*ARKANSAS EDUCATION REPORT*
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OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS:
HIGHLIGHTING HIGH-ACHIEVING ARKANSAS SCHOOLS, 2015

# BEATING THE ODDS – HIGH-ACHIEVING SCHOOLS SERVING LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES

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# INTRODUCTION

Since our founding in 2003, the mission of the Office for Education Policy has been looking at pressing issues through the lens of academic research and disseminating our findings to educators, policymakers, and other stakeholders around Arkansas. Every once in a while, however, we think it is okay to stray from issue analysis and simply share some good news!

In this Arkansas Education Report (AER), we aim to highlight excellent performance and offer our congratulations. To that end, we are happy to highlight many excellent schools around the state in our now-annual AER, entitled the **O**utstanding **E**ducational **P**erformance Awards, or the OEP awards.

In the 2014-15 academic year, Arkansas students have undergone a change in their assessment of student performance to better operate in collaboration with the Common Core Standards. The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) replaced the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program (ACTAAP) for literacy and math exams for most students in the state. Although results from the PARCC exams have not yet been released, results are available for science exams in grades 5 and 7 and the End-of-Course Biology exam.

This fall, **OEP Awards** begin by highlighting high-performing schools in Arkansas on the Benchmark Science and End-of-Course (EOC) Biology exams.

In 2012, we first introduced an academic performance indicator, the **"GPA" rating system**, to rank the highest-performing schools. In the past, the rankings were created based on the percentage of students scoring at the proficient or advanced level on each assessment. Generally, when discussing academic achievement on state exams, policymakers focus on this figure. The proficiency indicator, however, suffers from being an "all-or-nothing" measure, in which a student is either proficient or not. The proficiency measure disregards real information provided by student scores that are placed into the four different performance categories: below basic, basic, proficient, and advanced. Additionally, this mark does not differentiate between a school in which 100% of students score proficient and a school in which 100% of students score advanced. Both of these schools would show 100% of students performing at proficient and advanced levels; however, in the latter school, students actually performed at a significantly higher level.

Thus, a more informative indicator gives the most credit to students who score at the advanced level and the least credit to students who score at the below basic level. For such purposes, we have created the "GPA" rating system. In this GPA measure, parallel to the familiar grade point average for individual students, we treat the Benchmark test scores in a similar way, whereby a 4.0 is a perfect score. The GPA measure, we believe, is a better representation of student achievement on statewide standardized exams.

| Category | GPA Points Awarded |
|---|---|
| Advanced | 4.0 |
| Proficient | 3.0 |
| Basic | 2.0 |
| Below Basic | 1.0 |

In this report, we are presenting a list of the top 25 schools in each area. In some cases, these "top 25 lists" will contain more than 25 schools as some schools' GPA scores will be identical. This is not a new phenomenon, as we also exceeded 25 schools in previous reports when using the percent proficient and advanced metric as an indicator for student achievement; however, there are fewer ties using the more precise GPA measure.

Science exams were only administered in grades 5, 7, and to students completing Biology. There are very different performance patterns by grade: Fifth graders are more likely to be proficient in science than seventh graders and students in Biology. In light of these varied performance trends, we are presenting science reports separately for each level. After we present our high-performing schools, we will release subsequent reports focusing on different subsets of schools. In the following weeks, we will feature schools that are beating the odds (that is, schools that have high levels of student achievement while serving a high percentage of low-income students) and the schools with the greatest improvement in test scores. We will release similar reports when math and literacy scores become available. Our release schedule is:

- **High Achieving Schools based on performance on the 5th Grade Benchmark Science Overall and by Region**
- **High Achieving Schools based on performance on the 7th Grade Benchmark Science Overall and by Region**
- **High Achieving Schools in Arkansas based on performance in End-of-Course (EOC) Biology exam**
- **Beating the Odds: High-Achieving Schools Serving Low Income Communities.**
- **Most Improved Schools**

# IV. 2015 OEP AWARDS: BEATING THE ODDS – HIGH ACHIEVING SCHOOLS SERVING LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES

This section highlights high-achieving schools across Arkansas based on Benchmark examinations in Science and the End-of-Course (EOC) in Biology from the 2014-15 academic year.[1] For these awards, we consider schools that serve free and reduced lunch to at least 66% of the student body.

This section is divided into subsections based the two exams. Schools are ranked using the GPA performance measure (explained in the Introduction) in each subject. Because the exams are not "grade-specific," schools in each of the subsections are categorized differently to account for school performance based on grade levels served; this is explained further in the introduction text in each subsection. Furthermore, each subsection includes the top schools, the top "high-poverty" schools, and the top five schools by region[2]. In the subsections, the tables present the high-achieving schools for the noted category and subject using the GPA performance measure. These tables include the region in which the school is located, the number of test takers, the percentage of students scoring at the proficient and advanced levels, and the GPA of the school in that particular subject.

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[1] The Biology exam is given twice annually: In January and again in April.
[2] Schools are divided into five regions in Arkansas: Northwest (NW), Northeast (NE), Central (CN), Southwest (SW), and Southeast (SE).

## S. Benchmark Science, 2015

*Table 18: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Schools based on the 5th Grade **Benchmark Science** Exam*

| | School (District) | %FRL | Region | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc) | 72% | SE | P-6 | 54 | 91% | 3.47 |
| 2 | Alpena Elementary (Alpena) | 73% | NW | K-6 | 43 | 94% | 3.43 |
| 3 | Calico Rock Elementary (Calico Rock) | 75% | NE | K-6 | 29 | 86% | 3.38 |
| 4 | County Line Elementary (County Line) | 68% | NW | K-6 | 28 | 92% | 3.36 |
| 5 | Amanda Gist Elementary (Cotter) | 73% | NW | K-6 | 48 | 88% | 3.34 |
| 6 | Mount Ida Elementary (Mount Ida) | 70% | SW | K-6 | 40 | 91% | 3.30 |
| 7 | Joann Walters Elementary (Dierks) | 67% | SW | K-6 | 30 | 90% | 3.27 |
| 8 | Central Elementary (Magnolia) | 68% | SW | 4-6 | 220 | 80% | 3.22 |
| 9 | Centerpoint Intermediate (Centerpoint) | 69% | SW | 4-5 | 79 | 81% | 3.21 |
| 10 | Yellville-Summit Middle (Yellville-Summit) | 68% | NW | 5-8 | 39 | 85% | 3.20 |
| 10 | Kingston Elementary (Jasper) | 76% | NW | K-6 | 20 | 85% | 3.20 |

*Table 19: Top 10 "High-Poverty" Schools based on the 7th Grade **Benchmark Science** Exam*

| | School (District) | %FRL | Region | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Lead Hill High (Lead Hill) | 72% | NW | 7-12 | 15 | 73% | 3.06 |
| 2 | Lamar Middle (Lamar) | 67% | NW | 4-7 | 92 | 64% | 2.70 |
| 2 | St. Joe High (Ozark Mountain) | 67% | NW | 7-12 | 11 | 54% | 2.70 |
| 4 | Nemo Vista Middle (Nemo Vista) | 66% | NW | 6-8 | 36 | 56% | 2.65 |
| 4 | Atkins Middle (Atkins) | 66% | NW | 5-8 | 68 | 59% | 2.65 |
| 5 | Helen Tyson Middle (Springdale) | 74% | NW | 6-7 | 370 | 57% | 2.63 |
| 7 | Oden High (Ouachita River) | 71% | SW | 7-12 | 13 | 54% | 2.62 |
| 8 | Magnolia Junior High (Magnolia) | 71% | SW | 7-9 | 209 | 54% | 2.56 |
| 9 | Norfork High (Norfork) | 81% | NW | 7-12 | 31 | 55% | 2.55 |
| 10 | East Poinsett Co. High (East Poinsett County) | 74% | NE | 7-12 | 55 | 51% | 2.53 |

*Tables 20-24: Top 5 "High-Poverty" Schools in Arkansas by Region, 5th Grade **Benchmark Science** Achievement*



*Table 20: Top 5"High-Poverty" Schools in **Northwest** Arkansas Based on 5th Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Alpena Elementary (Alpena) | 73% | K-6 | 43 | 94% | 3.43 |
| 2 | County Line Elementary (County Line) | 68% | K-6 | 28 | 92% | 3.36 |
| 3 | Amanda Gist Elementary (Cotter) | 73% | K-6 | 48 | 88% | 3.34 |
| 4 | Kingston Elementary (Jasper) | 76% | K-6 | 20 | 85% | 3.20 |
| 4 | Yellville-Summit Middle (Yellville-Summit) | 68% | 5-8 | 39 | 85% | 3.20 |

*Table 21: Top 5"High-Poverty" Schools in **Northeast** Arkansas Based on 5th Grade Benchmark Science*

|  | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Calico Rock Elementary (Calico Rock) | 75% | K-6 | 29 | 86% | 3.38 |
| 2 | Kensett Elementary (Riverview) | 84% | K-6 | 52 | 83% | 3.12 |
| 3 | West Elementary (Batesville) | 71% | K-6 | 74 | 77% | 3.07 |
| 4 | Bay Elementary (Bay) | 71% | K-6 | 48 | 73% | 2.86 |
| 5 | Midland Elementary (Midland) | 72% | K-6 | 39 | 72% | 2.85 |



*Table 22: Top 5 "High-Poverty" Schools in **Central** Arkansas Based on 5th Grade Benchmark Science*

|  | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Paron Elementary (Bryant) | 71% | K-5 | 11 | 91% | 3.18 |
| 2 | Cutter-Morning Star Elementary (Cutter-Morning Star) | 79% | K-6 | 54 | 80% | 3.04 |
| 3 | Forest Heights STEM Academy (Little Rock) | 66% | K-8 | 75 | 78% | 2.97 |
| 4 | Angie Grant Elementary (Benton) | 72% | K-5 | 96 | 65% | 2.66 |
| 5 | Amboy Elementary (North Little Rock) | 93% | K-5 | 70 | 55% | 2.57 |

*Table 23: Top 5"High-Poverty" Schools in **Southwest** Arkansas Based on 5<sup>th</sup> Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Mount Ida Elementary (Mount Ida) | 70% | K-6 | 40 | 91% | 3.30 |
| 2 | Joann Walters Elementary (Dierks) | 67% | K-6 | 30 | 90% | 3.27 |
| 3 | Central Elementary (Magnolia) | 68% | 4-6 | 220 | 80% | 3.22 |
| 4 | Centerpoint Intermediate (Centerpoint) | 69% | 4-5 | 79 | 81% | 3.21 |
| 5 | Wickes Elementary (Cossatot River) | 81% | P-6 | 42 | 81% | 3.14 |

*Table 24: Top 5 "High-Poverty" Schools in **Southeast** Arkansas Based on 5<sup>th</sup> Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Des Arc Elementary (Des Arc) | 72% | P-6 | 54 | 91% | 3.47 |
| 2 | Portland Elementary (Hamburg) | 66% | P-5 | 22 | 68% | 3.04 |
| 3 | Barton Elementary (Barton-Lexa) | 82% | K-6 | 53 | 81% | 3.00 |
| 4 | DeWitt Elementary (DeWitt) | 69% | K-5 | 80 | 73% | 2.94 |
| 5 | Marvell-Elaine Elementary (Marvell-Elaine) | 98% | P-5 | 26 | 73% | 2.92 |

*Tables 25-29: Top 5 "High-Poverty" Schools in Arkansas by Region, 7th Grade **Benchmark Science** Achievement*

 *Table 25: Top 5"High-Poverty" Schools in **Northwest** Arkansas Based on 7th Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Lead Hill High (Lead Hill) | 72% | 7-12 | 15 | 73% | 3.06 |
| 2 | Lamar Middle (Lamar) | 67% | 4-7 | 92 | 64% | 2.70 |
| 2 | St. Joe High (Ozark Mountain) | 67% | 7-12 | 11 | 54% | 2.70 |
| 4 | Nemo Vista Middle (Nemo Vista) | 66% | 6-8 | 36 | 56% | 2.65 |
| 4 | Atkins Middle (Atkins) | 66% | 5-8 | 68 | 59% | 2.65 |

 *Table 25: Top 5"High-Poverty" Schools in **Northeast** Arkansas Based on 7th Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | East Poinsett Co. High (East Poinsett County) | 74% | 7-12 | 55 | 51% | 2.53 |
| 2 | Mammoth Spring High (Mammoth Spring) | 66% | 7-12 | 33 | 39% | 2.37 |
| 3 | Newport High (Newport) | 77% | 7-12 | 93 | 41% | 2.27 |
| 3 | Bradford High (Bradford) | 80% | 7-12 | 32 | 41% | 2.27 |
| 5 | Corning High (Corning) | 67% | 7-12 | 61 | 30% | 2.14 |

*Table 27: Top 5 "High-Poverty" Schools in **Central** Arkansas Based on 7th Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Cutter-Morning Star High (Cutter-Morning Star) | 71% | 7-12 | 46 | 31% | 2.20 |
| 2 | Forest Heights STEM Academy (Little Rock) | 66% | K-8 | 95 | 31% | 2.09 |
| 3 | Malvern Middle (Malvern) | 75% | 7-8 | 144 | 28% | 2.07 |
| 4 | Jessieville Middle (Jessieville) | 71% | 6-8 | 63 | 21% | 1.98 |
| 5 | Jacksonville Lighthouse Middle (Jacksonville Lighthouse Charter) | 75% | 5-8 | 54 | 24% | 1.96 |



*Table 28: Top 5"High-Poverty" Schools in **Southwest** Arkansas Based on 7th Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Oden High (Ouachita River) | 71% | 7-12 | 13 | 54% | 2.62 |
| 2 | Magnolia Junior High (Magnolia) | 71% | 7-9 | 209 | 54% | 2.56 |
| 3 | Mount Ida High (Mount Ida) | 66% | 7-12 | 36 | 41% | 2.32 |
| 4 | Caddo Hills High (Caddo Hills) | 71% | 7-12 | 34 | 41% | 2.26 |
| 5 | Horatio High (Horatio) | 66% | 7-12 | 57 | 35% | 2.25 |

*Table 29: Top 5 "High-Poverty" Schools in **Southeast** Arkansas Based on 7th Grade **Benchmark Science***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | McGehee High (McGehee) | 67% | 7-12 | 78 | 37% | 2.24 |
| 2 | Des Arc High (Des Arc) | 69% | 7-12 | 34 | 41% | 2.20 |
| 3 | KIPP Delta College Preparatory (KIPP Delta Public Schools) | 92% | 5-8 | 73 | 29% | 2.17 |
| 4 | Drew Central Middle (Drew Central) | 75% | 5-8 | 75 | 23% | 2.01 |
| 5 | KIPP Blytheville College Prepartory (KIPP Delta Public Schools) | 88% | 5-8 | 70 | 19% | 1.95 |

## T. EOC Biology, 2015

Biology is generally taken during the tenth grade; however, some students may elect to take the course earlier if they have taken prerequisite classes. This typically results in the most advanced students taking the exam in 8th or 9th grade. Because of the likely academic differences between students who take biology in earlier grades, junior high schools tend to have higher proficiency levels than do schools which serve only 10th grade students. For this reason, schools have been split into two groups:

- High School: primarily 9th-12th grades (includes Comprehensive High Schools serving 7th-12th grades)
- Junior High School: primarily 8th-9th grades (and/or any grades below).

*Table 30: Top 10 Arkansas "High-Poverty" High Schools[3] based on **EOC Biology***

| | School (District) | %FRL | Region | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Norfork High (Norfork) ♦ | 81% | NW | 7-12 | 29 | 79% | 3.12 |
| 2 | Omaha High (Omaha) ♦ | 70% | NW | 7-12 | 27 | 81% | 3.03 |
| 3 | Marshall High (Searcy County) ♦ | 68% | NW | 7-12 | 79 | 76% | 2.99 |
| 4 | Horatio High (Horatio) | 66% | SW | 7-12 | 64 | 72% | 2.95 |
| 5 | Timbo High (Mountain View) | 81% | NE | 7-12 | 13 | 62% | 2.87 |
| 6 | Murfreesboro High (South Pike County) ♦ | 70% | SW | 7-12 | 55 | 66% | 2.81 |
| 7 | Des Arc High (Des Arc) | 69% | SE | 7-12 | 43 | 59% | 2.75 |
| 8 | St. Joe High (Ozark Mountain) | 67% | NW | 7-12 | 11 | 64% | 2.73 |
| 9 | J. D. Leftwich High (Magazine) | 72% | NW | 7-12 | 45 | 58% | 2.65 |
| 9 | Jasper High (Jasper) ♦ | 69% | NW | 7-12 | 29 | 55% | 2.65 |

♦ Indicates school placed on the same list in 2013-14

*Table 31: Top 3 "High-Poverty" Junior High Schools based on EOC Biology Achievement*

| | School (District) | %FRL | Region | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Southwest Junior High (Springdale) | 67% | NW | 8-9 | 50 | 96% | 3.40 |
| 2 | George Junior High (Springdale) ♦ | 78% | NW | 8-9 | 32 | 82% | 3.28 |
| 3 | Lakeside Jr. High (Springdale) ♦ | 76% | NW | 8-9 | 66 | 68% | 2.80 |

* These were the only three schools that fall in this category

[3] A school was designated High School if it primarily serves students in grades 9 – 12.

*Tables 32-36:  Top 5 "High-Poverty" High Schools in Arkansas by Region, **EOC Biology** Achievement*



*Table 32: Top 5 "High-Poverty" High Schools in **Northwest** Arkansas Based on **EOC Biology***

|  | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Norfork High (Norfork) ♦ | 81% | 7-12 | 29 | 79% | 3.12 |
| 2 | Omaha High (Omaha) ♦ | 70% | 7-12 | 27 | 81% | 3.03 |
| 3 | Marshall High (Searcy County) ♦ | 68% | 7-12 | 79 | 76% | 2.99 |
| 4 | St. Joe High (Ozark Mountain) | 67% | 7-12 | 11 | 64% | 2.73 |
| 5 | J. D. Leftwich High (Magazine) | 72% | 7-12 | 45 | 58% | 2.65 |



*Table 33: Top 5 "High-Poverty" High Schools in **Northeast** Arkansas Based on **EOC Biology***

|  | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Timbo High (Mountain View) | 81% | 7-12 | 13 | 62% | 2.87 |
| 2 | Maynard High (Maynard) ♦ | 69% | 7-12 | 25 | 48% | 2.64 |
| 3 | Marked Tree High (Marked Tree) | 69% | 9-12 | 43 | 56% | 2.61 |
| 3 | Mammoth Spring High (Mammoth Spring) | 66% | 7-12 | 33 | 57% | 2.61 |
| 5 | Midland High (Midland) ♦ | 66% | 7-12 | 26 | 62% | 2.59 |

*Table 34: Top 5 "High-Poverty" High Schools in **Central** Arkansas Based on **EOC Biology***

|  | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Cutter-Morning Star High (Cutter-Morning Star) | 71% | 7-12 | 46 | 60% | 2.62 |
| 2 | Jessieville High (Jessieville) | 66% | 9-12 | 78 | 37% | 2.31 |
| 3 | Hot Springs High (Hot Springs) ♦ | 76% | 9-12 | 197 | 38% | 2.25 |
| 4 | England High (England) ♦ | 77% | 7-12 | 62 | 34% | 2.13 |
| 5 | Pine Bluff High (Pine Bluff) ♦ | 79% | 10-12 | 278 | 18% | 1.77 |



*Table 35: Top 5 "High-Poverty" High Schools in **Southwest** Arkansas Based on **EOC Biology***

|  | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Horatio High (Horatio) | 66% | 7-12 | 64 | 72% | 2.95 |
| 2 | Murfreesboro High (South Pike County) ♦ | 70% | 7-12 | 55 | 66% | 2.81 |
| 3 | Caddo Hills High (Caddo Hills) | 71% | 7-12 | 29 | 55% | 2.55 |
| 4 | Mount Ida High (Mount Ida) | 66% | 7-12 | 29 | 48% | 2.43 |
| 5 | Oden High (Ouachita River) | 71% | 7-12 | 19 | 43% | 2.40 |

*Table 34: Top 5 "High-Poverty" High Schools in **Southeast** Arkansas Based on **EOC Biology***

| | School (District) | % FRL | Grades Served | # of Test Takers | % Proficient/ Advanced | GPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Des Arc High (Des Arc) | 69% | 7-12 | 43 | 59% | 2.75 |
| 2 | KIPP Blytheville Collegiate High (KIPP Delta Public Schools) | 86% | 9-12 | 50 | 36% | 2.32 |
| 3 | Clarendon High (Clarendon) ♦ | 89% | 7-12 | 43 | 33% | 2.24 |
| 4 | KIPP Delta Collegiate High (KIPP Delta Public Schools) ♦ | 88% | 9-12 | 63 | 32% | 2.15 |
| 5 | Lakeside High (Lakeside (Chicot)) | 78% | 9-12 | 78 | 26% | 2.06 |

# APPENDIX

## A. Methods

The Office for Education Policy strives to make all of our calculations and publications transparent to our readers. Thus, in this appendix we describe our data source, calculations performed on these data for the purposes of our reporting, and our method for determining a school's classification as an elementary, middle, or high school.

All data used in this report were obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education. Benchmark and End-of-Course exam scores were obtained from the testing section (http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/learning-services/student-assessment). Other data, such as the percent of students eligible for free and reduced lunch, were obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education Data Center (http://adedata.arkansas.gov).

All data were analyzed at the grade / course level.

As previously discussed in the introduction, in order to calculate the GPA measure we treat the benchmark and EOC test scores similar to the existing grade point system.

| Category | GPA Points Awarded |
|---|---|
| Advanced | 4.0 |
| Proficient | 3.0 |
| Basic | 2.0 |
| Below Basic | 1.0 |

We calculated the GPA measure for every Science score. The GPA measure is comprehensive in that it takes into account all of the test score levels (advanced, proficient, basic, and below basic), instead of lumping together advanced and proficient scores.

### B. School Classification

For the OEP Awards, we classified schools based on the following rules:

- Elementary School: primarily grades 3-5 (minimum grade P, K, 1, 2, 3, or 4)
- Middle School: primarily grades 6-8 (minimum grade of 4, 5, or 6 and maximum grade of 7, 8, or 9)

There were also a few "comprehensive schools," such as K-8 or K-12 schools, that we included as either middle schools or elementary schools based on their enrollment numbers. The following table lists every grade configuration and their classifications.

*Table A: School Classifications*

| Elementary Schools | | Middle Schools |
|---|---|---|
| 1-4 | | 4-6 |
| 1-5 | | 4-8 |
| 1-6 | | 5-6 |
| 1-8 | | 5-7 |
| 2-3 | | 5-8 |
| 2-4 | | 5-9 |
| 2-5 | | 5-12 |
| 2-6 | | 6 |
| 3-4 | | 6-12 |
| 3-5 | | 6-7 |
| 3-6 | | 6-8 |
| 4-5 | | 7-12 |
| 5 | | 7-8 |
| K-3 | | 7-9 |
| K-4 | | 8 |
| K-5 | | 8-9 |
| K-6 | | 8-12 |
| K-7 | | |
| K-8 | | |
| K-9 | | |
| K-12 | | |
| P-2 | | |
| P-3 | | |
| P-4 | | |
| P-5 | | |
| P-6 | | |
| P-7 | | |
| P-8 | | |

**C. School Classification – High School Awards**

For the OEP High School Awards, we primarily classified schools based on the following rules:

- Junior High: primarily grades 7 – 9 (maximum grade of 9)
- High School: primarily grades 9 – 12

*Table B: School Classifications*

| Junior High | | High School |
|:---:|:---:|:---:|
| 5-7 | | 8-12 |
| 5-8 | | 9-12 |
| 6-7 | | 10-12 |
| 6-8 | | 11-12 |
| 7-8 | | 9-10 |
| 7-9 | | 7-12 |
| 8 | | 6-12 |
| 8-9 | | 5-12 |
| 4-8 | | K-12 |
| 1-8 | | |
| K-8 | | |