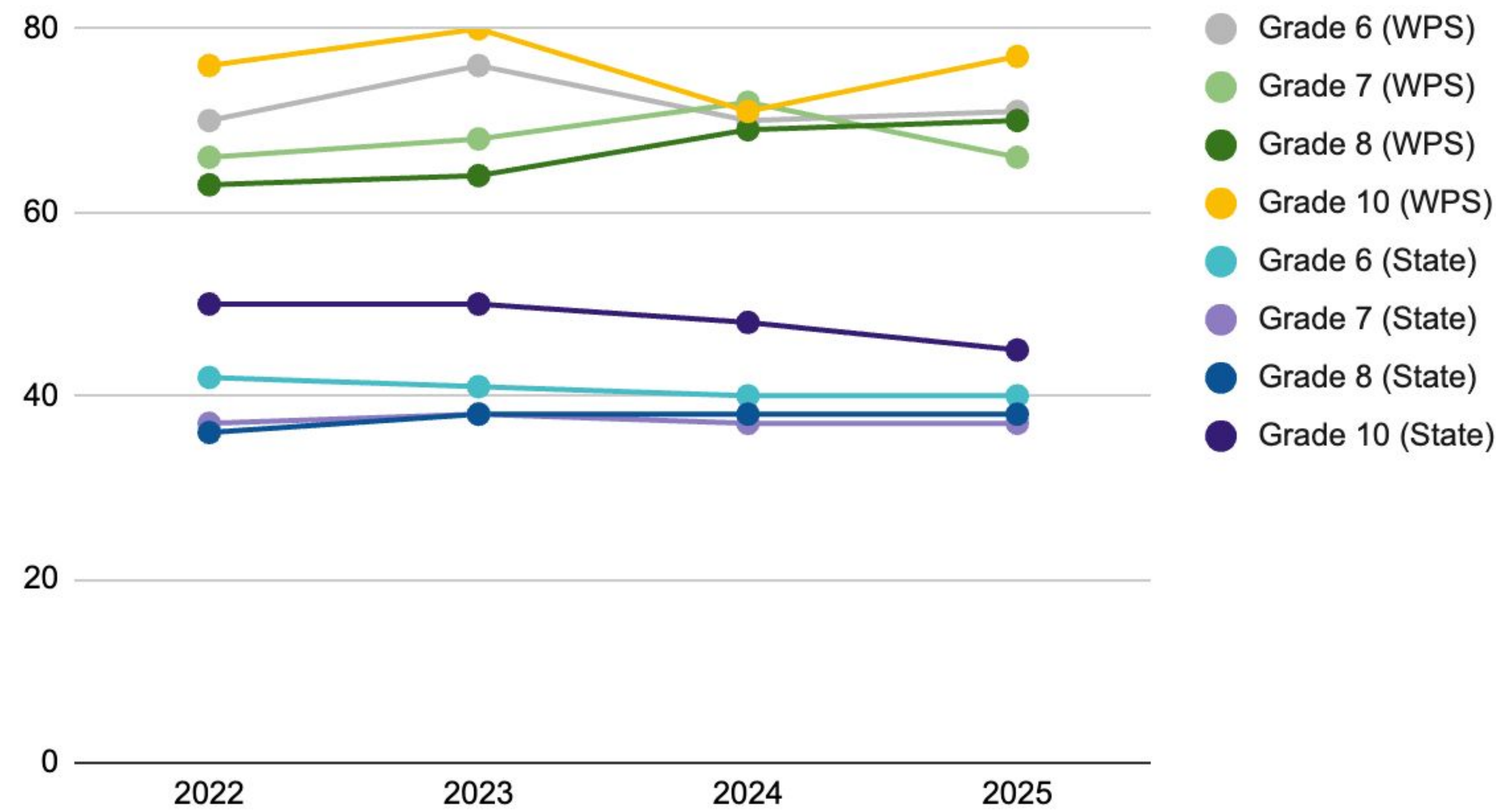
Math Key Findings

- Relative steady, strong performance
- Strong percentages Meeting/Exceeding in Grades 4 and 5; 75% and 77% respectively
- Slight decline in Grade 7, from 72% Meeting/Exceeding to 66%, but with strong SGP
- 10th Grade gain, from 71% to 77%; contrast to statewide drop

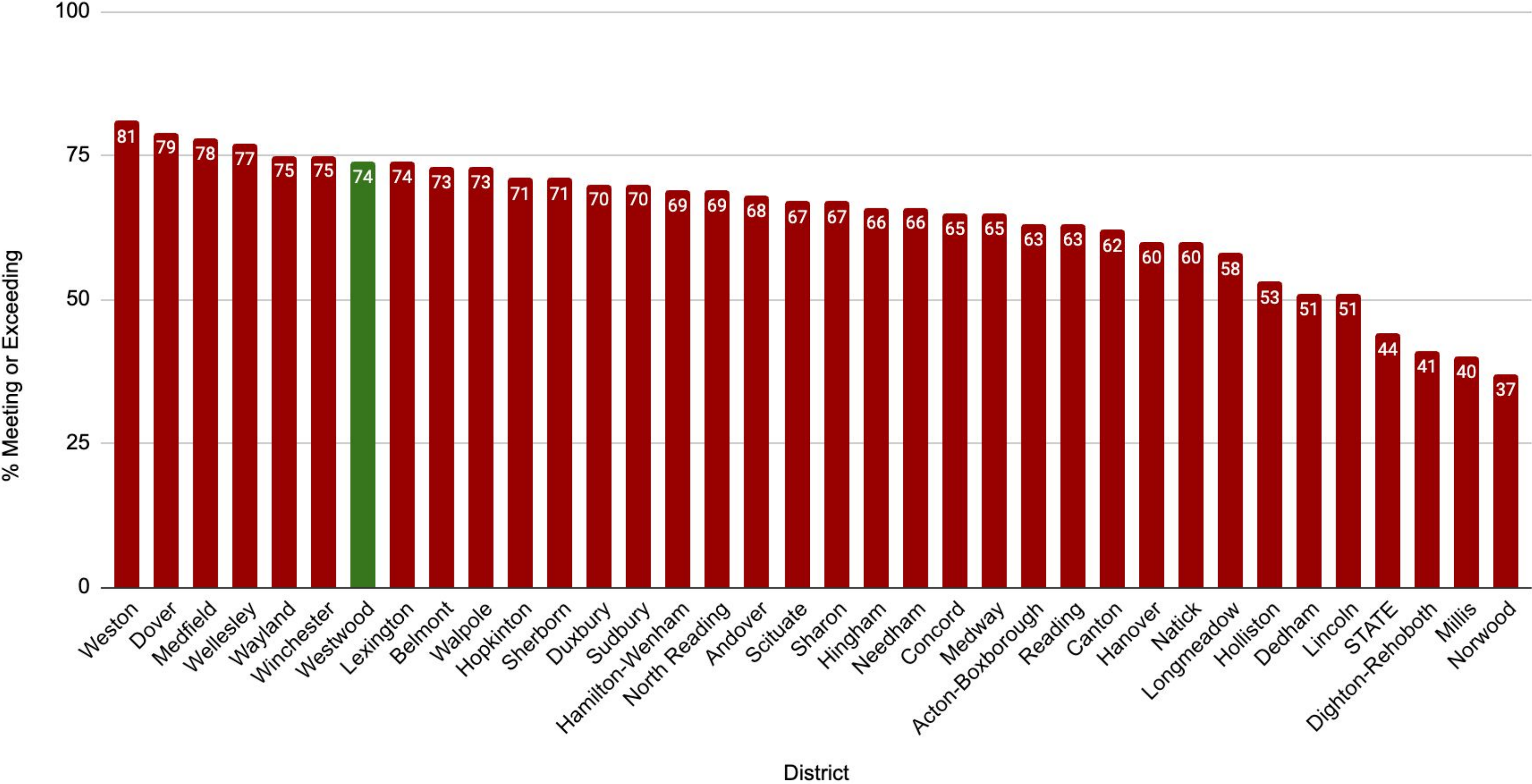
Math Meeting & Exceeding Expectations, Grades 3-5



Math Meeting & Exceeding Expectations, Grades 6-8, 10

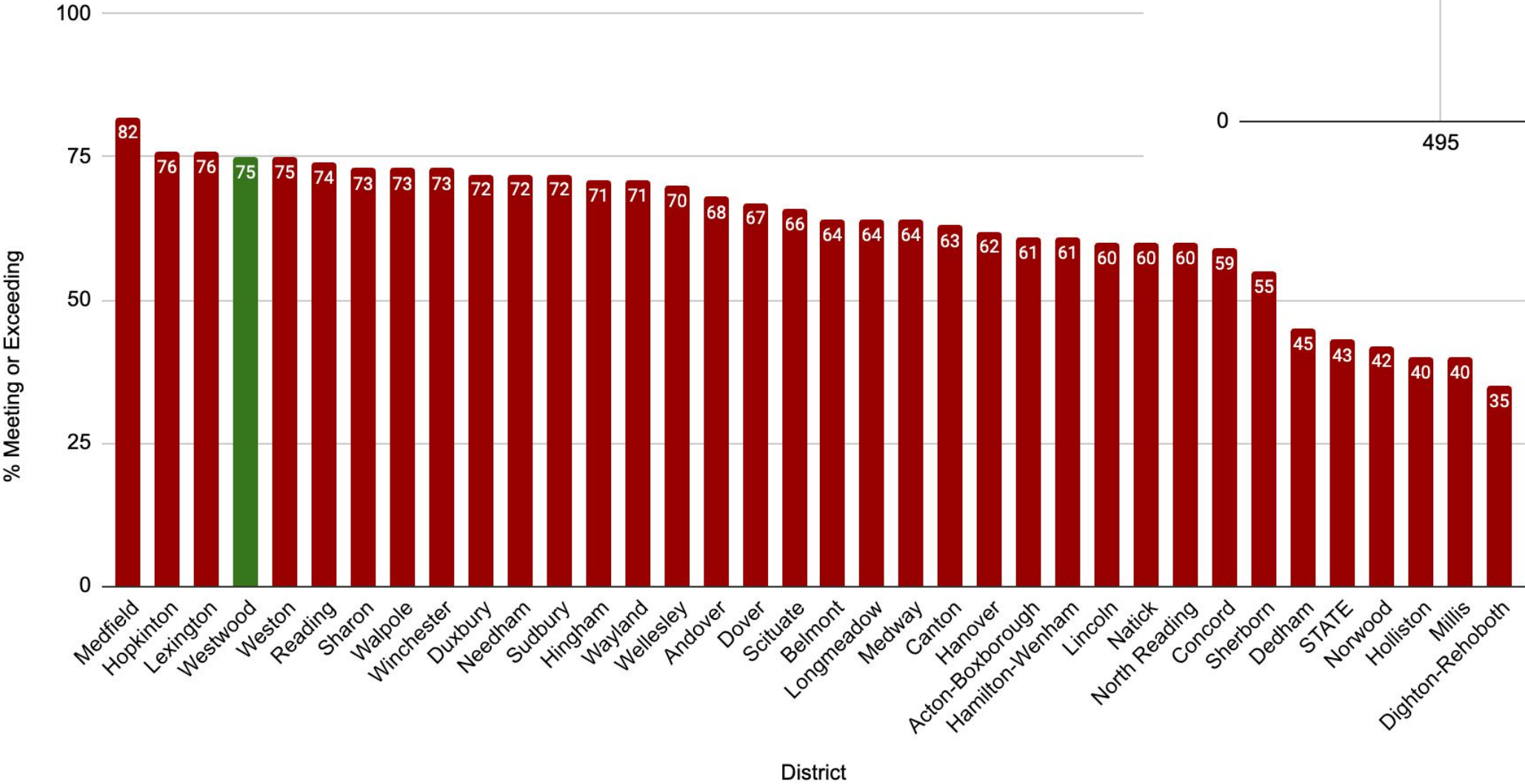


2025 Grade 3 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

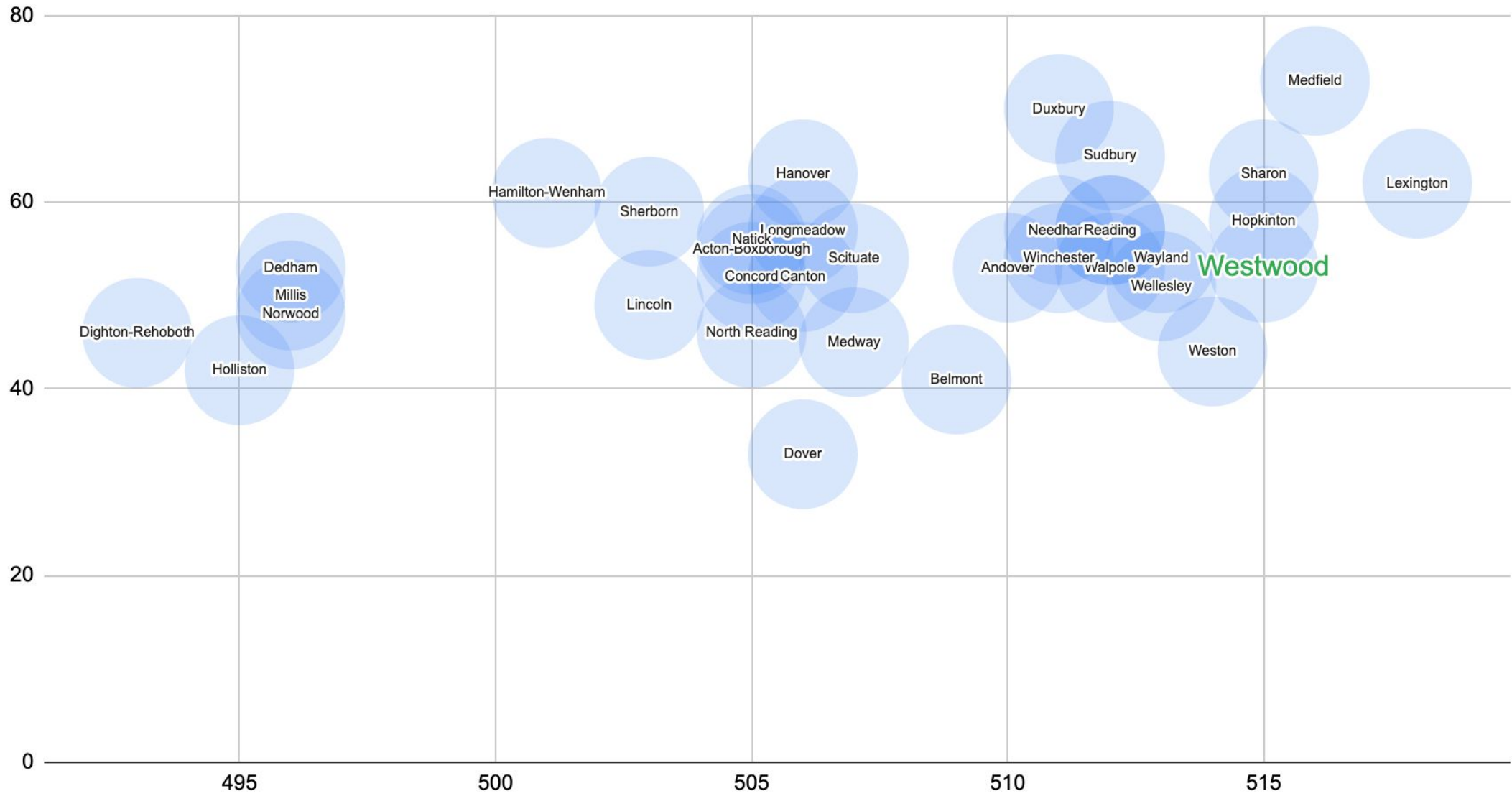


Grade 4 Math

2025 Grade 4 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

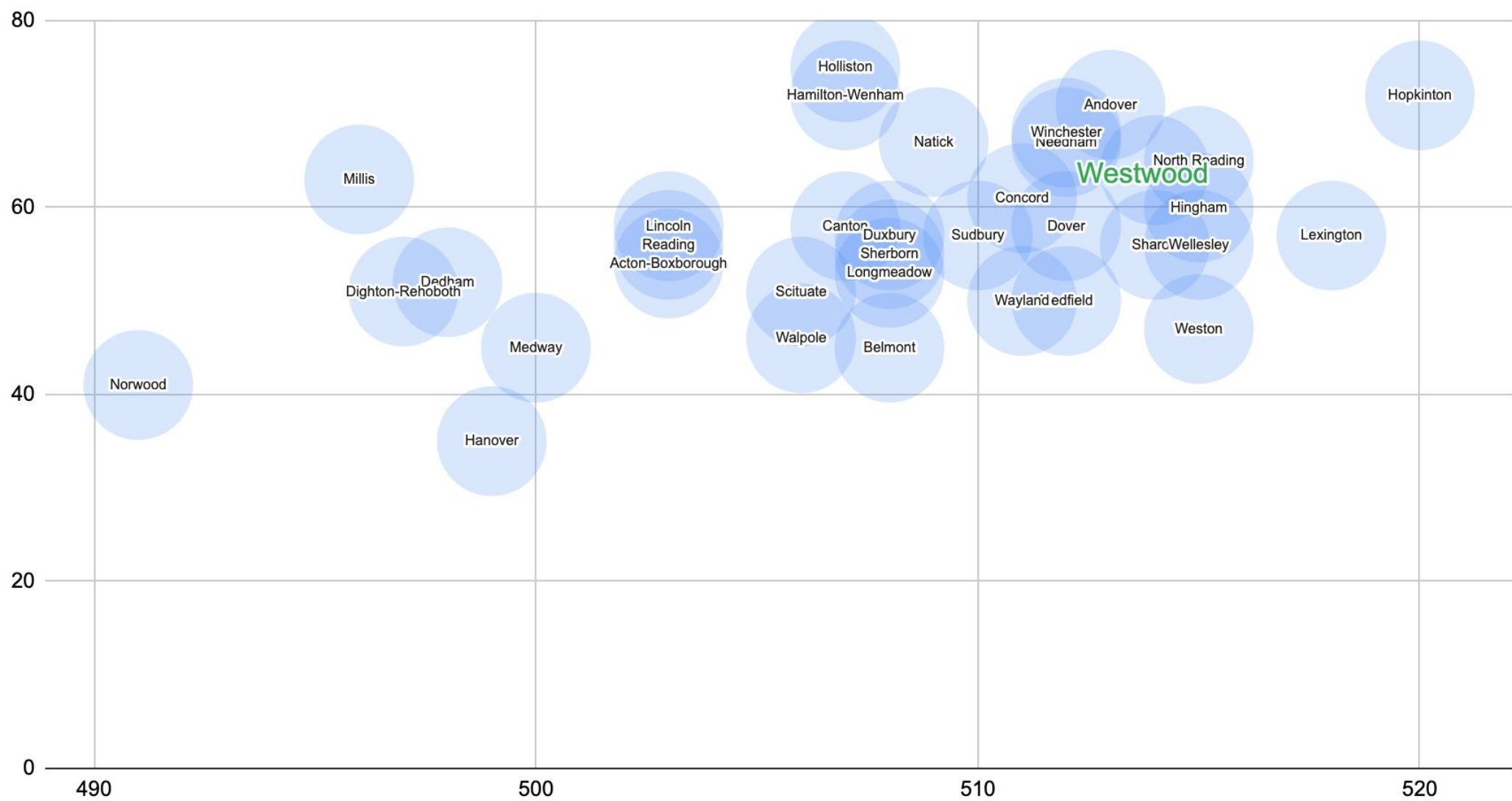


2025 Grade 4 Math - Scaled Score and SGP

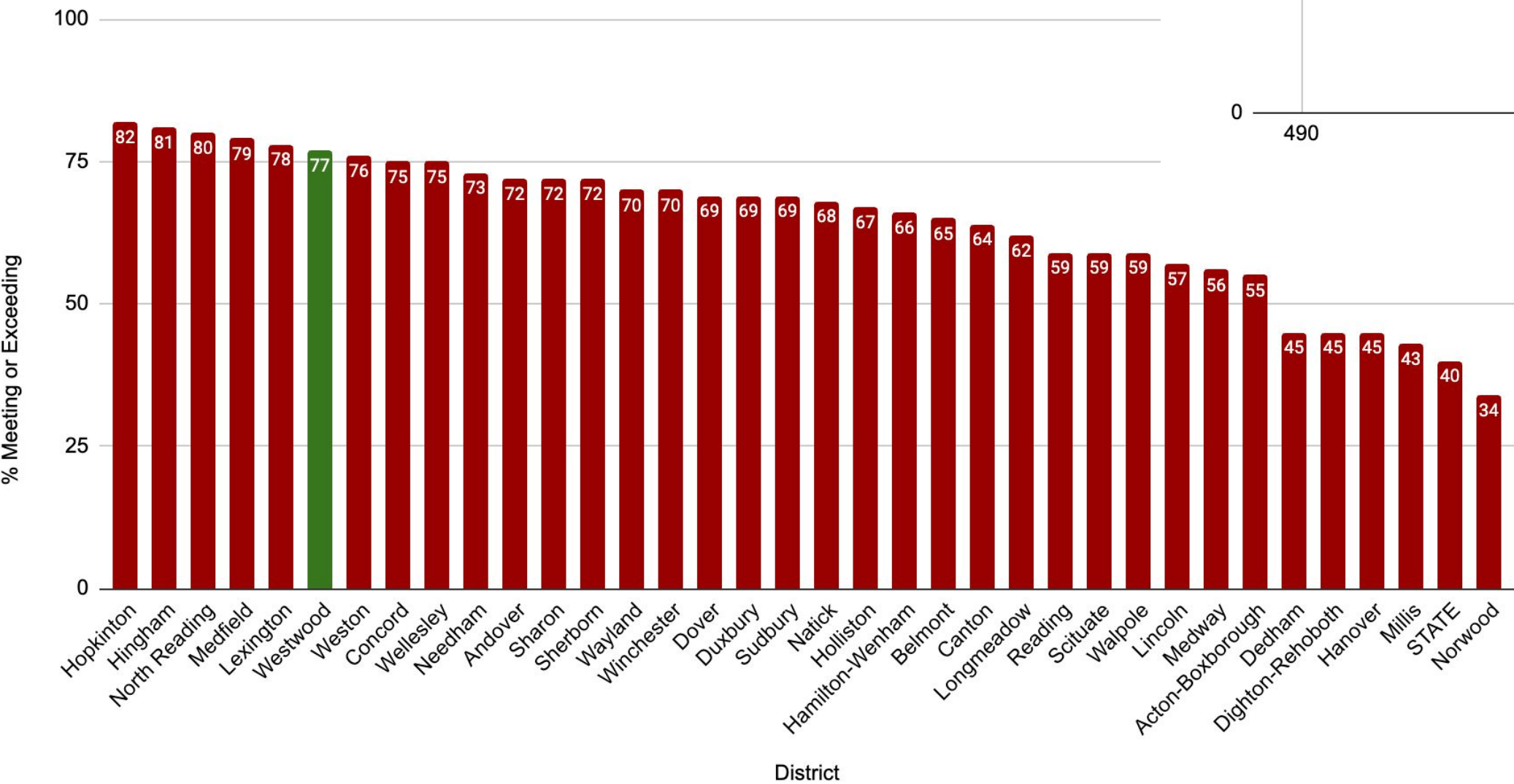


Grade 5 Math

2025 Grade 5 Math - Scaled Score and SGP

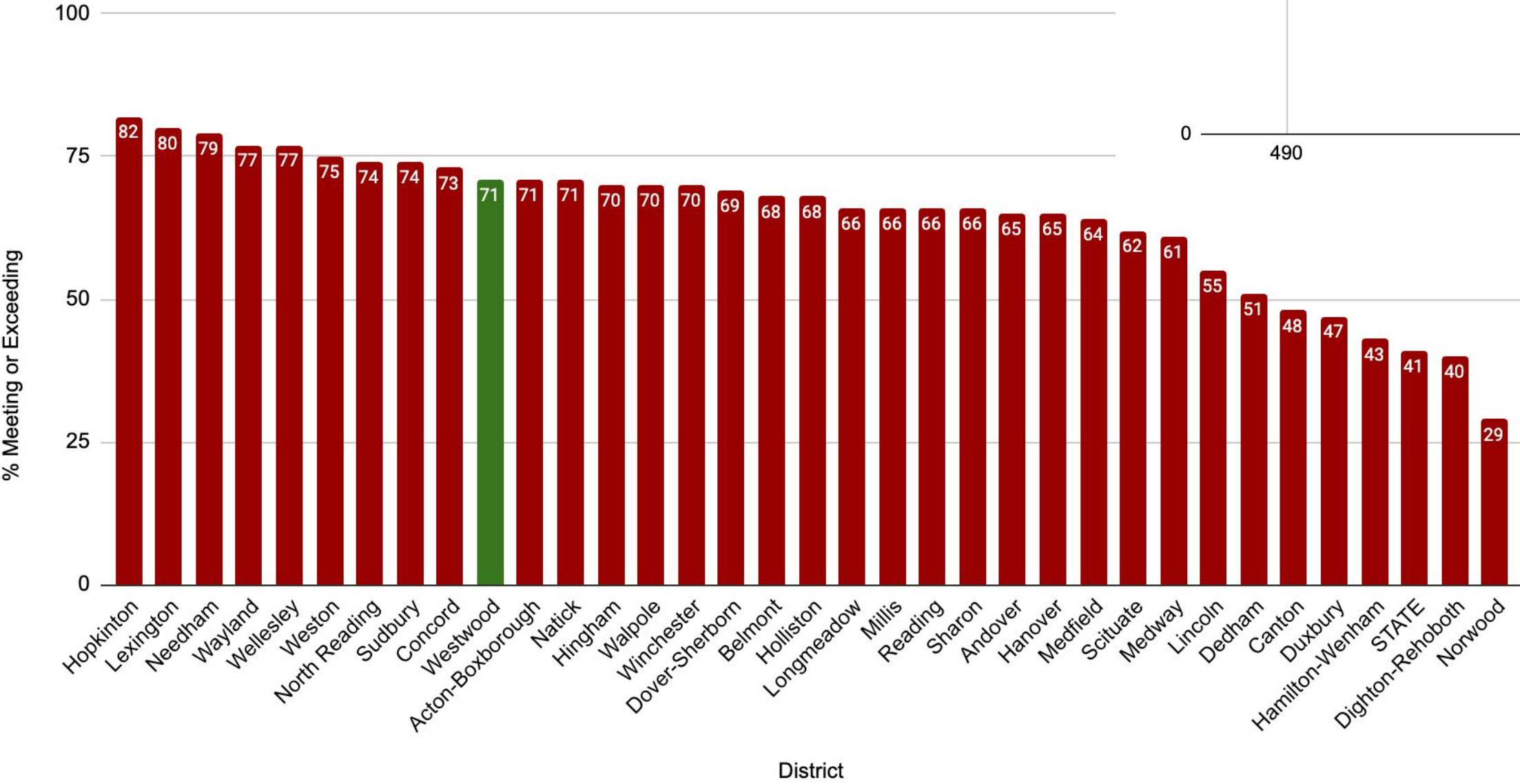


2025 Grade 5 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

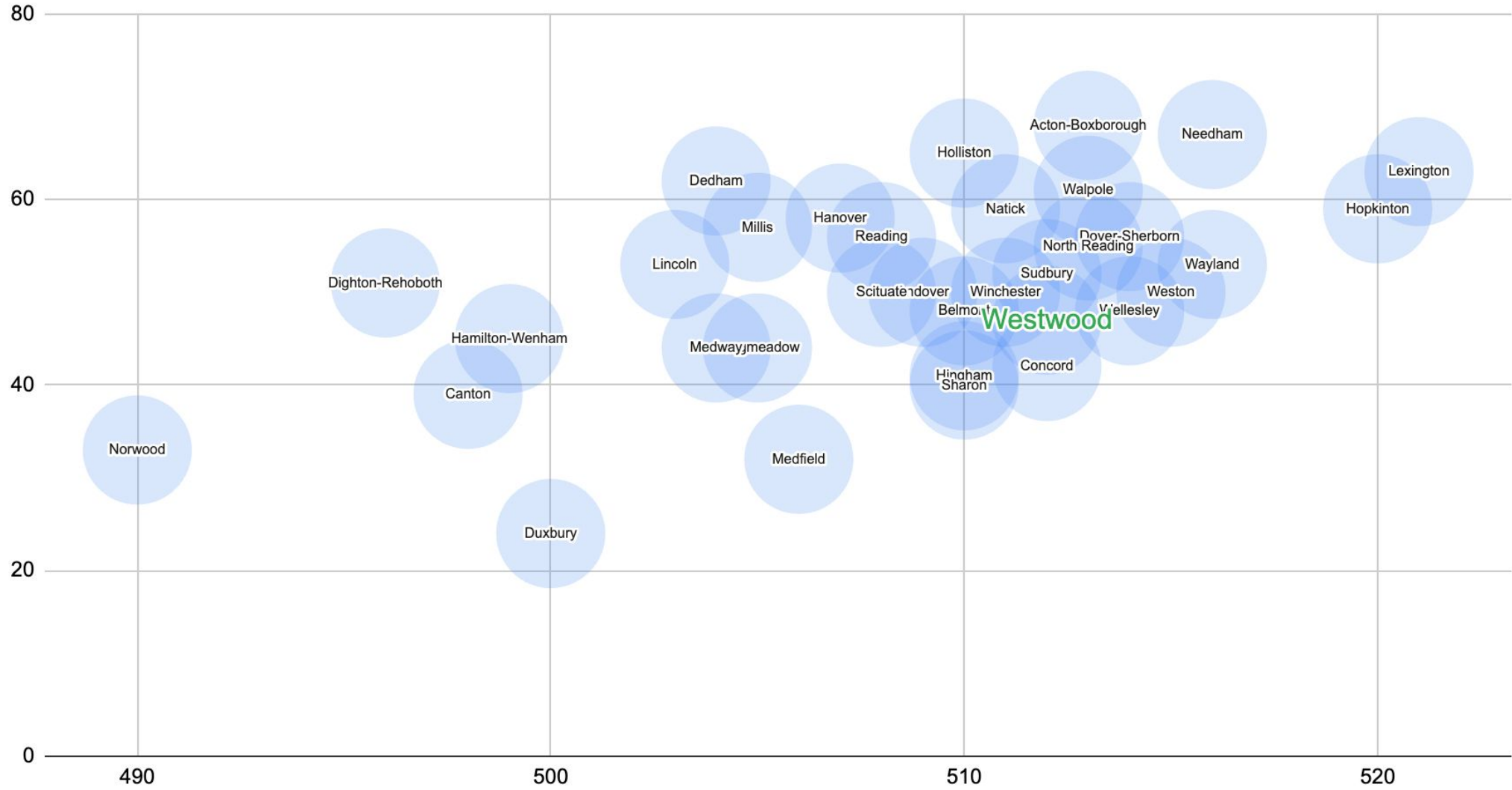


Grade 6 Math

2025 Grade 6 Math Meet + Exceed Comps

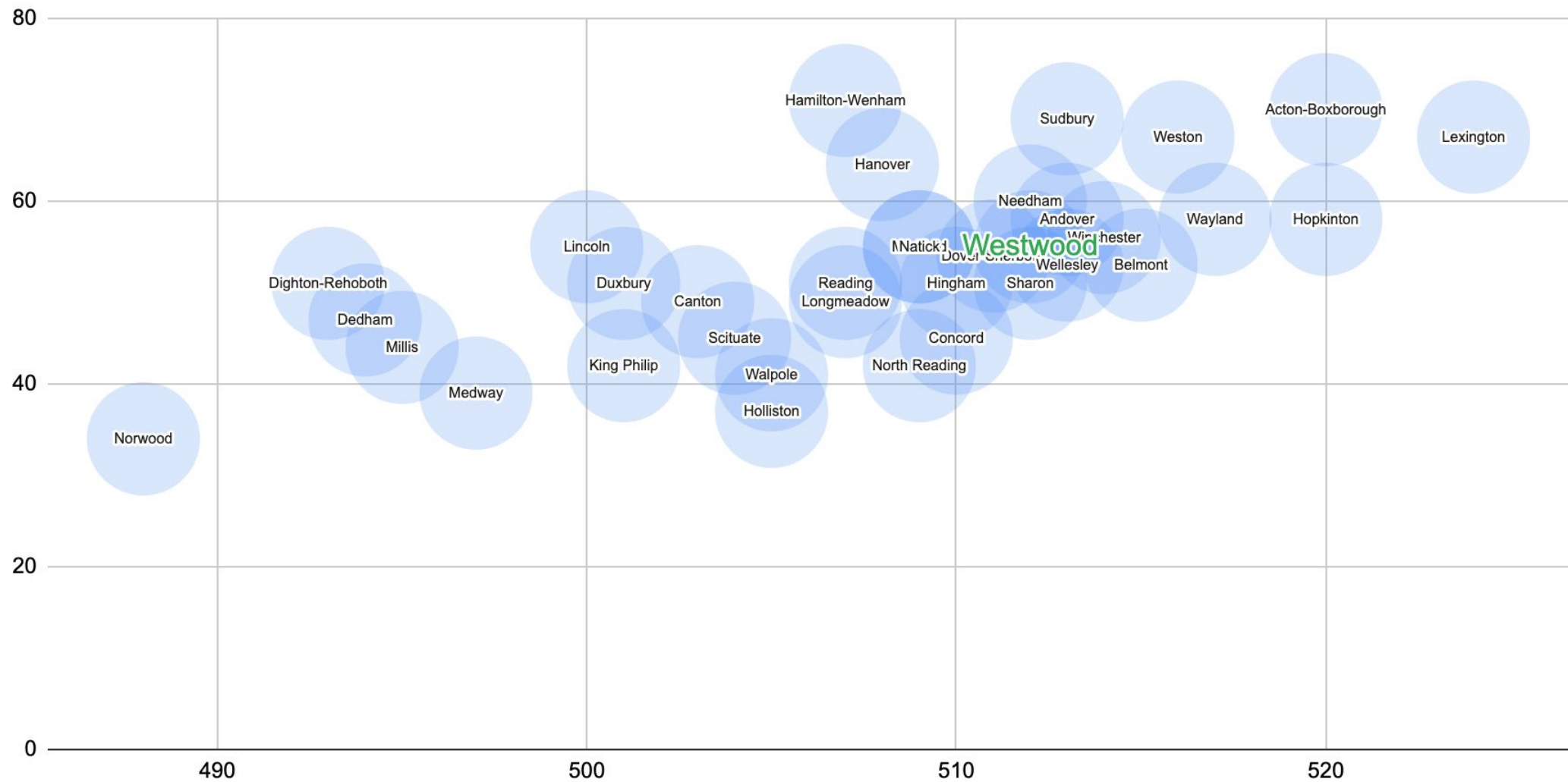


2025 Grade 6 Math - Scaled Score and SGP

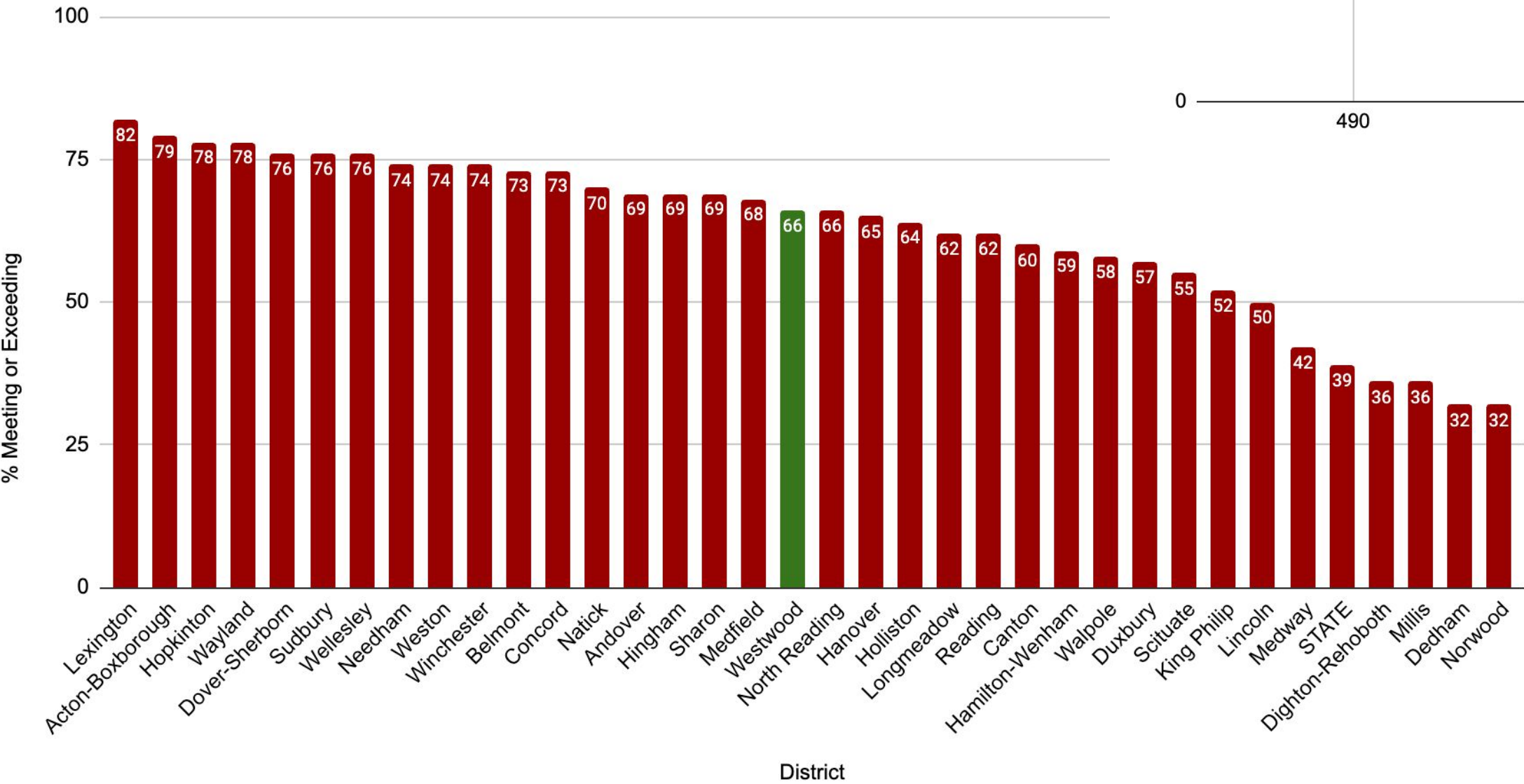


Grade 7 Math

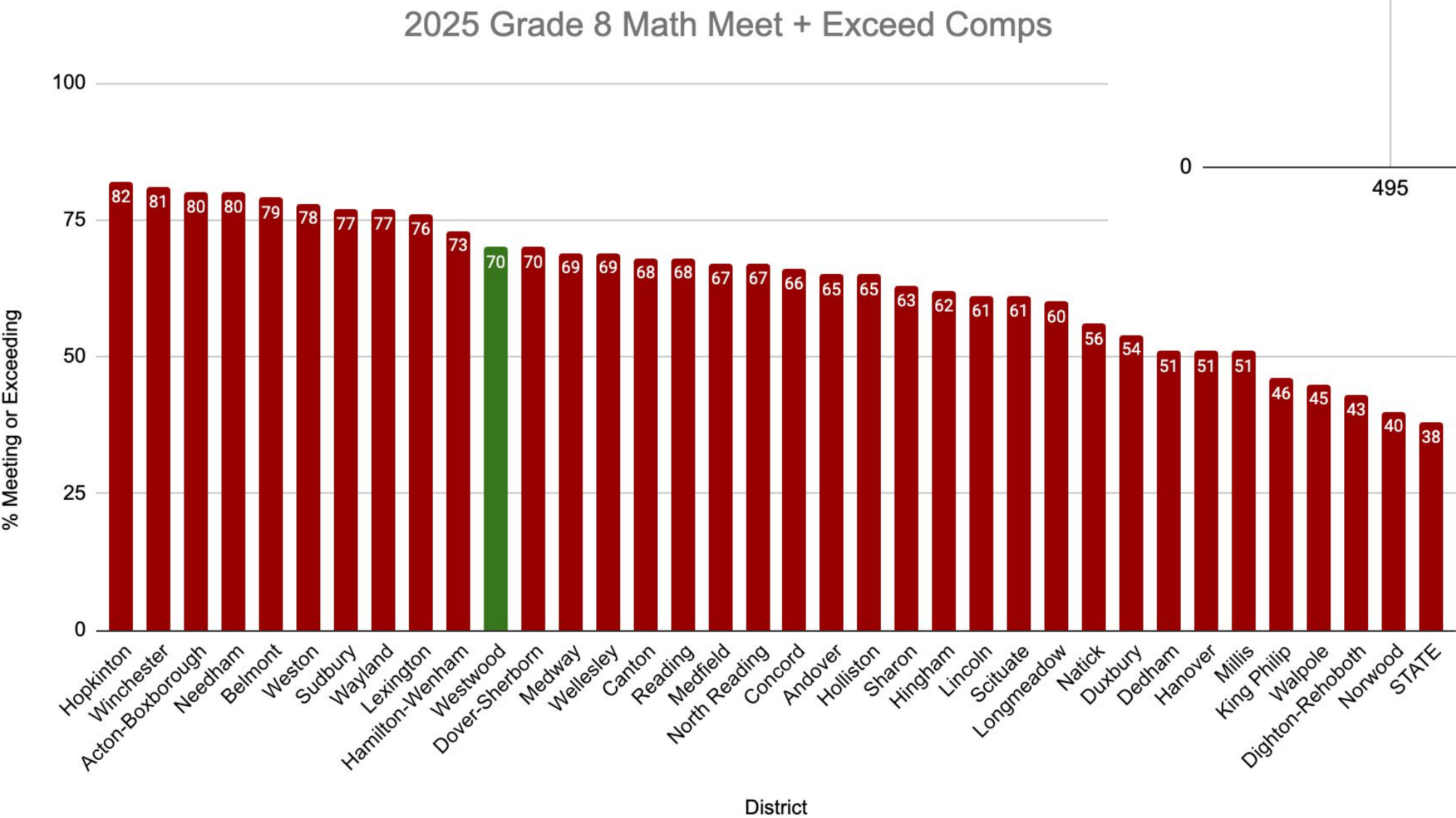
2025 Grade 7 Math - Scaled Score and SGP



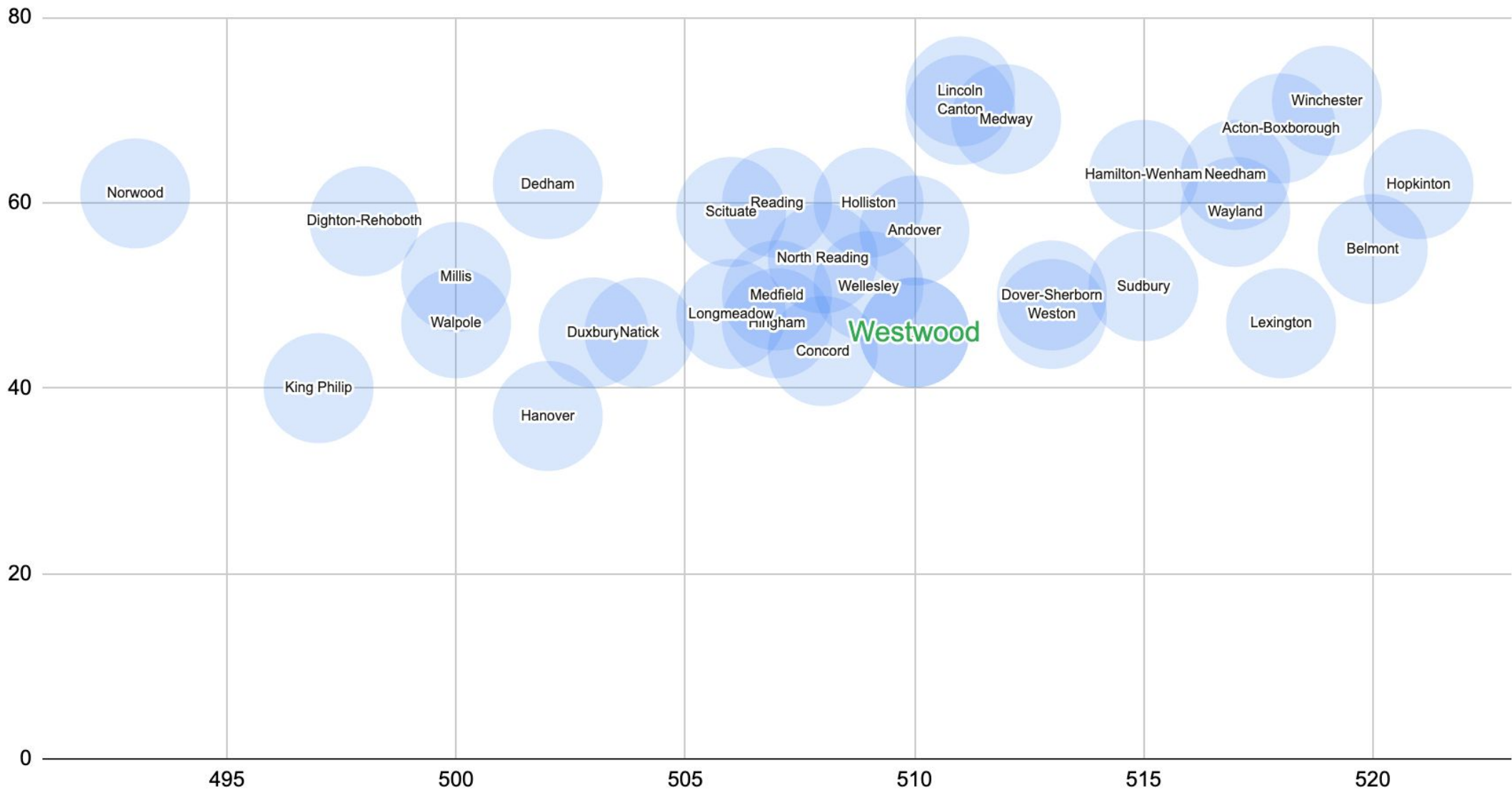
2025 Grade 7 Math Meet + Exceed Comps



Grade 8 Math

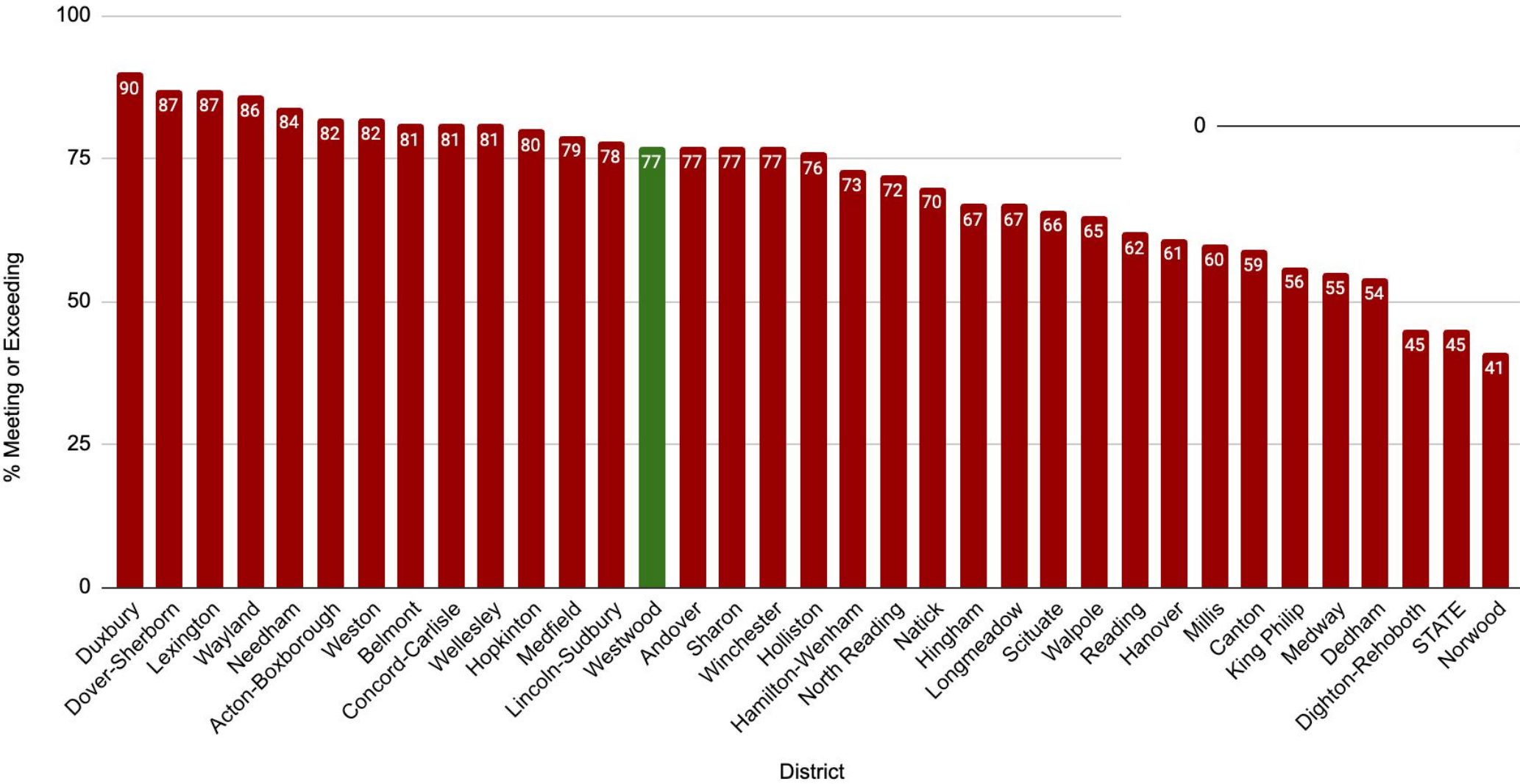


2025 Grade 8 Math - Scaled Score and SGP

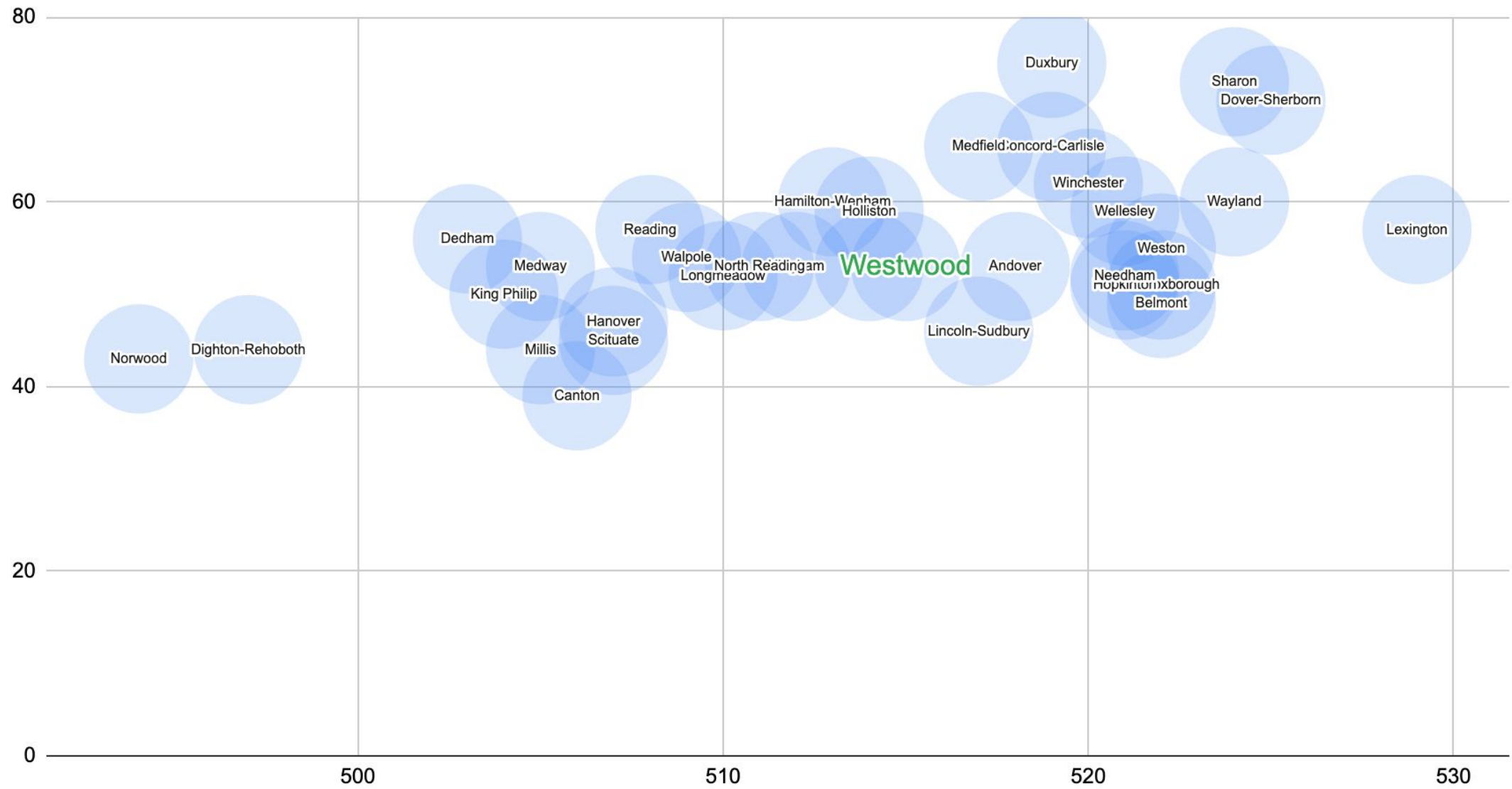


Grade 10 Math

2025 Grade 10 Math Meet + Exceed Comps



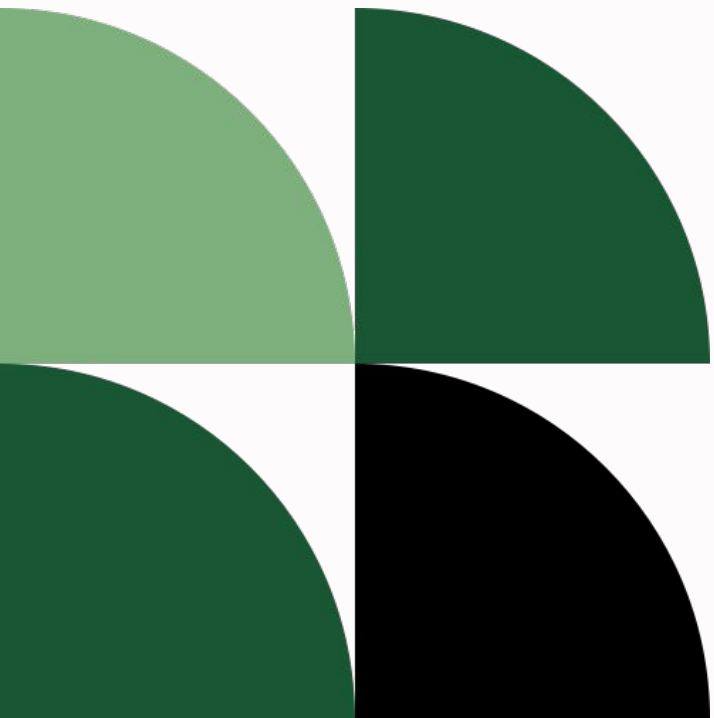
2025 Grade 10 Math - Scaled Score and SGP



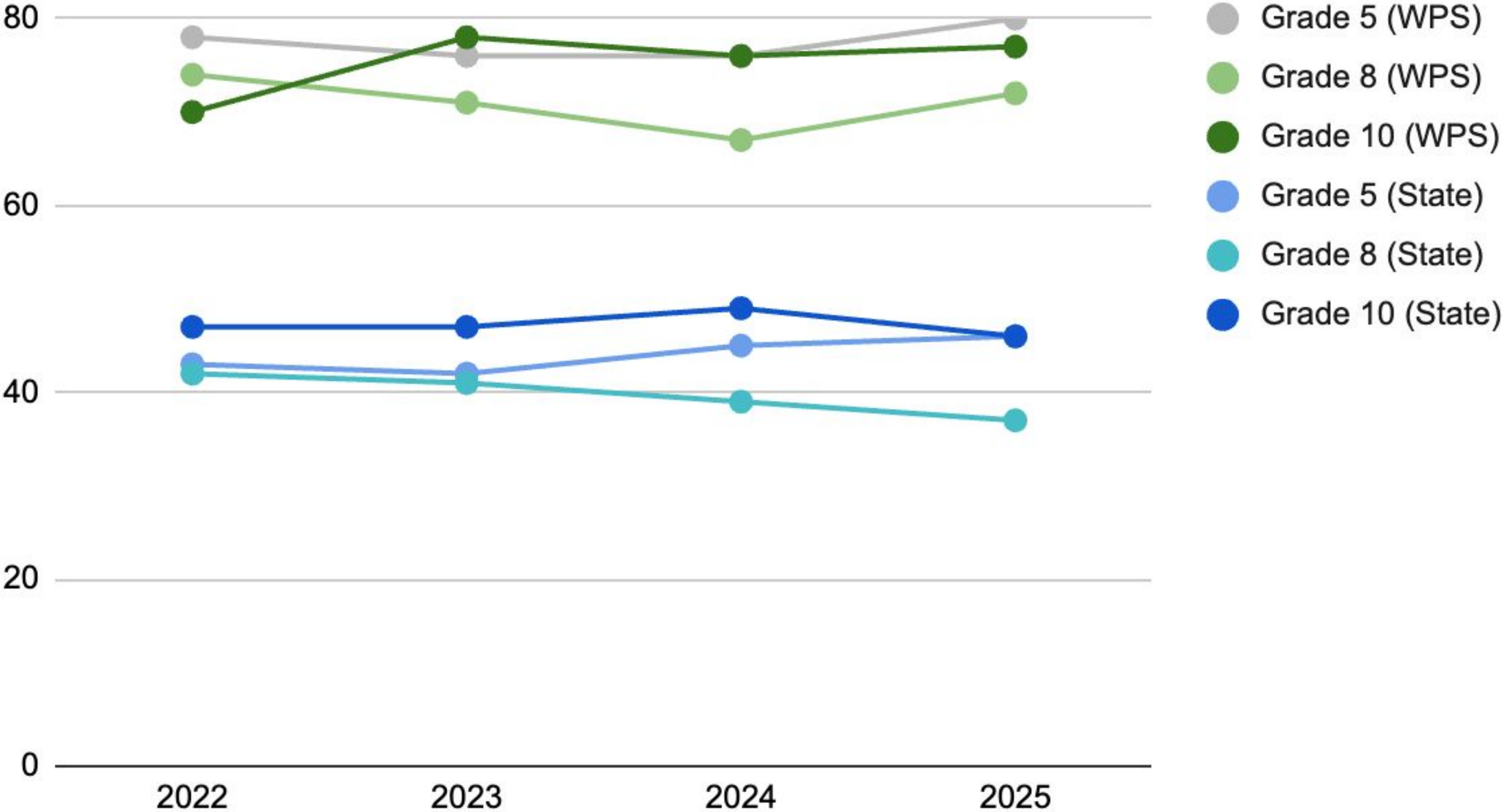
Science

Science Key Findings

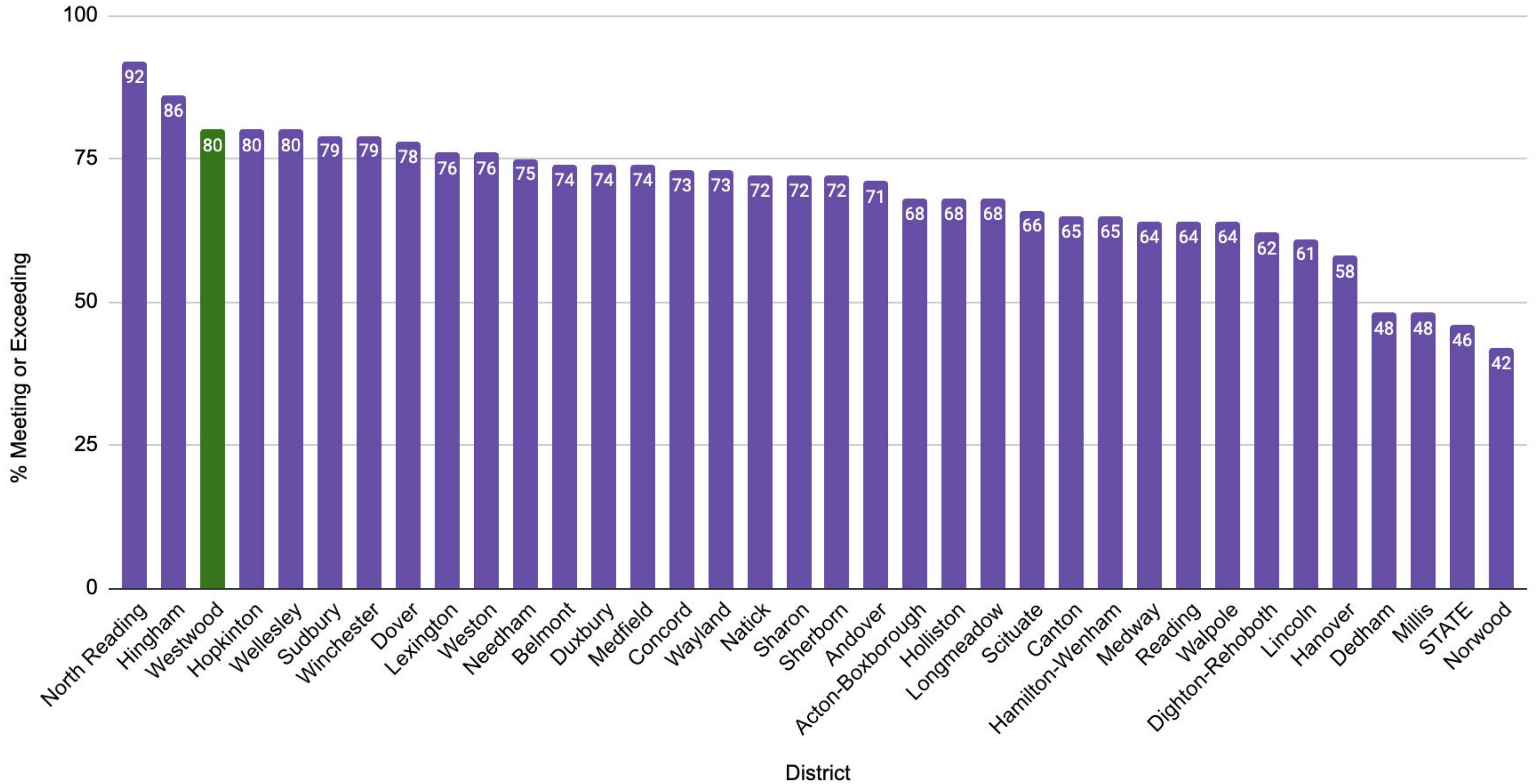
- Science MCAS administered in Grade 5, 8, and HS
- Continued high achievement, with gains at each grade assessed; in contrast to declines at state level



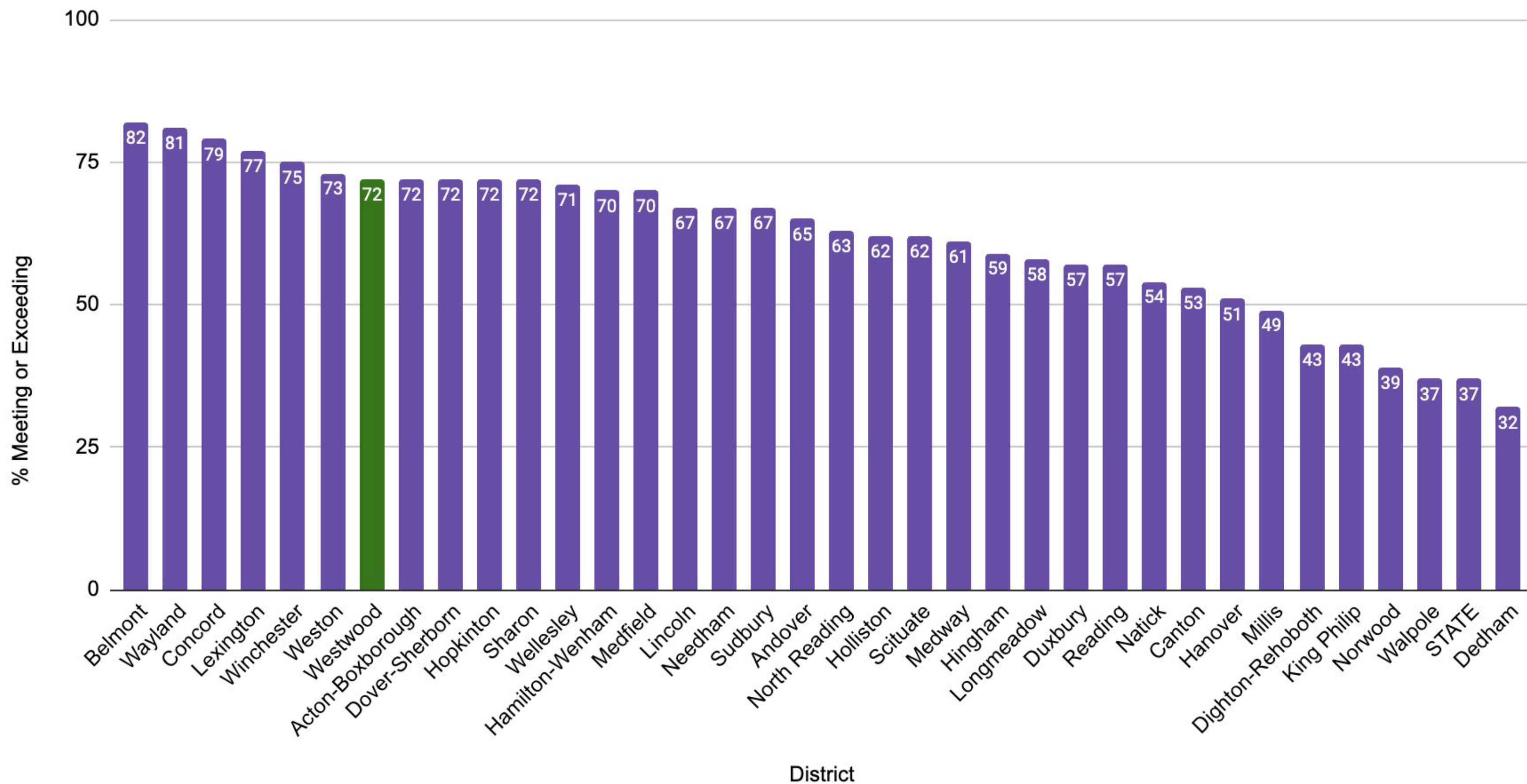
Science Meeting & Exceeding Expectations, Grades 5, 8, 10



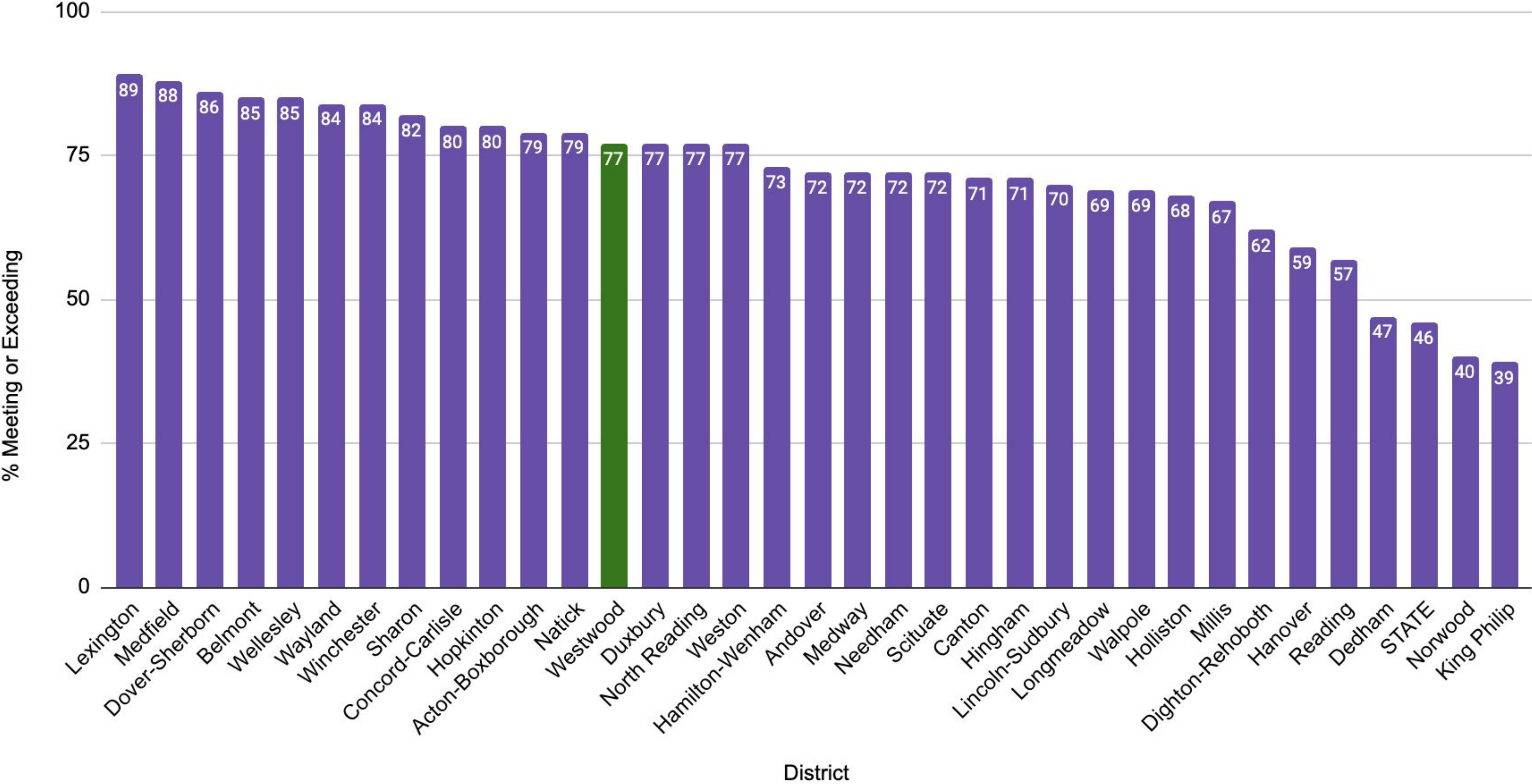
2025 Grade 5 STE Meet + Exceed Comps



2025 Grade 8 STE Meet + Exceed Comps



2025 HS Science Meet + Exceed Comps



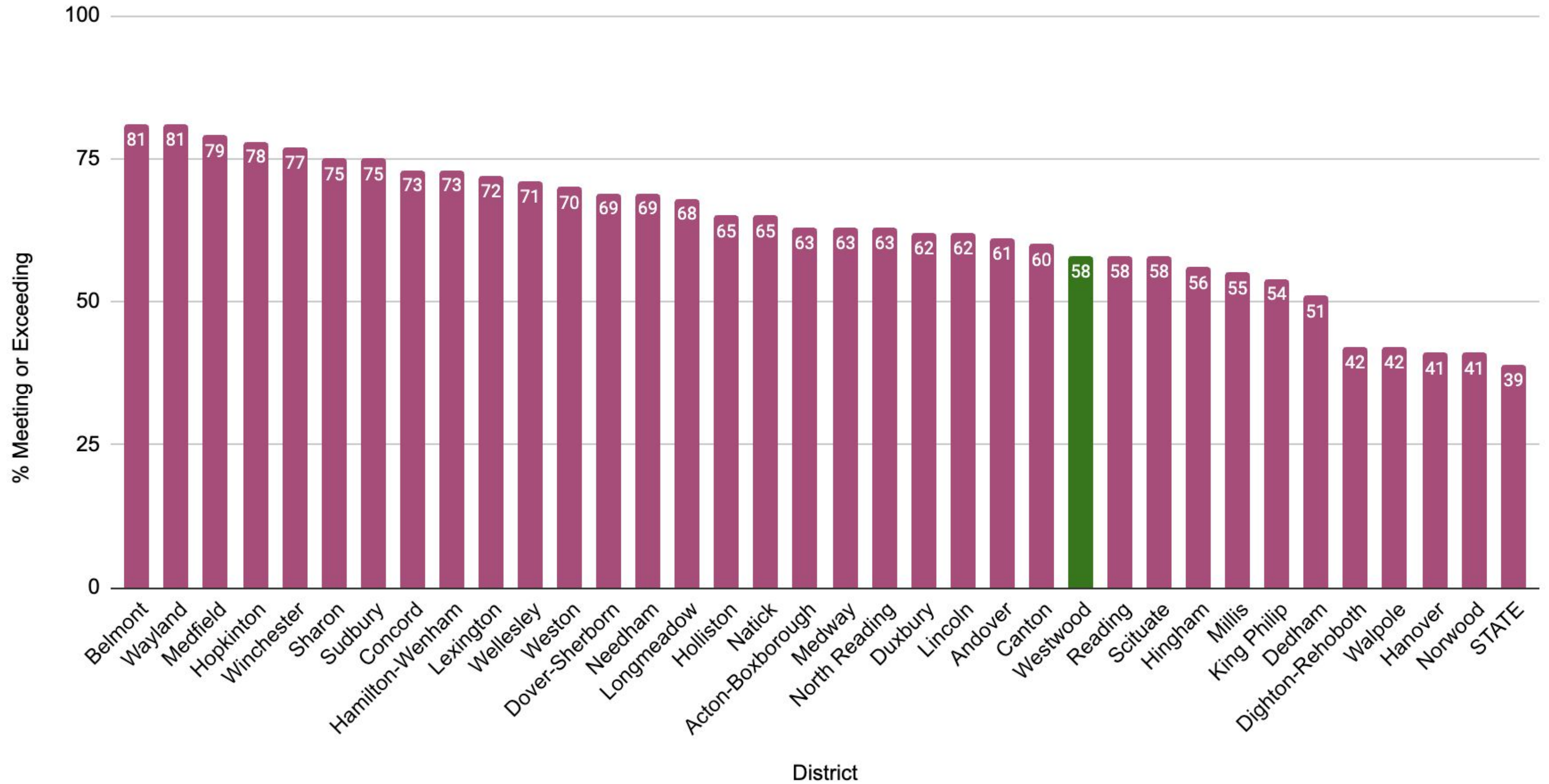
Civics

Civics Key Findings

- First year of Civics MCAS - Grade 8

	% Meet/ Exceed	Avg Scaled Score
Grades 8 (WPS)	58	504
Grade 8 (State)	39	495

2025 Grade 8 Civics Meet + Exceed Comps



Disaggregating Data

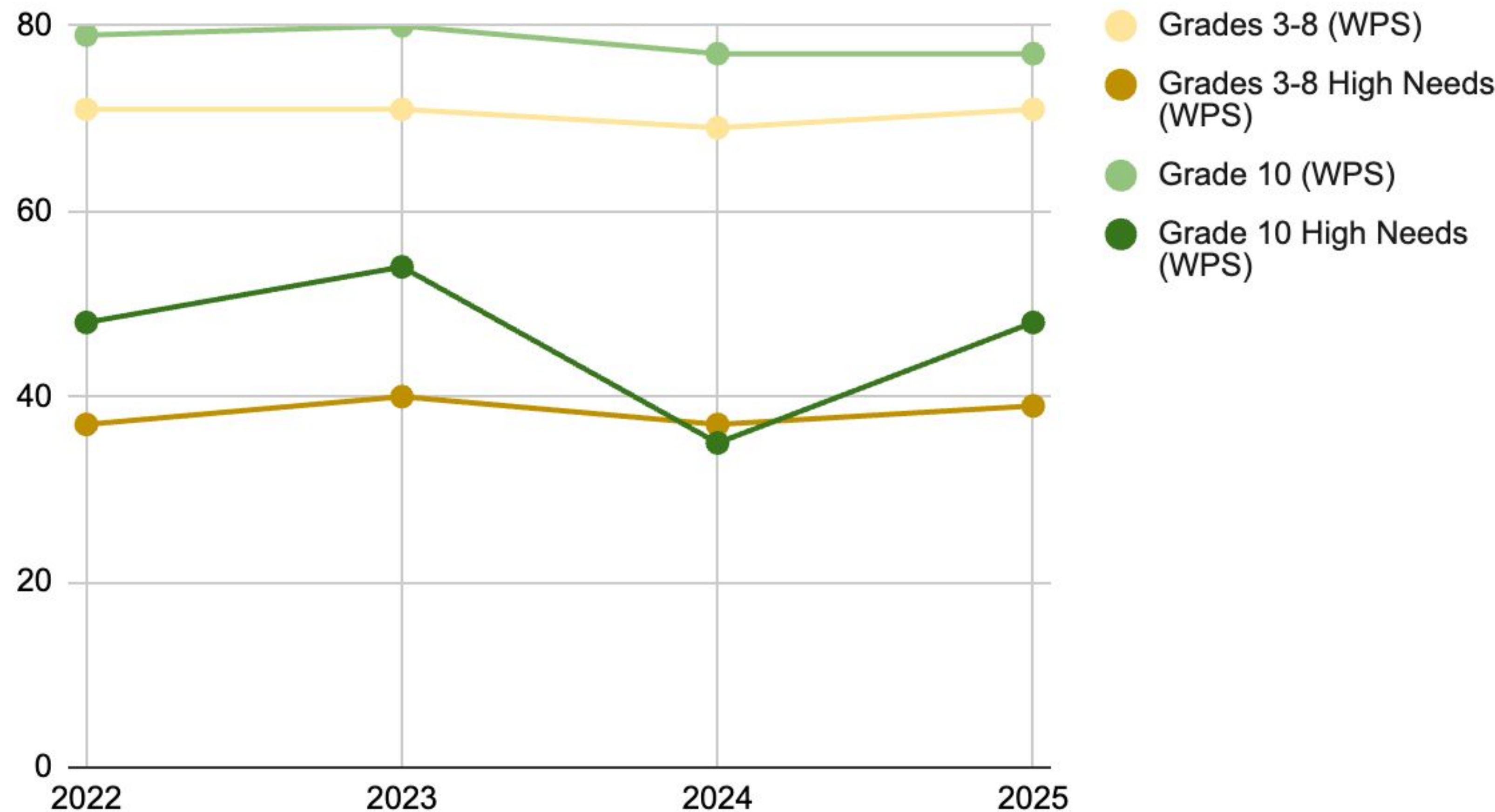
Disaggregated Data Key Findings

- Achievement gaps persist over time, similar to gaps seen across the state
- High Needs subgroup, including low income, students with disabilities, and English language learners, performs significantly lower than the aggregate
- As a district, and at the school level, we are also examining data disaggregated by gender and race, to help us monitor and work to close achievement gaps

English Language Arts

	% Meet/ Exceed	Avg Scaled Score	Avg SGP
Grades 3-8 All	71	513	56
Grades 3-8 High Needs	39	495	50
Grade 10 All	77	515	55
Grade 10 High Needs	48	499	53

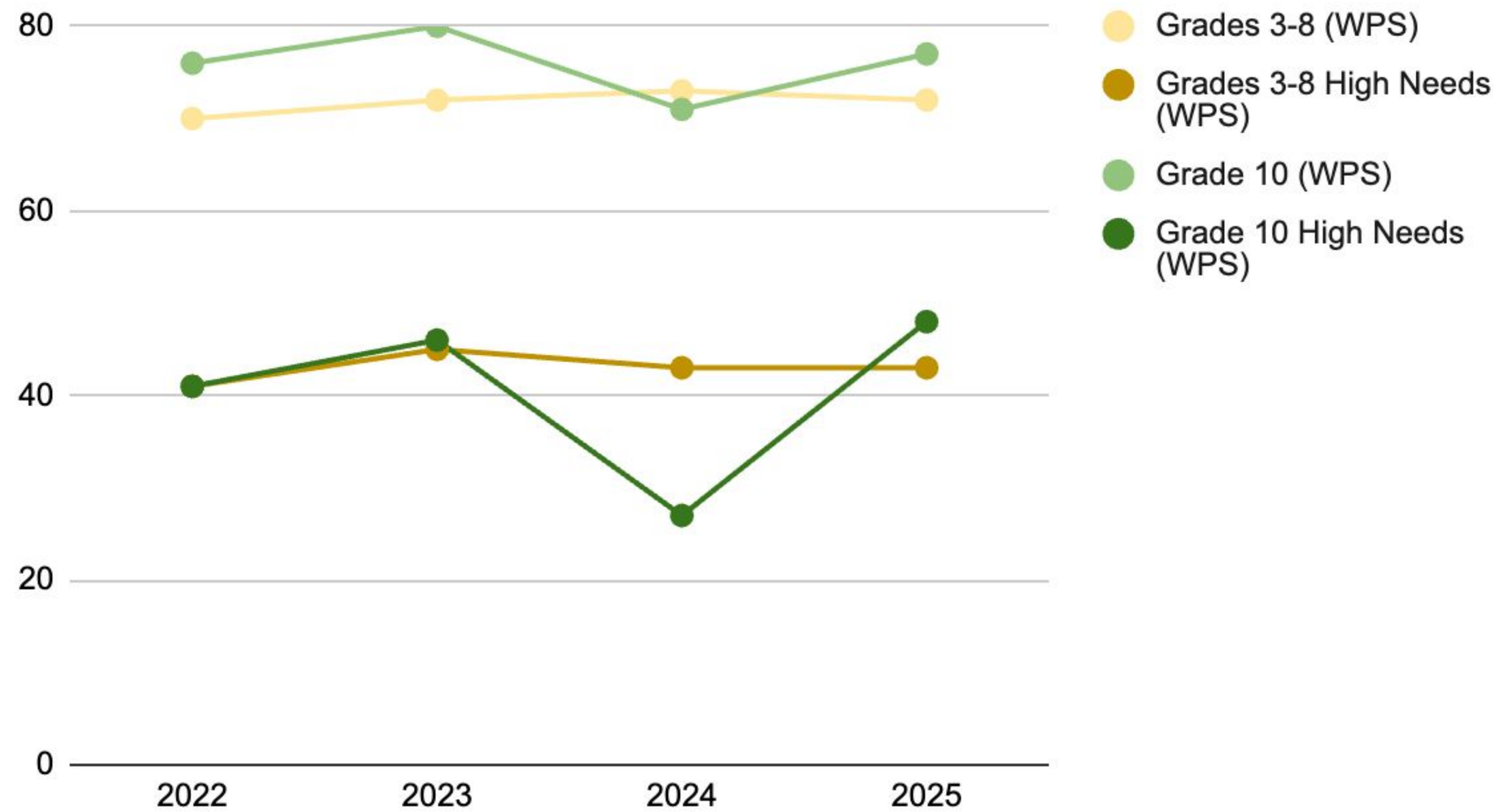
ELA High Needs Comparison



Math

	% Meet/ Exceed	Avg Scaled Score	Avg SGP
Grades 3-8 All	72	513	53
Grades 3-8 High Needs	43	498	49
Grade 10 All	77	515	53
Grade 10 High Needs	48	498	54

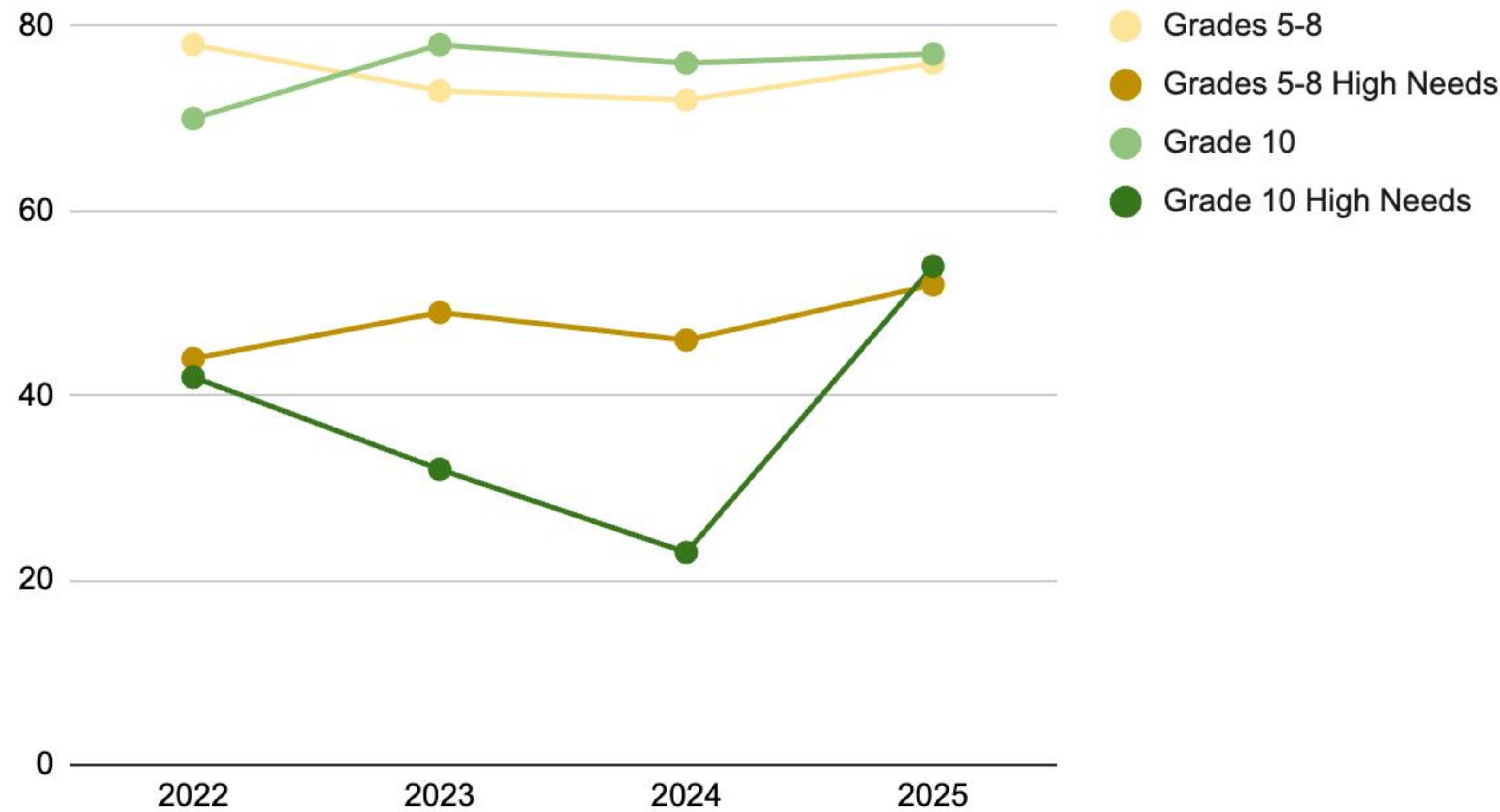
Math Grades 3-8, 10 High Needs Comparison



Science

	% Meet/ Exceed	Avg Scaled Score	Avg SGP
Grades 5,8 All	76	514	N/A
Grades 5, 8 High Needs	52	499	N/A
Grade 10 All	77	513	N/A
Grade 10 High Needs	54	501	N/A

Science Grades 3-8, 10 High Needs Comparison



Next Steps

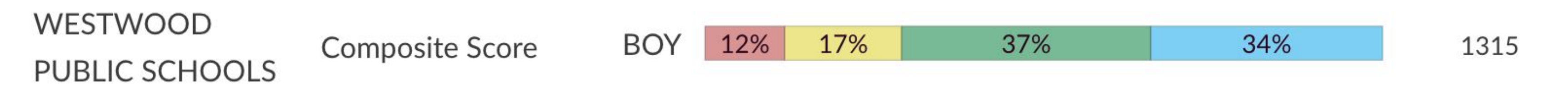
- Department and Building leaders conduct standard and item analyses of MCAS assessments, examine released items
- Triangulate with other data points - report cards, universal screener data, attendance, Curriculum Review findings, etc.
- Determine next steps for curriculum and instruction:
 - If we see positive/intended outcomes - stay the course, sustain progress, and scale up
 - If we see positive signs but not there yet - stay the course, focus on quality of implementation
 - If our data is not matching our goals - investigate further, develop plan of action

Additional Data to Note

District Accountability Data - Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism - High school			
Group	2024 Rate (%)	2025 Rate (%)	Change
All Students	11.1	9.0	-2.1
Lowest Performing	34.0	9.3	-24.7

K-5 Literacy Beginning of Year Benchmark



Discussion

