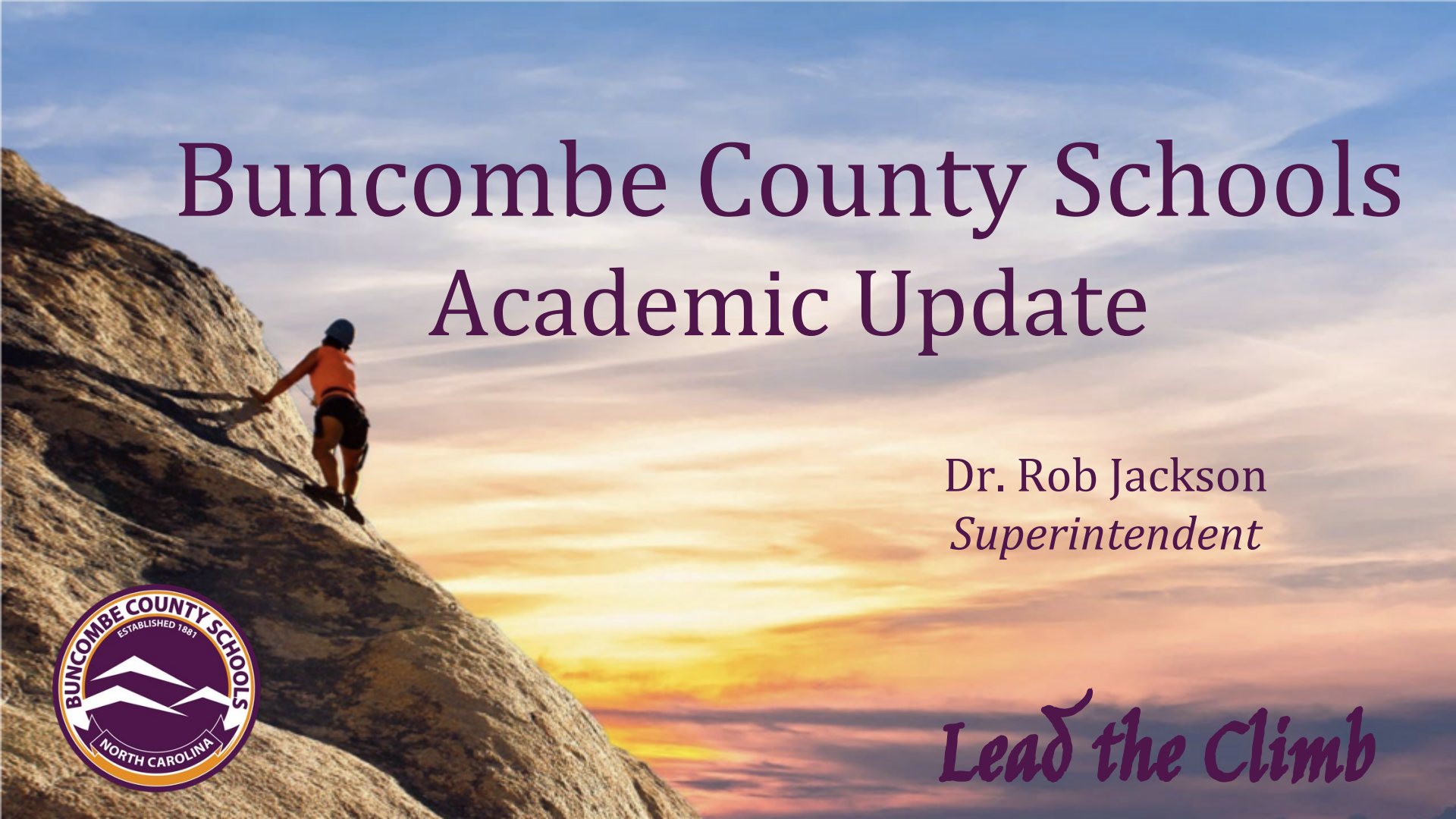


Buncombe County Schools
Academic Update

Dr. Rob Jackson
Superintendent

Lead the Climb


BUNCOMBE COUNTY SCHOOLS
ESTABLISHED 1881
NORTH CAROLINA
Grace and Strength
from even the greatest tragedy,
still

Post-Storm Challenges – Lost Instructional Time

Students lost valuable time in class.

The 24-25 School Calendar had **179** days (**1,062** Instructional Hours).

- Students missed **19** days following the hurricane.
- Students missed **7 or 8** days, to date, related to weather.*
- Students had two-hour delay starts on **6** days following the hurricane.
- Students had **1** additional two-hour delayed start due to weather.

TOTAL Lost Instructional Time:

***EVAAS calculations and accountability formulas remained the same**

#TogetherWeRise

* 7 or 8 Weather Days were Remote Days



The BCS Approach:

Spirit of Continuous Improvement

OUR CORE BELIEFS

As a school system, we are at our best when we:

Engage Students in Meaningful Ways

Every student can succeed when they feel a sense of belonging and are engaged in instruction that is designed to meet their academic, social, and emotional needs.

Collaborate and Connect

All students need opportunities to collaborate and connect in authentic ways, both in and out of the classroom, so that they can apply their learning to real-world challenges now and in the future.

Build Strong Family and Community Partnerships

Our school communities are strongest when we honor diversity and nurture partnerships through meaningful communication with families and the larger community.

Support Educators

Our educators thrive in environments when they are valued, trusted, and supported to be highly effective in ensuring success for all students. When our educators thrive, our students thrive.

Invest for Equity and Excellence

When we invest and allocate resources equitably and intentionally, we create the conditions for excellence necessary for every student to achieve at high levels.



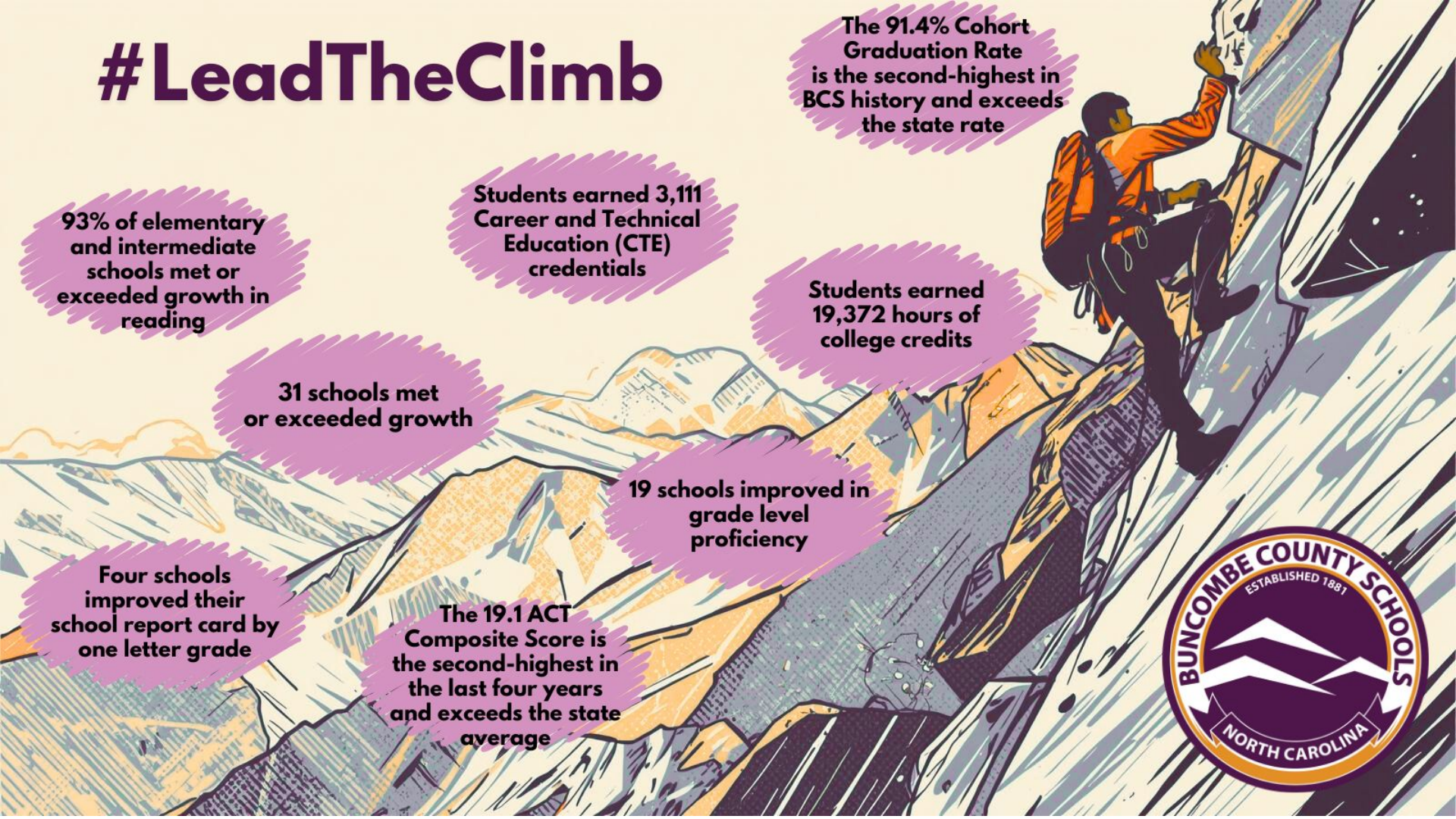
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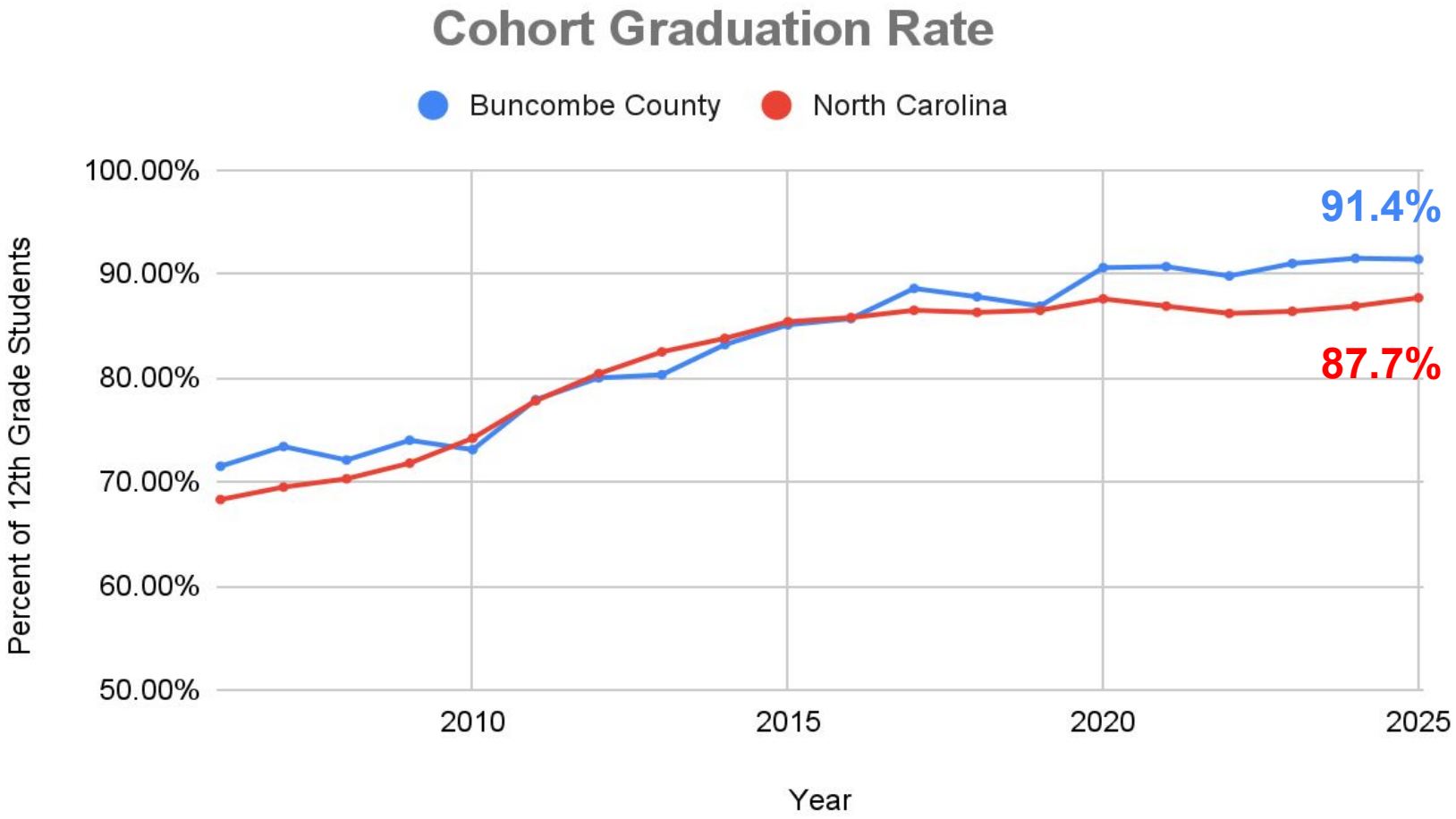
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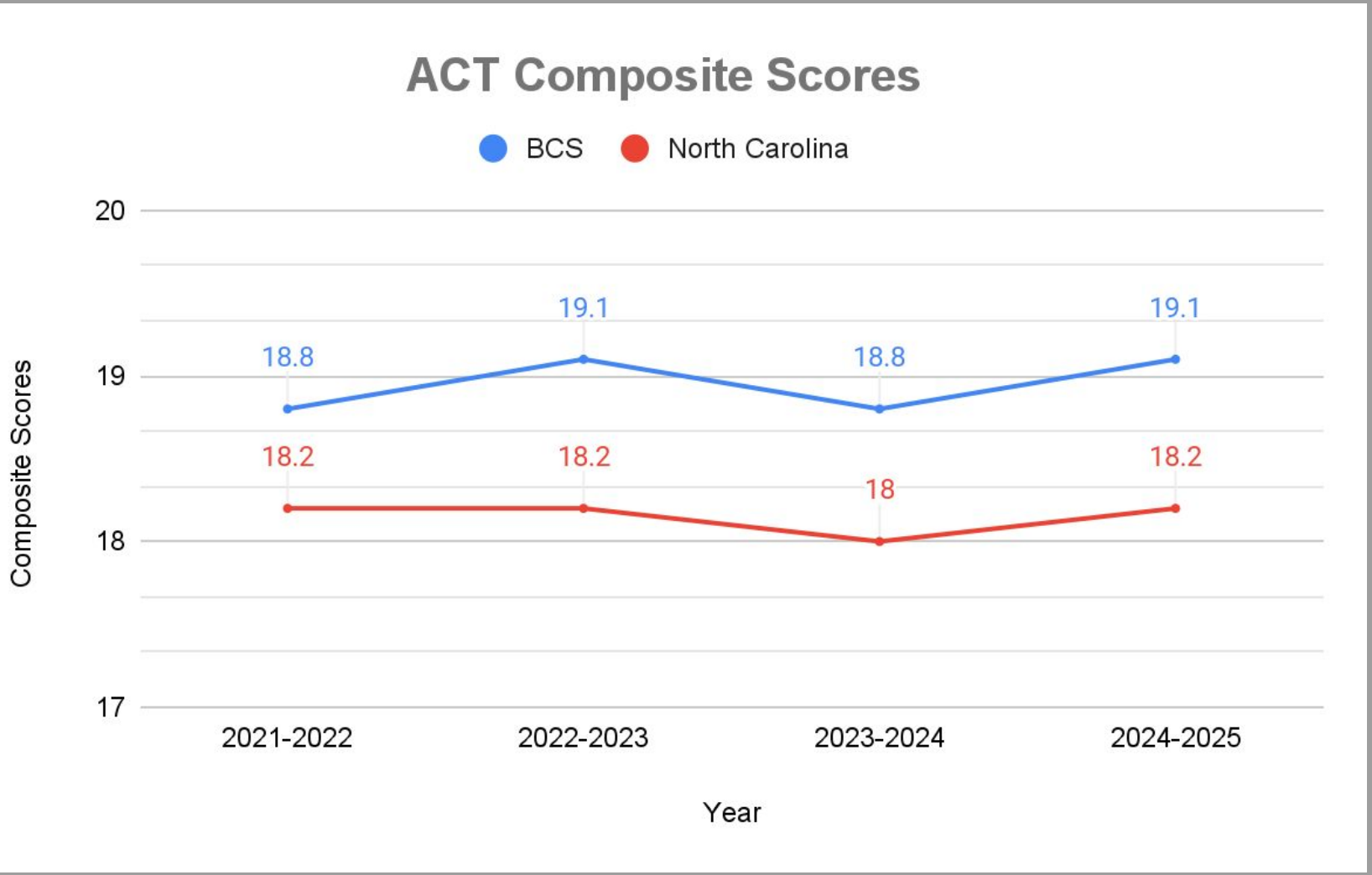
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#LeadTheClimb



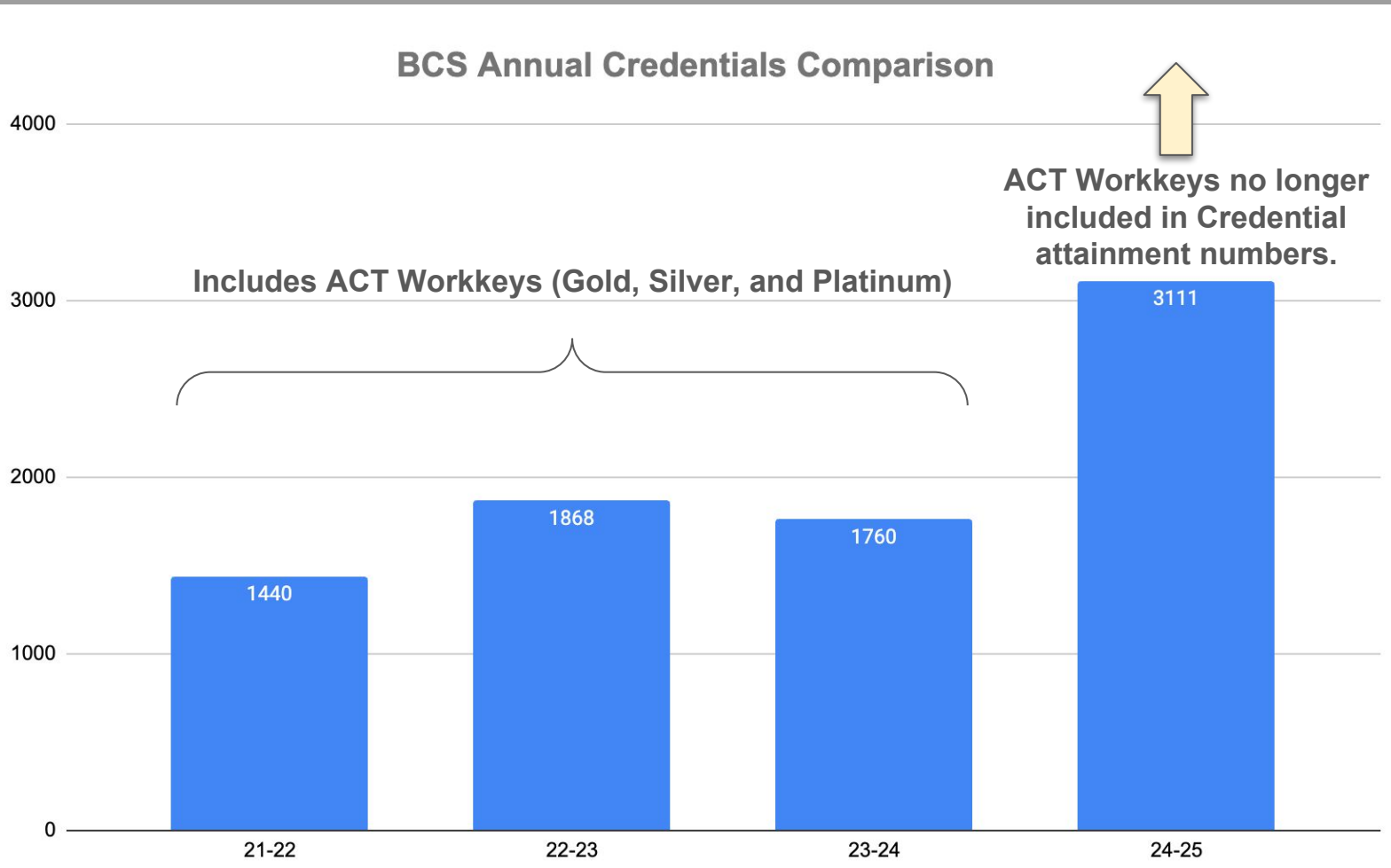

Cohort Graduation Rate
Buncombe County
North Carolina
100.00%
90.00%
80.00%
70.00%
60.00%
50.00%
Percent of 12th Grade Students
2010
2015
2020
2025
Year
91.4%
87.7%


ACT Composite Scores
BCS
North Carolina
20
19
18
17
Composite Scores
19.1
19.1
18.8
18.8
18.2
18.2
18.2
18
2021-2022
2022-2023
2023-2024
2024-2025
Year

College Credits Earned

Students have two ways to earn college credits: Advanced Placement Courses and A-B Tech Courses

- **Advanced Placement**
  - 1,199 AP Credits Successfully Earned (score of 3 or better)
- **College Course Credits**
  - 6,307 A-B Tech Courses Successfully Completed (grade of C or better)


BCS Annual Credentials Comparison
ACT Workkeys no longer included in Credential attainment numbers.
Includes ACT Workkeys (Gold, Silver, and Platinum)
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
1440
1868
1760
3111
21-22
22-23
23-24
24-25

More to Celebrate



- **Four Schools increased one entire letter grade**
  - Leicester Elementary (also exited low performing status)
  - Haw Creek Elementary (first time in 4 years)
  - North Buncombe Elementary (first time in 5 years)
  - Johnston Elementary (first time in 5 years)
- **Eight schools have exceeded growth for three or more consecutive years**
  - High School
    - AC Reynolds High School
    - Buncombe County Early College
  - Middle School
    - Valley Springs Middle School
  - Elementary School
    - Candler
    - Sand Hill Venable
    - West Buncombe
    - North Buncombe
    - Weaverville



More to Celebrate

- School system exceeded expected growth in literacy for grades 3-7
- K-3 literacy data showing similar rates of growth in all student groups over the course of the year
- 3rd Grade Reading and HS Math III trending upwards across student groups





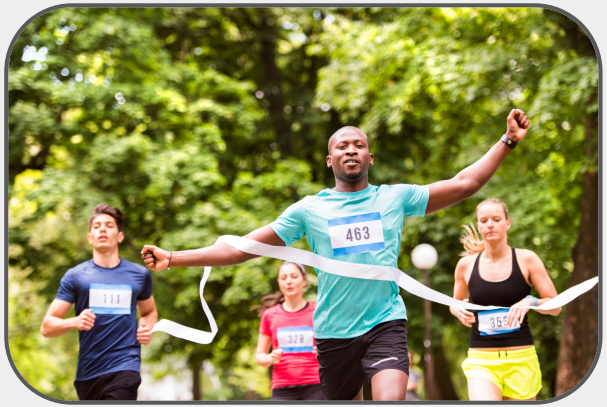


West Buncombe Elementary named a Distinguished Title I School for Closing Achievement Gaps


Growth vs. Proficiency
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NORTH CAROLINA

Growth vs. Proficiency - *The Race Analogy*

Proficiency **is like running a race with a finish line**

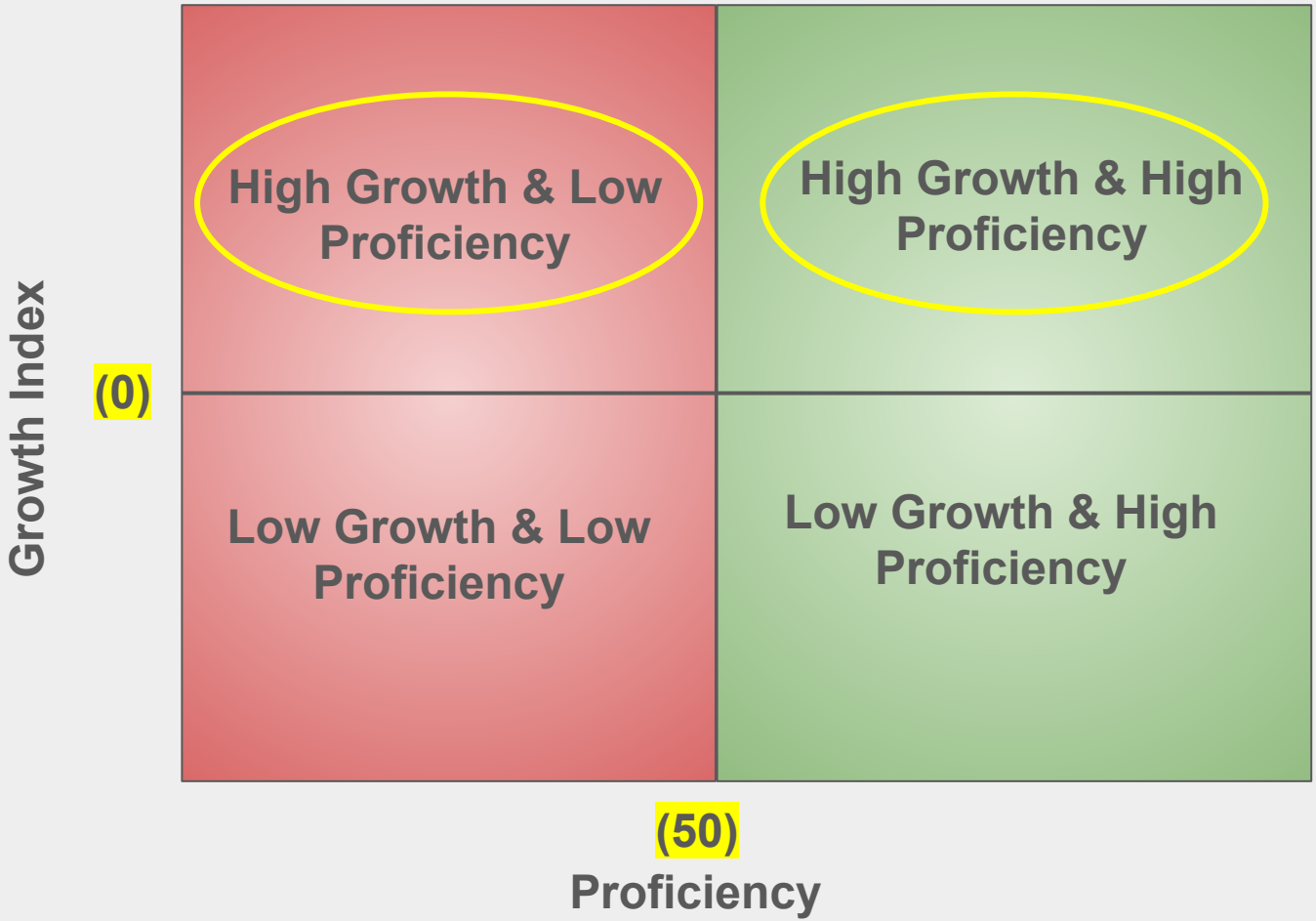


- How close did a student get to the finish line.
- Did they cross the finish line or not?
- No thought about where they started the race compared to other students

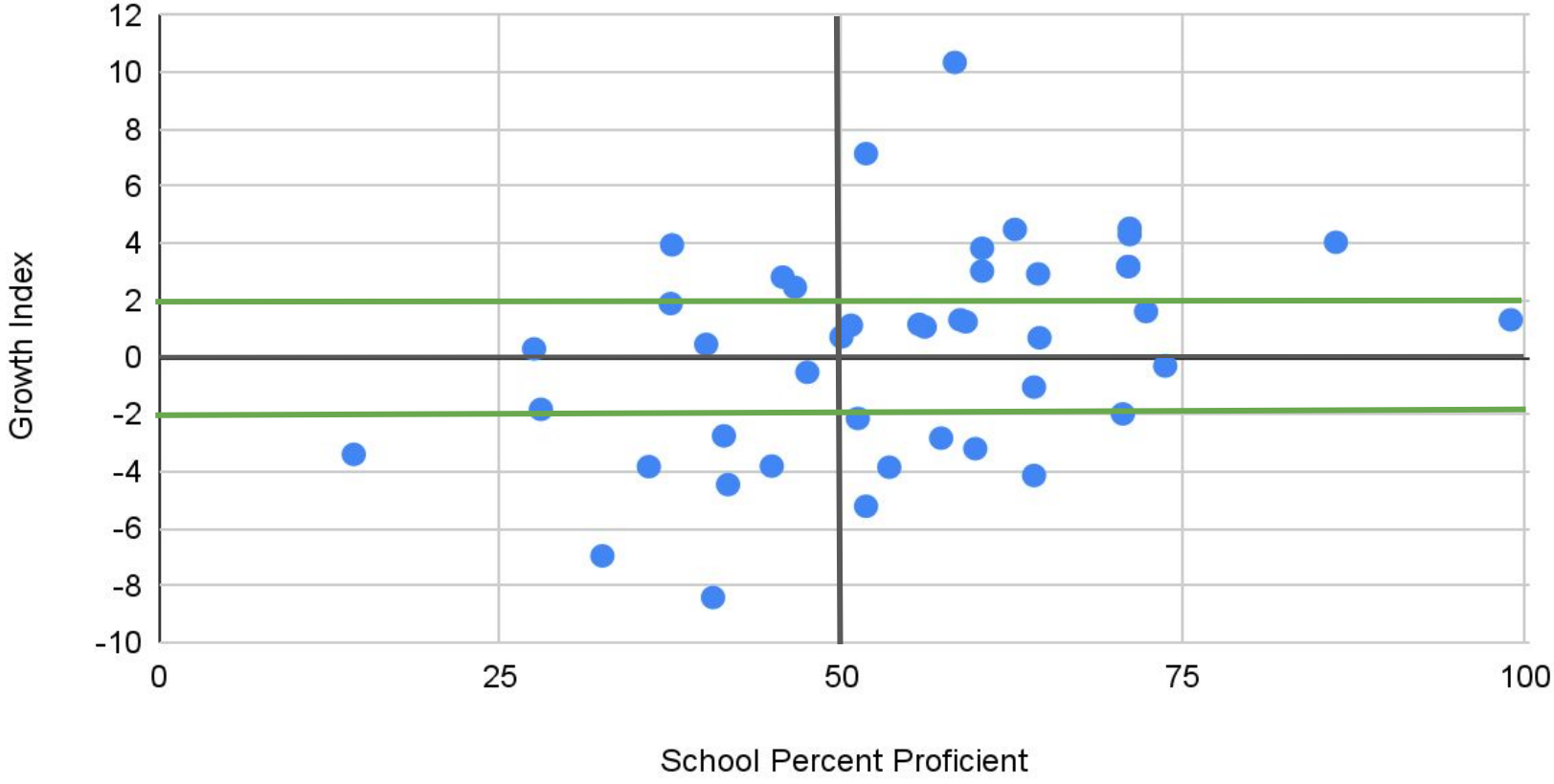
Growth **is like running a race without a finish line**

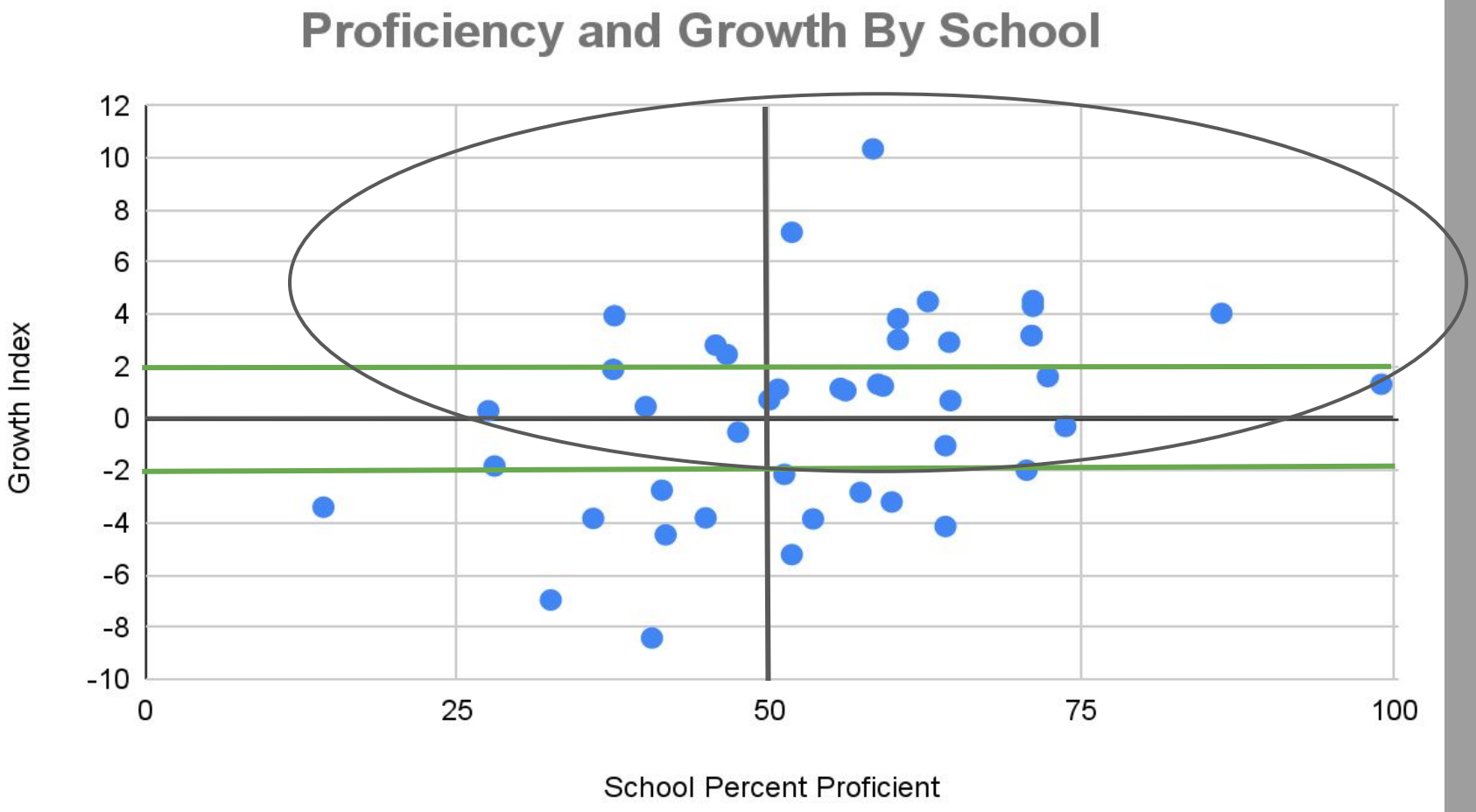


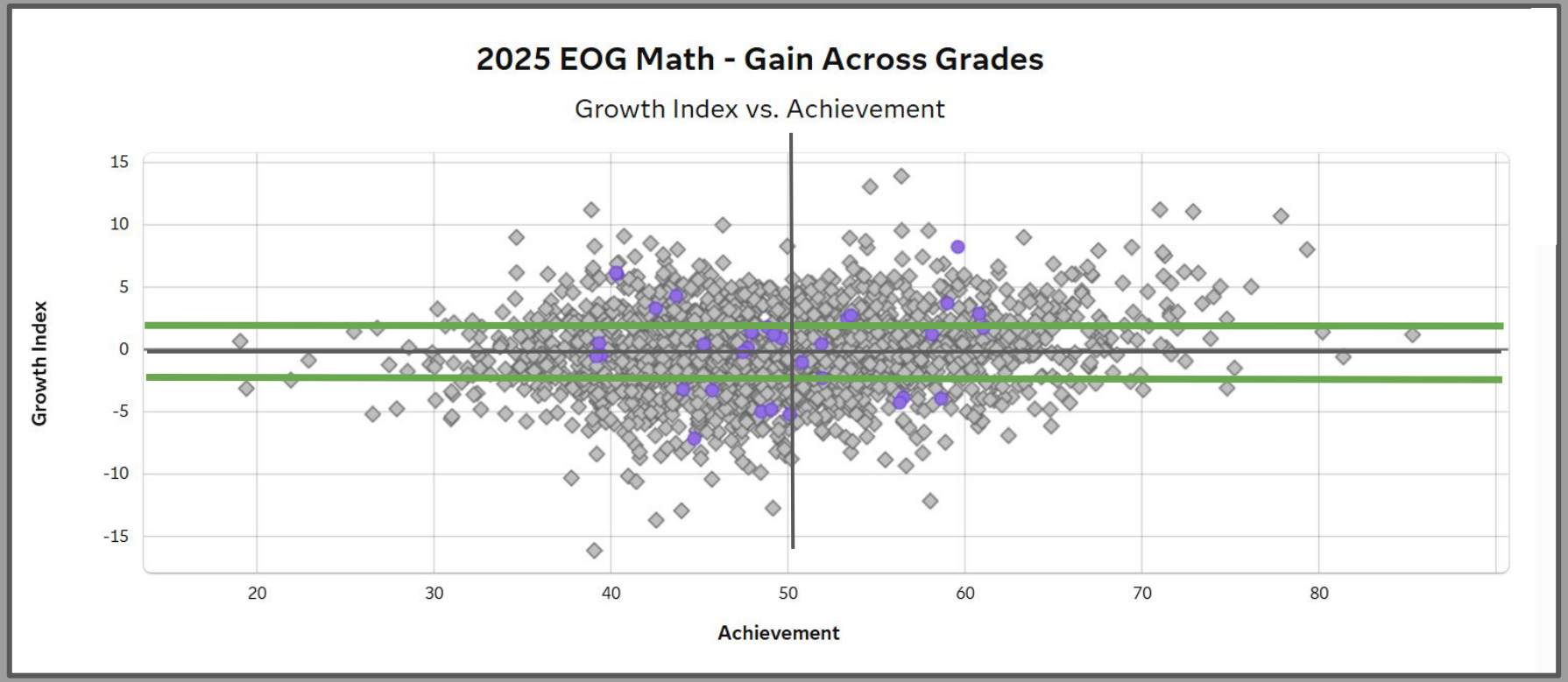
- Each students starts wherever they are and runs as far and as fast as they can.
- How did BCS students do compared to other students who started the race from a similar place?
- Our students vs. the average of similar students


High Growth & Low Proficiency
High Growth & High Proficiency
Low Growth & Low Proficiency
Low Growth & High Proficiency
Growth Index
(0)
(50)
Proficiency

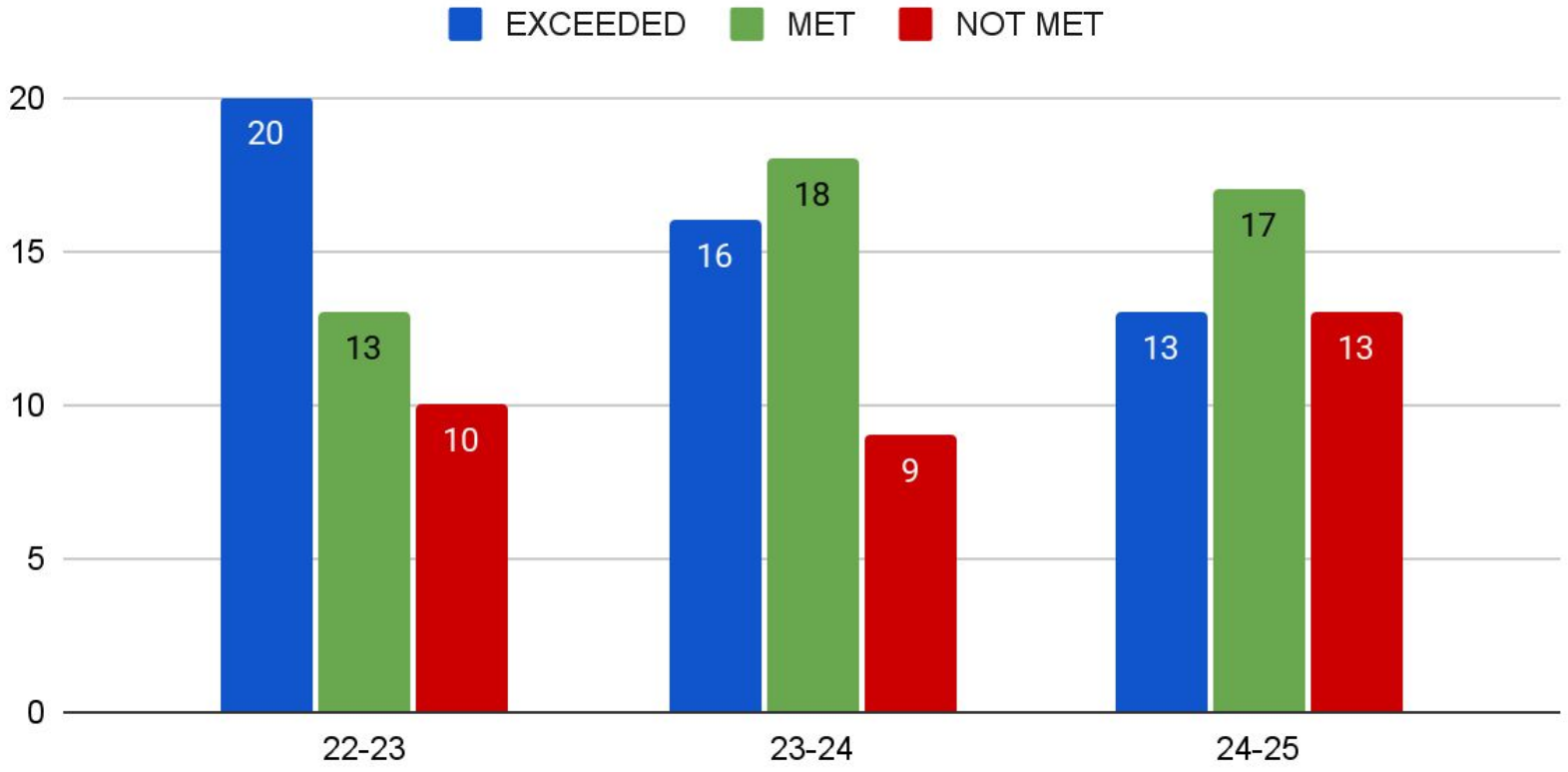
Proficiency and Growth By School




Proficiency and Growth By School
Growth Index
12
10
8
6
4
2
0
-2
-4
-6
-8
-10
0
25
50
75
100
School Percent Proficient


2025 EOG Math - Gain Across Grades
Growth Index vs. Achievement
Growth Index
15
10
5
0
-5
-10
-15
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
Achievement

Number of Schools Exceeding, Meeting, or Not Meeting Growth



2025 Results: School Performance Grades

Schools are graded on a 15-point scale

A - 85-100
B - 70-84
C - 55-69
D - 40-54
F - Less than 40

Growth Counts as 20%, Proficiency counts as 80% of the Total Grade (Made permanent in 2019)

2025 Results: School Performance Grades

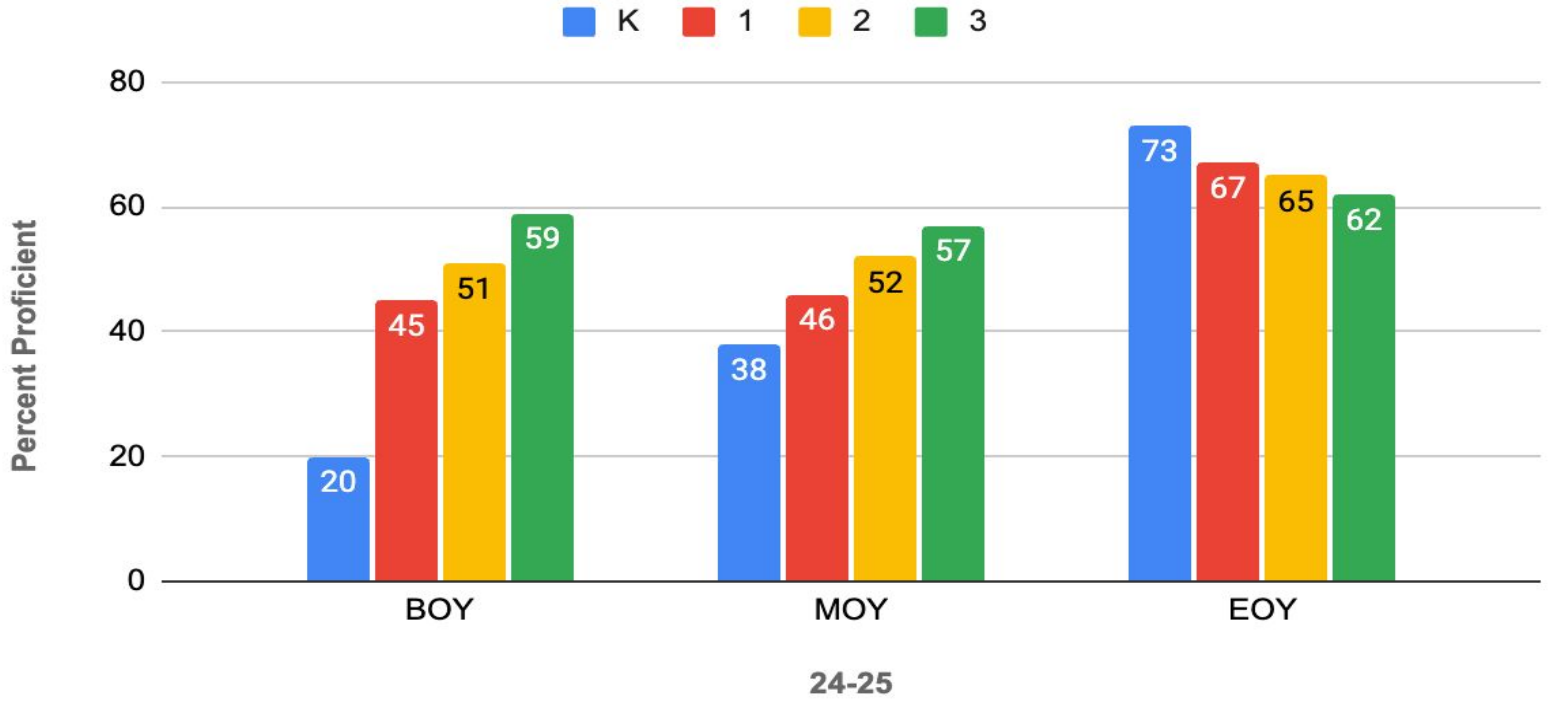
Buncombe County Schools had 77.3% (34/44) of schools receive a school performance grade of C or better

➔ **3 Schools received a grade of an A**

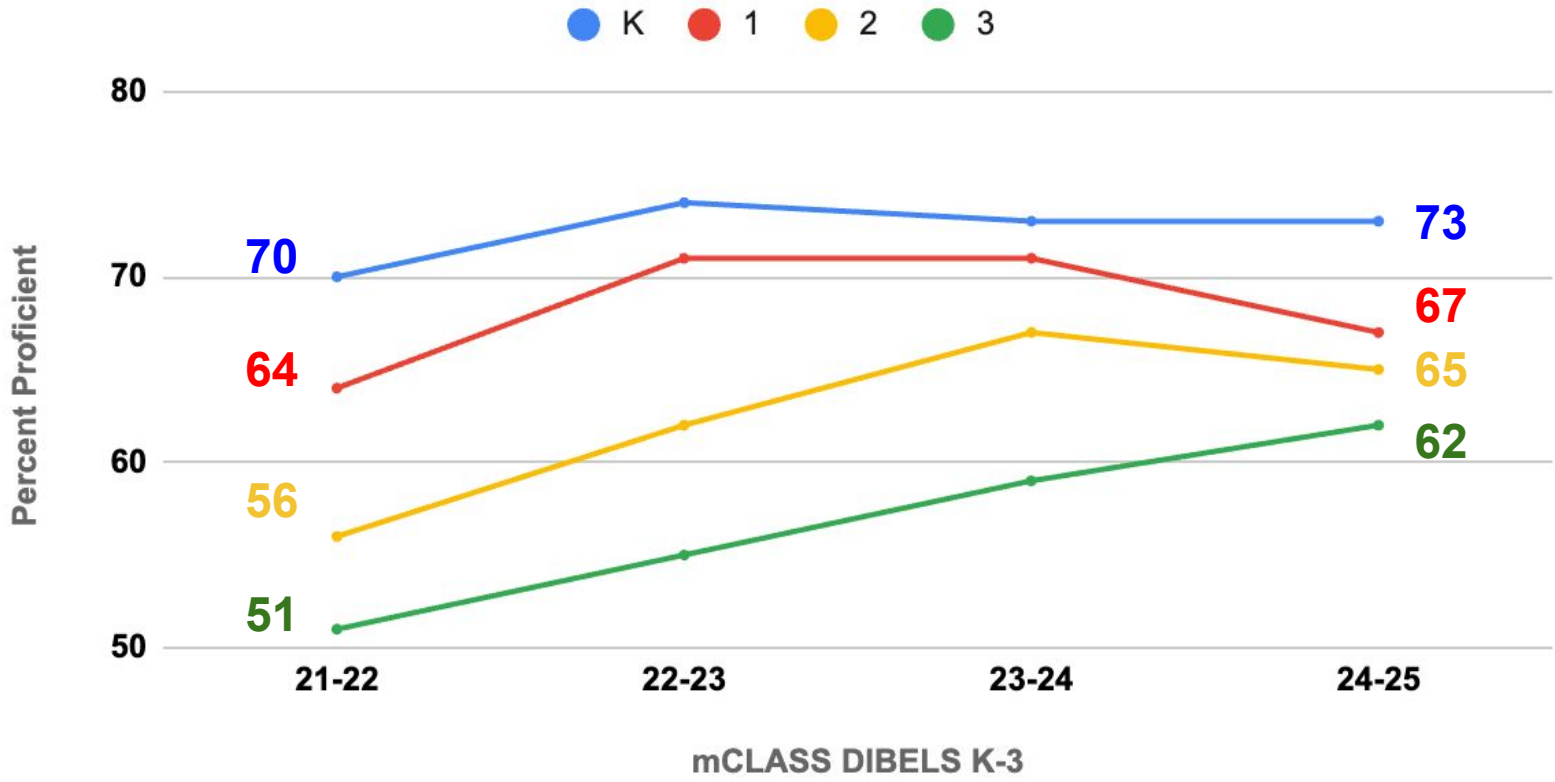
- Buncombe Early College
- Buncombe County Schools Center for Career Innovation
- Nesbitt Discovery Academy


BCS 2024-2025 Proficiency and Growth Data by Subject & Student Group:
Snapshots and Trends
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BUNCOMBE COUNTY SCHOOLS
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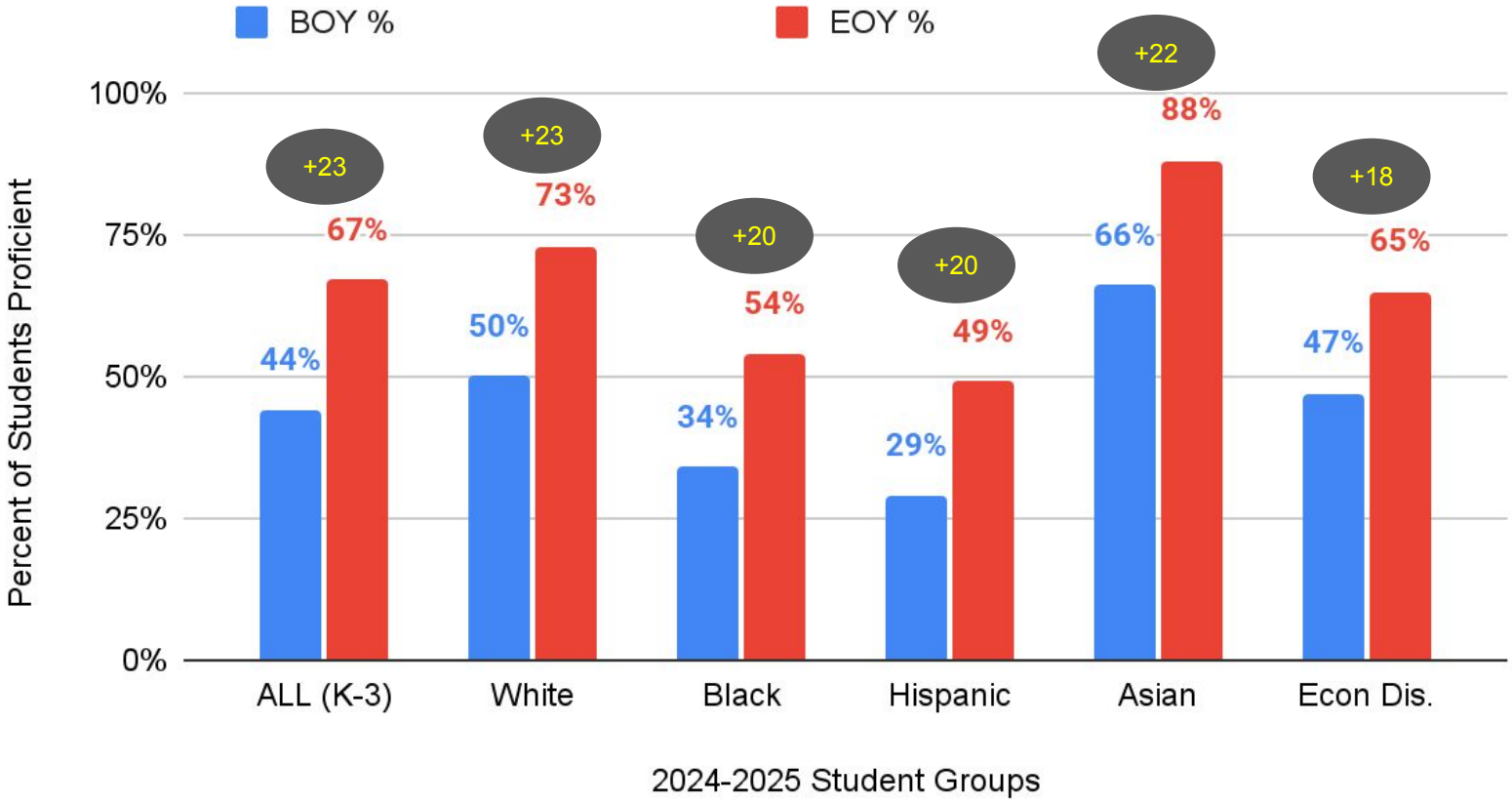
24-25 Beginning, Middle and End of Year DIBELS Early Literacy Proficiency

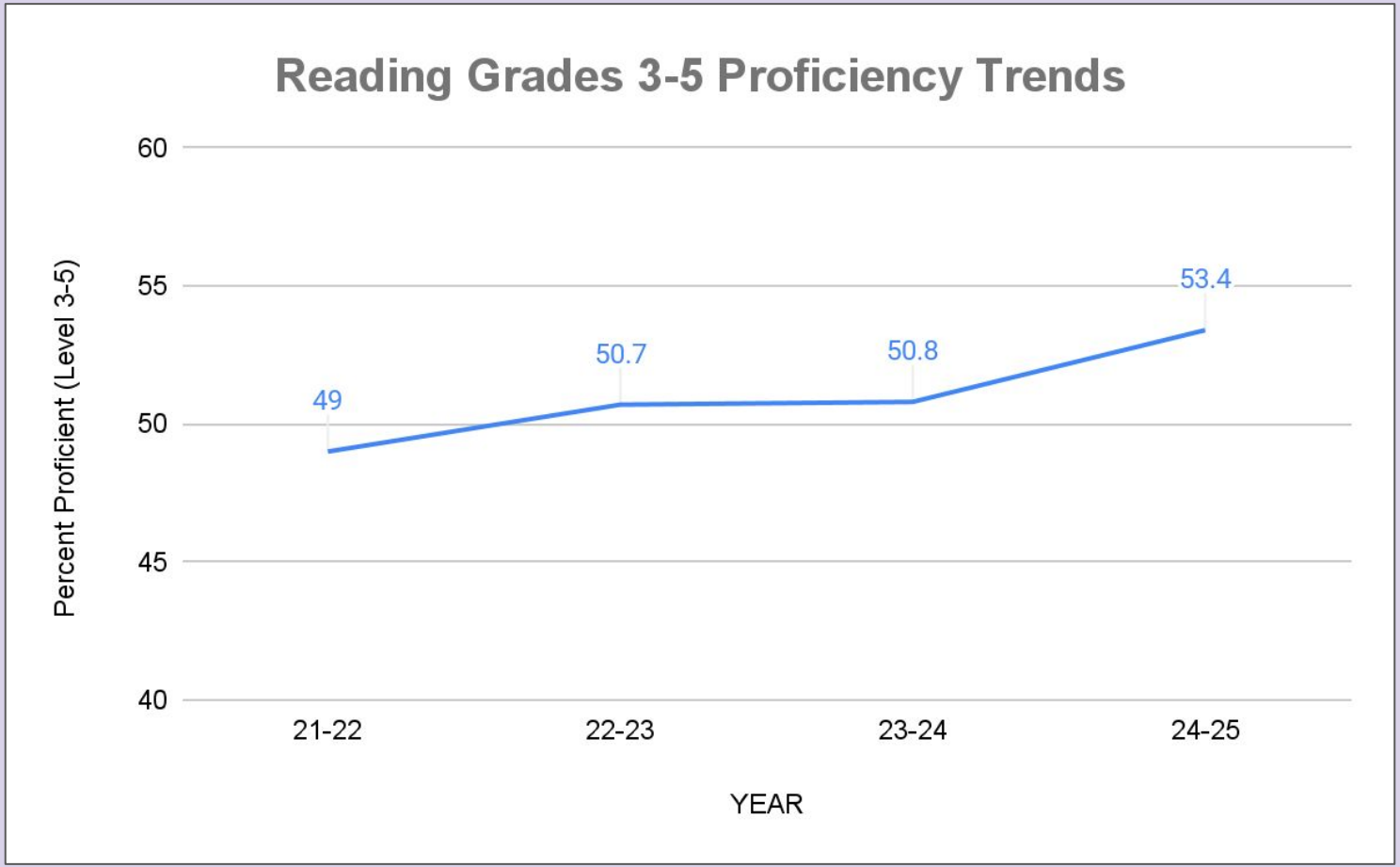


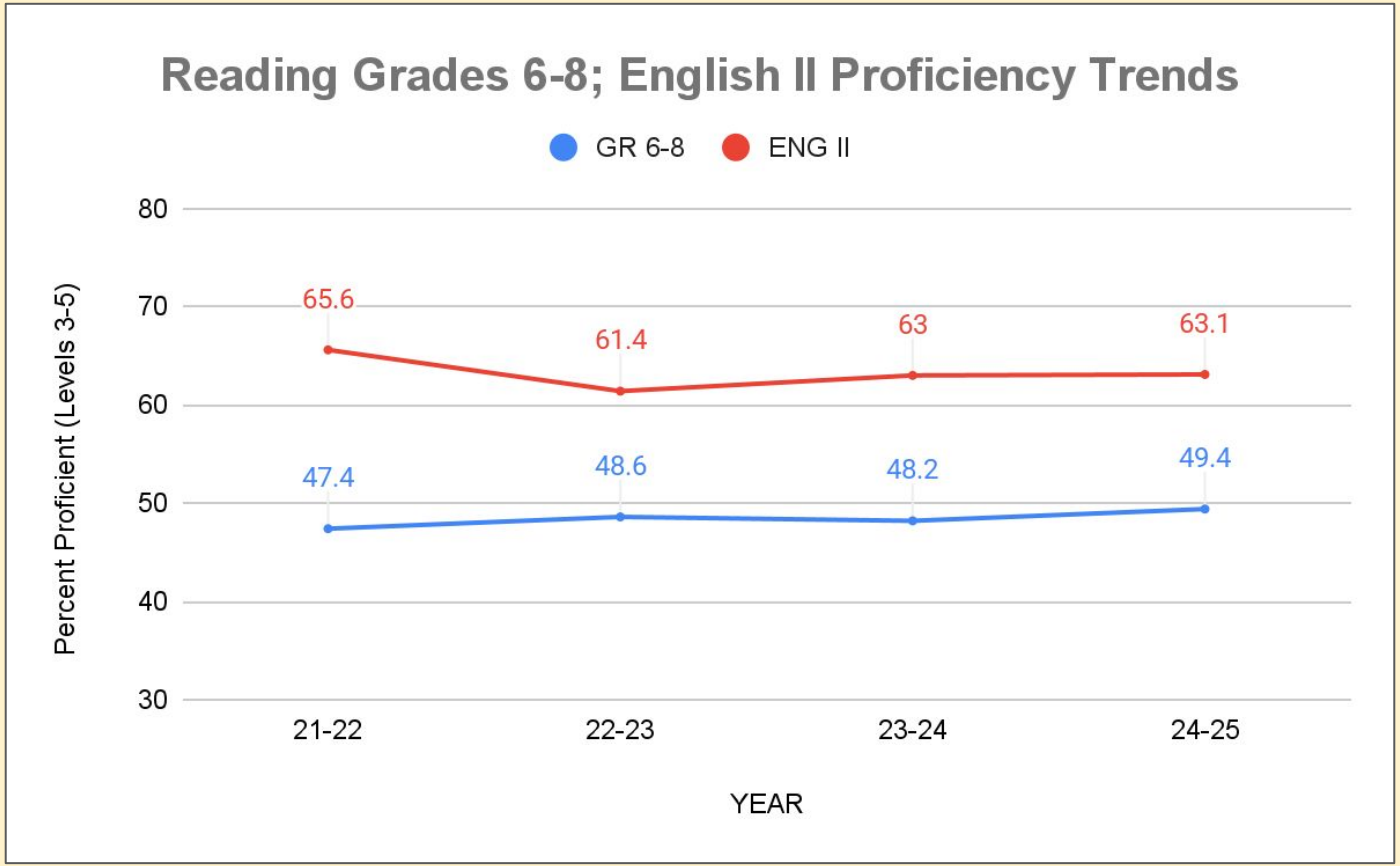
2022-2025 End of Year DIBELS Early Literacy Proficiency K-3

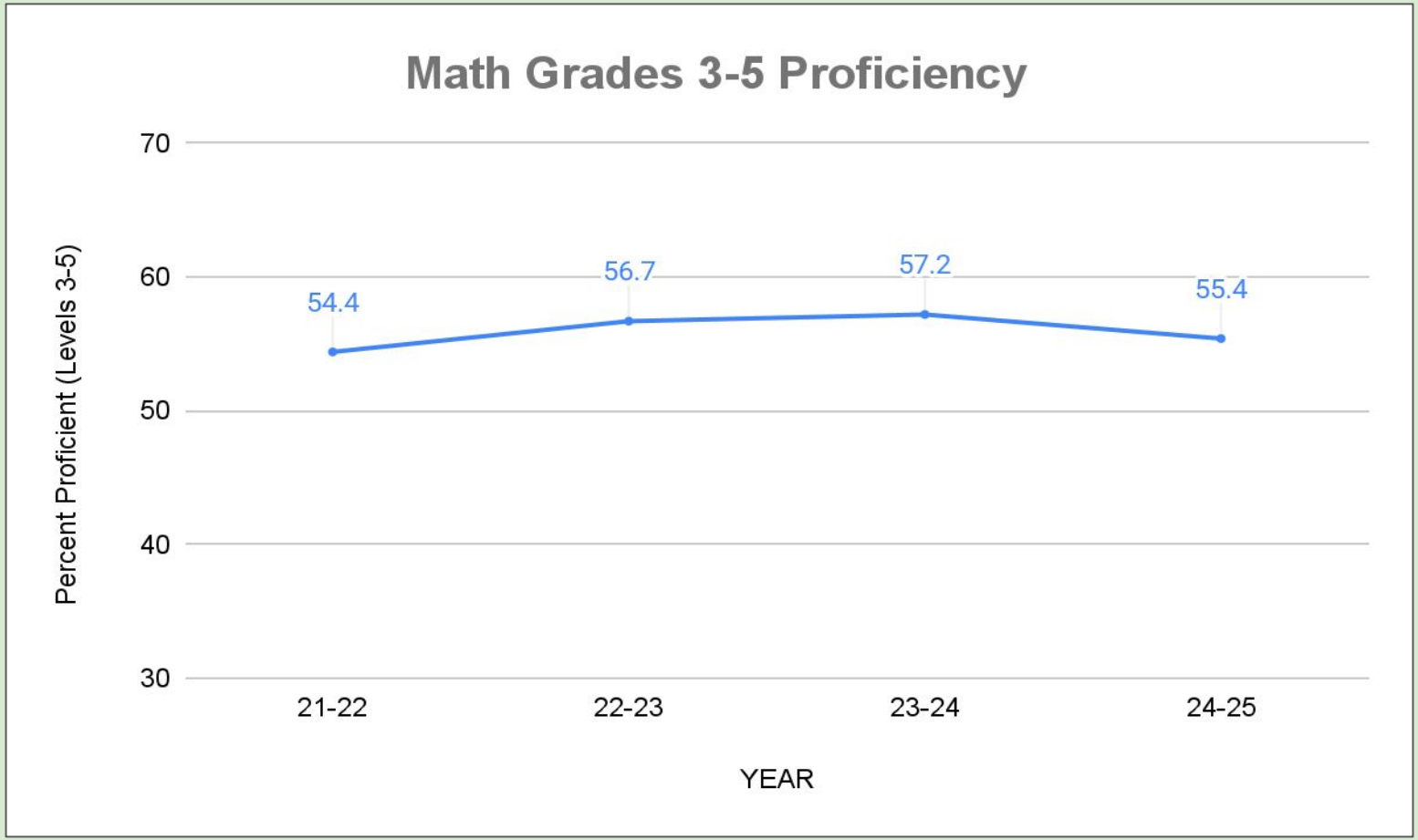


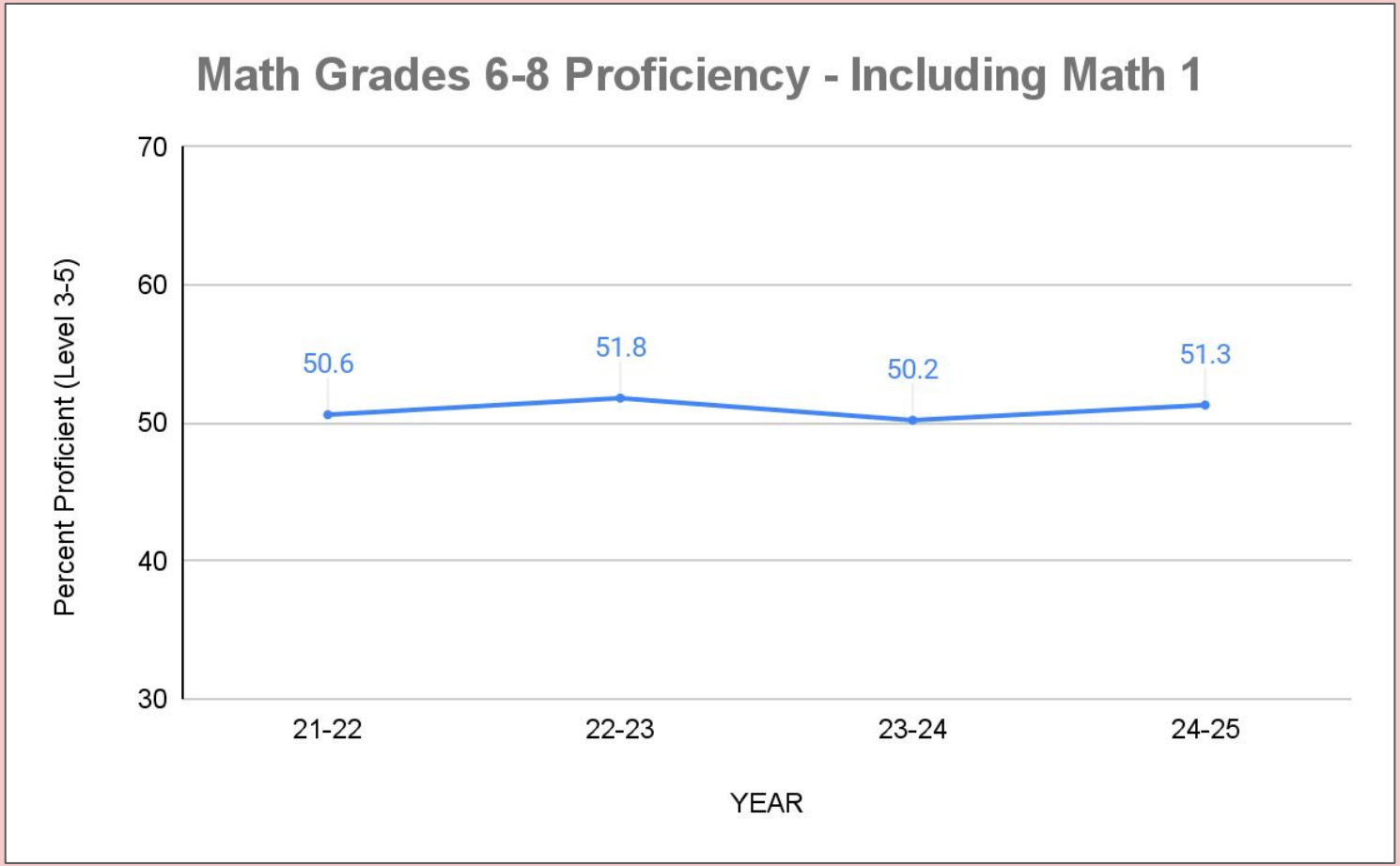
2024-2025 K-3 mCLASS Literacy Data by Student Group




Reading Grades 3-5 Proficiency Trends
60
55
50
45
40
Percent Proficient (Level 3-5)
49
50.7
50.8
53.4
21-22
22-23
23-24
24-25
YEAR


Reading Grades 6-8; English II Proficiency Trends
GR 6-8
ENG II
80
70
60
50
40
30
Percent Proficient (Levels 3-5)
65.6
61.4
63
63.1
47.4
48.6
48.2
49.4
21-22
22-23
23-24
24-25
YEAR


Math Grades 3-5 Proficiency
70
60
50
40
30
Percent Proficient (Levels 3-5)
54.4
56.7
57.2
55.4
21-22
22-23
23-24
24-25
YEAR


Math Grades 6-8 Proficiency - Including Math 1
Percent Proficient (Level 3-5)
70
60
50
40
30
50.6
51.8
50.2
51.3
21-22
22-23
23-24
24-25
YEAR

Proficiency and Growth Takeaways

Reading Grades 3-5 - Growth and proficiency are strong; there are opportunities for improvement in 5th grade and narrowing student group proficiency gaps

Reading Grades 6-8; English II - Proficiency is trending upward in grades 6 & 7; Grade 8 reading is an opportunity for improvement; Student group proficiency for SWD and addressing variability in growth across student groups is an opportunity

Math Grades 3-5 - Dip in proficiency last year is consistent with year one of a new curriculum; While 4th grade exceeded growth, 5th grade growth and proficiency will be the focus this year, as well as addressing gaps between White, Black, and SWD Student groups

Proficiency and Growth Takeaways

Math Grades 6-8 - While proficiency remains flat, we met and exceeded growth in all grade levels except 8th grade; Black student group shows higher growth than White student group

HS Math 1 and 3 - Math 3 has a positive trend and higher proficiency than HS Math 1, which shows a negative proficiency trend (students who did not take Math 1 in MS); There are opportunities for improved growth and student group gaps in both subject areas.

Grades 5-8 Science; Biology - Met or exceeded growth in all areas, even though proficiency is trending downward (New standards and test format last year); Narrowing gap between White and Hispanic student groups; Opportunities exist in narrowing the gap between White and Black students and SWD; 5th grade growth and proficiency is a focus area.


Leading the Climb into 2026:
Getting Better
at
Getting Better
Lead the Climb
BUNCOMBE COUNTY SCHOOLS
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NORTH CAROLINA

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Rigorous Grade level Tasks
High Impact, Literacy focused practices
Student Experiences
Authentic, Real World Meaningful Experiences
ELEVATING MINDS,
VOICES & POSSIBILITIES

Elevate BCS: A Teaching and Learning Framework for Elevating Student Minds, Voices, and Possibilities



Welcoming Classroom Environment
- Procedures & Routines
- Culture of Feedback
- Purposeful Physical Space

Intentional Instructional Design
- Standards-Aligned Curriculum
- Grade Level Tasks & Scaffolds
- Evidence-Based, High-Impact Strategies

Student Learning Experience
- Cognitively Engaging Lessons
- Relevant & Meaningful Connections
- Sense of Belonging

Every Student Leads. Every Teacher Inspires.

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