

MCAS 2007 Write-Up

by Steve Goodwin

Recently, I presented Lynch's 2007 MCAS scores at the October LPA meeting. Each spring, students across the Commonwealth take myriad MCAS exams. For our grade 3-5 students, there are seven tests (Grade 3 Reading, Grade 3 Math, Grade Language Arts, Grade 4 Math, Grade 5 Language Arts, Grade 5 Math, Grade 5 Science). I am very pleased to report that Lynch scored its all-time high on six of the seven MCAS tests. This is incredible news and all credit should go to the students, staff and families of the Lynch School.

There are four scoring categories for MCAS (W- Warning, NI – Needs Improvement, P – Proficient, A – Advanced). In third grade the highest category is labeled Proficient Plus instead of Advanced). Ideally, we seek to have as many students as possible score in either the Proficient or Proficient Plus/Advanced categories. The scores mentioned below reflect the percentage of students scoring in either Proficient and Proficient Plus (Grade 3) or Proficient and Advanced (Grades 4 and 5).

In addition, Winchester as a school district continues to do very well. Assistant Superintendent Marc Kerble has determined that after analyzing MCAS as a whole (all grades, all tests) that Winchester finished at or near number one as an entire school system. As you know, our four sister elementary schools (Ambrose, Lincoln, Muraco and Vinson Owen) have traditionally done quite well on the various MCAS exams. Again, I am proud to report that for the first time Lynch finished above number five in our internal Winchester rankings in four out of the seven elementary testing areas (Grade 4 Math, Grade 5 Language Arts, Grade 5 Math, Grade 5 Science). Even when finishing five out of five in Winchester it often means you are doing well as school, but certainly when we are finishing above that level it indicates strong student achievement. This is one example of the excellence both found within the Lynch School as well as the district.

Of particular note, I would like to mention that last year's fifth grade students did incredibly well in all three MCAS tests. This is important to me as principal since it is vital that we have our fifth grade students leave Lynch and be on equal footing with all elementary students as they enter McCall Middle School (or a Middle School of their choosing). Again, credit to last year's fifth grade students for their efforts and achievement. Kudos to the fifth grade staff as well as all staff (I remind all of us that the K-2 staff play a huge role in developing learners during the primary grades so that any future Grade 3-5 success is directly attributable to our K-2 staff.).

Lynch MCAS 2007

Grade 3

Reading – 78% P+ and P. Consistent with previous scores of 76-84%. 153rd out of 1013 third Grades in MA.

Math – 85% P+ and P. Highest ever for Lynch. 70th out of 1013 3rd grades in MA.

Grade 4

LA – 84% A and P. Highest ever for Lynch. First time ever over 80%. 40th out of 996 4th grades in MA.

Math – 75% A and P. Highest ever for Lynch. First time ever over 70%. 72nd out of 996 4th grades in MA.

Grade 5

LA – 96% A and P. Highest ever for Lynch. 5th out of 929 5th grades in MA.

Math – 86% A and P. Highest ever for Lynch. 25th out of 929 5th grades in MA.

Science – 85% A and P. Highest ever for Lynch. 26th out of 929 5th grades in MA.

Again, thanks to all students, staff and families for their great work during the 2006-2007 academic year. This year we are continuing to focus on our instruction of writing. Throughout the year, I will provide detailed information of what we are doing in the area of writing and information that you can use at home to support your child(ren). Again, thanks to everyone involved in supporting our student's academic achievement.