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Cobb Fifth Graders Make Gains on Writing Test

Cobb County fifth graders showed strong improvement on the 2008 Georgia writing assessment, increasing both the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards, and their scale scores. Eighty-one percent of fifth graders in the Cobb County School District met or exceeded standards, a three-percent improvement from 2007. Scale scores in Cobb also improved, increasing by four points from 216 to 220. The percent passing topped the state average, and scale scores in Cobb were higher than both state and metro Atlanta averages (See Table I).

The writing assessment includes information about student performance in different aspects of writing or domains. These domains include Ideas, Organization, Style, and Conventions. Domains are rated on a scale of 1 to 5. Performance of Cobb fifth graders as a whole was similar across all domains, ranging from 3.1 in Organization, Ideas, and Conventions to 3.2 in Style.

The performance of students in special populations (Special Education and English Language Learners) was a highlight of this year's results (See Table II). The percentage of English Language Learners meeting or exceeding standards improved from 39 percent to 48 percent, while the percentage of Special Education students rose from 45 percent to 52 percent. Average scale scores for English Language Learners improved two points, from 187 to 189, while Special Education students improved their average score five points, from 190 to 195. A gap continues to exist between the performance of regular education students and students in these special populations, but 2008 scores indicate a marked improvement.

"These results confirm what we have seen happening in schools as teachers work closely with students to teach the language arts standards," said Superintendent Fred Sanderson. "We are seeing better performance for all students, and are especially pleased to see the gains in special populations. We are continuing to address the gap between our regular education students and certain subgroups. Addressing these issues is critical for meeting No Child Left Behind standards on other assessments, as well. Language Arts supervisors will work with the schools to evaluate the results from the new assessment and develop plans for improvement."

Thirty-seven of Cobb elementary schools topped the state scale scores. Highest scores were posted by Tritt (251); Mount Bethel (249) and Timber Ridge (247). Eighteen Cobb schools reported more than 90 percent of students meet or exceed standards (Bullard, Chalker, Davis, Due West, Eastside, Ford, Frey, Kemp, Kennesaw

Charter, Lewis, Mt. Bethel, Mountain View, Murdock, Rocky Mount, Shallowford Falls, Sope Creek, Timber Ridge, Tritt).

As a part of the statewide testing program, the Fifth Grade Writing Assessment was administered in March and requires students to write a composition on an assigned topic. The assessment provides fifth graders with a measurement of their writing performance. This information can help students, parents, and teachers understand areas where students may need to focus their efforts to improve writing skills before taking the Eighth Grade Writing Assessment.

Each student paper is scored by professionals who have been trained to evaluate writing. Evaluators score student compositions on four qualities of effective writing. These qualities, or domains, of effective writing should be present in a composition regardless of the topic. The domains include Ideas, Organization, Style, and Conventions.

The scale score range for the new Grade 5 Writing Assessment is 100 to 350. Writing scores are reported in the following performance levels: *Does Not Meet* (100-199), *Meets* (200-249), and *Exceeds* (250-350).

More information about the Cobb County School District is available on the District Web site at www.cobbk12.org.

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**Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
All Students**

Table I

	# Tested	Mean Scale Score	% DNM	% M	% E	% M+E	WRITING DOMAINS**			
							Ideas	Organization	Style	Conventions
Cobb	7,779	220	19.0	66.0	15.0	81.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1
Metro Resa*		219	19.0	68.0	14.0	82.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1
Georgia	119,140	214	22.0	66.0	11.0	77.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Acworth	193	215	21.0	66.0	13.0	79.0	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.0
Addison	104	221	17.0	62.0	21.0	83.0	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.1
Argyle	96	207	25.0	73.0	2.0	75.0	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.7
Austell	159	202	44.0	53.0	3.0	56.0	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.6
Baker	116	212	20.0	71.0	9.0	80.0	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.0
Bells Ferry	114	220	16.0	72.0	12.0	84.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1
Belmont Hills	87	196	47.0	53.0	0.0	53.0	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.4
Big Shanty	233	227	13.0	65.0	22.0	87.0	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3
Birney	128	207	33.0	60.0	7.0	67.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.7
Blackwell	126	215	22.0	67.0	10.0	77.0	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.0
Brown	21	200	48.0	48.0	5.0	53.0	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.6
Brumby	113	204	31.0	65.0	4.0	69.0	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.7
Bryant	120	211	24.0	67.0	9.0	76.0	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.8
Bullard	230	229	7.0	73.0	20.0	93.0	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.3
Chalker	151	227	9.0	74.0	17.0	91.0	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.3
Cheatham Hill	176	225	15.0	68.0	17.0	85.0	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2
Clarkdale	65	207	28.0	68.0	5.0	73.0	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.9
Clay	91	206	34.0	59.0	7.0	66.0	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7
Compton	87	195	46.0	53.0	1.0	54.0	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.5
Davis	131	241	5.0	63.0	33.0	96.0	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Devereux	4	151	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5
Dowell	145	208	26.0	68.0	6.0	74.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9
Due West	90	226	9.0	78.0	13.0	91.0	3.2	3.2	3.5	3.4
East Side	160	242	9.0	57.0	34.0	91.0	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6
Eastvalley	83	227	16.0	64.0	20.0	84.0	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3
Fair Oaks	96	197	40.0	56.0	4.0	60.0	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.4
Ford	179	228	9.0	71.0	20.0	91.0	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4
Frey	148	226	8.0	77.0	15.0	92.0	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Garrison Mill	108	234	13.0	59.0	28.0	87.0	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.5
Green Acres	68	201	38.0	62.0	0.0	62.0	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.4
Harmony Leland	64	219	16.0	72.0	13.0	85.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.1
Hayes	186	208	25.0	70.0	4.0	74.0	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9
Hollydale	137	206	31.0	65.0	4.0	69.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7
Keheley	83	223	14.0	72.0	13.0	85.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2
Kemp	154	230	6.0	69.0	24.0	93.0	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.3

**Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
All Students**

Table I

	# Tested	Mean Scale Score	% DNM	% M	% E	% M+E	WRITING DOMAINS**			
							Ideas	Organization	Style	Conventions
Kennesaw Charter	46	230	2.0	78.0	20.0	98.0	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5
Kincaid	86	226	10.0	73.0	16.0	89.0	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4
King Springs	86	223	15.0	66.0	19.0	85.0	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
LaBelle	69	198	48.0	52.0	0.0	52.0	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.5
Lewis	183	224	10.0	75.0	15.0	90.0	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.2
Mableton	60	212	32.0	55.0	13.0	68.0	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.0
Mableton Imagine Char	63	214	19.0	78.0	3.0	81.0	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.2
Milford	100	209	28.0	66.0	6.0	72.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7
Mount Bethel	158	249	3.0	56.0	41.0	97.0	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.9
Mountain View	131	233	8.0	69.0	23.0	92.0	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.5
Murdock	127	230	10.0	65.0	25.0	90.0	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4
Nicholson	83	232	19.0	54.0	27.0	81.0	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.4
Nickajack	104	213	19.0	76.0	5.0	81.0	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.0
Norton Park	98	201	34.0	63.0	3.0	66.0	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6
Pitner	174	219	20.0	67.0	13.0	80.0	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1
Powder Springs	147	210	20.0	71.0	9.0	80.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Powers Ferry	71	205	34.0	62.0	4.0	66.0	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.7
Riverside	183	198	42.0	57.0	1.0	58.0	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5
Rocky Mount	101	229	9.0	71.0	20.0	91.0	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.4
Russell	93	207	27.0	65.0	9.0	74.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7
Sanders	128	206	26.0	70.0	5.0	75.0	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.7
Sedalia Park	101	219	18.0	70.0	12.0	82.0	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0
Shallowford Falls	112	236	10.0	59.0	31.0	90.0	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5
Sky View	57	212	21.0	74.0	5.0	79.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Smyrna Imagine Int	47	213	21.0	79.0	0.0	79.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0
Sope Creek	187	240	7.0	64.0	28.0	92.0	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Still	127	219	12.0	79.0	9.0	88.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.2
Teasley	66	221	14.0	71.0	15.0	86.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.2
Timber Ridge	69	247	9.0	55.0	36.0	91.0	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.7
Tritt	149	251	1.0	57.0	42.0	99.0	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.8
Vарner	136	213	25.0	68.0	7.0	75.0	2.9	2.9	3.1	2.9
Vaughan	191	218	12.0	77.0	11.0	88.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2

*RESA: Atlanta, Buford, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fulton, Forsyth, Gwinnett and Rockdale Counties, Decatur and Marietta City systems

DNM = Did Not Meet Standards (Score of 100 - 199)

M = Met Standards (Score of 200 - 249)

E = Exceeded Standards (Score of 250 - 350)

**Scoring Information for Domains

Range 1 (low) to 5 (high)

**Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
All Students**

	# Tested	Mean Scale Score	% DNM	% M	% E	% M+E	WRITING DOMAINS**			
							Ideas	Organization	Style	Conventions

% M+E = Percentage of students meeting and exceeding standards

Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
GEORGIA			DNM	M	E
All Students	119,140	214	23	66	11
Regular Program Students	104,981	218	19	70	12
Limited English Proficient	3,799	196	47	51	2
Special Education	14,159	185	57	40	3
COBB COUNTY			DNM	M	E
All Students	7779	220	19	66	15
Regular Program Students	6698	223	14	69	16
Limited English Proficient	376	189	52	47	1
Special Education	1081	195	48	47	5
ACWORTH			DNM	M	E
All Students	193	215	21	66	13
Regular Program Students	168	219	15	71	14
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	25	185	60	32	8
ADDISON			DNM	M	E
All Students	104	221	17	62	21
Regular Program Students	81	228	10	65	25
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	23	196	43	48	9
ARGYLE			DNM	M	E
All Students	96	207	25	73	2
Regular Program Students	87	209	20	78	2
Limited English Proficient	11	187	55	45	0
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
AUSTELL			DNM	M	E
All Students	159	202	44	53	3
Regular Program Students	126	207	37	60	4
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	33	184	73	27	0
BAKER			DNM	M	E
All Students	116	212	20	71	9
Regular Program Students	104	216	14	75	11
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	12	174	67	33	0
BELLS FERRY			DNM	M	E
All Students	114	220	16	72	12
Regular Program Students	101	224	11	75	14
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	13	184	54	46	0

TFC = Too Few To Report (If a school had fewer than 10 students scores are not listed.)

DNM = Did Not Meet Standards

M = Met Standards

E = Exceeded Standards

Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
BELMONT HILLS			DNM	M	E
All Students	87	196	47	53	0
Regular Program Students	72	200	42	58	0
Limited English Proficient	22	186	64	36	0
Special Education	15	180	73	27	0
BIG SHANTY			DNM	M	E
All Students	233	227	13	65	22
Regular Program Students	203	231	9	66	25
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	30	196	37	57	7
BIRNEY			DNM	M	E
All Students	128	207	33	60	7
Regular Program Students	116	209	29	64	7
Limited English Proficient	14	190	64	36	0
Special Education	12	186	67	25	8
BLACKWELL			DNM	M	E
All Students	126	215	22	67	10
Regular Program Students	97	218	19	70	11
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	29	206	34	59	7
BROWN			DNM	M	E
All Students	21	200	48	48	5
Regular Program Students	16	207	44	50	6
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
BRUMBY			DNM	M	E
All Students	113	204	31	65	4
Regular Program Students	96	209	26	69	5
Limited English Proficient	11	186	55	45	0
Special Education	17	174	59	41	0
BRYANT			DNM	M	E
All Students	120	211	24	67	9
Regular Program Students	111	213	22	68	10
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
BULLARD			DNM	M	E
All Students	230	229	7	73	20
Regular Program Students	206	234	2	75	23
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	24	192	42	58	0

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M = Met Standards

E = Exceeded Standards

Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
CHALKER			DNM	M	E
All Students	151	227	9	74	17
Regular Program Students	143	230	6	76	17
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
CHEATHAM HILL			DNM	M	E
All Students	176	225	15	68	17
Regular Program Students	153	229	11	69	20
Limited English Proficient	12	200	33	67	0
Special Education	23	200	43	57	0
CLARKDALE			DNM	M	E
All Students	65	207	28	68	5
Regular Program Students	58	210	26	69	5
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
CLAY			DNM	M	E
All Students	91	206	34	59	7
Regular Program Students	78	210	27	65	8
Limited English Proficient	24	189	54	46	0
Special Education	13	180	77	23	0
COMPTON			DNM	M	E
All Students	87	195	46	53	1
Regular Program Students	69	201	38	61	1
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	18	171	78	22	0
DAVIS			DNM	M	E
All Students	131	241	5	63	33
Regular Program Students	109	247	2	61	38
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	22	210	18	73	9
DEVEREUX			DNM	M	E
All Students	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Regular Program Students	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
DOWELL			DNM	M	E
All Students	145	208	26	68	6
Regular Program Students	127	212	20	73	6
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	18	177	67	33	0

TFC = Too Few To Report (If a school had fewer than 10 students scores are not listed.)

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Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
DUE WEST			DNM	M	E
All Students	90	226	9	78	13
Regular Program Students	79	229	6	80	14
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	11	208	27	64	9
EAST VALLEY			DNM	M	E
All Students	83	227	16	64	20
Regular Program Students	74	230	12	65	23
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
EASTSIDE			DNM	M	E
All Students	160	242	9	57	34
Regular Program Students	134	250	2	59	39
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	26	203	42	46	12
FAIR OAKS			DNM	M	E
All Students	96	197	40	56	4
Regular Program Students	83	204	34	61	5
Limited English Proficient	18	175	72	28	0
Special Education	13	156	77	23	0
FORD			DNM	M	E
All Students	179	228	9	71	20
Regular Program Students	155	232	4	74	22
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	24	206	42	50	8
FREY			DNM	M	E
All Students	148	226	8	77	15
Regular Program Students	132	227	8	77	16
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	16	214	13	81	6
GARRISON MILL			DNM	M	E
All Students	108	234	13	59	28
Regular Program Students	87	238	8	61	31
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	21	215	33	52	14
GREEN ACRES			DNM	M	E
All Students	68	201	38	62	0
Regular Program Students	57	204	35	65	0
Limited English Proficient	11	194	45	55	0
Special Education	11	186	55	45	0

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E = Exceeded Standards

Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
HARMONY-LELAND			DNM	M	E
All Students	64	219	16	72	13
Regular Program Students	58	222	10	76	14
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
HAYES			DNM	M	E
All Students	186	208	25	70	4
Regular Program Students	166	213	20	75	5
Limited English Proficient	14	189	57	43	0
Special Education	20	169	65	35	0
HOLLYDALE			DNM	M	E
All Students	137	206	31	65	4
Regular Program Students	120	210	24	72	4
Limited English Proficient	17	198	47	53	0
Special Education	17	177	82	18	0
KEHELEY			DNM	M	E
All Students	83	223	14	72	13
Regular Program Students	66	227	6	79	15
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	17	205	47	47	6
KEMP			DNM	M	E
All Students	154	230	6	69	24
Regular Program Students	131	236	2	70	27
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	23	197	30	65	4
KENNESAW CHARTER			DNM	M	E
All Students	46	230	2	78	20
Regular Program Students	44	231	0	80	20
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
KINCAID			DNM	M	E
All Students	86	226	10	73	16
Regular Program Students	71	228	7	76	17
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	15	214	27	60	13
KING SPRINGS			DNM	M	E
All Students	86	223	15	66	19
Regular Program Students	78	226	13	67	21
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC

TFC = Too Few To Report (If a school had fewer than 10 students scores are not listed.)

DNM = Did Not Meet Standards

M = Met Standards

E = Exceeded Standards

Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
LABELLE			DNM	M	E
All Students	69	198	48	52	0
Regular Program Students	57	201	44	56	0
Limited English Proficient	14	182	71	29	0
Special Education	12	183	67	33	0
LEWIS			DNM	M	E
All Students	183	224	10	75	15
Regular Program Students	165	226	8	76	16
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	18	207	33	61	6
MABLETON			DNM	M	E
All Students	60	212	32	55	13
Regular Program Students	46	220	22	61	17
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	14	186	64	36	0
MABLETON IMAGINE INT			DNM	M	E
All Students	63	214	19	78	3
Regular Program Students	56	216	14	82	4
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
MILFORD			DNM	M	E
All Students	100	209	28	66	6
Regular Program Students	87	212	22	71	7
Limited English Proficient	16	190	50	50	0
Special Education	13	182	69	31	0
MOUNT BETHEL			DNM	M	E
All Students	158	249	3	56	41
Regular Program Students	137	253	1	55	43
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	21	228	14	62	24
MOUNTAIN VIEW			DNM	M	E
All Students	131	233	8	69	23
Regular Program Students	111	238	5	69	26
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	20	201	30	65	5
MURDOCK			DNM	M	E
All Students	127	230	10	65	25
Regular Program Students	103	235	7	64	29
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	24	211	25	67	8

TFC = Too Few To Report (If a school had fewer than 10 students scores are not listed.)

DNM = Did Not Meet Standards

M = Met Standards

E = Exceeded Standards

Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
NICHOLSON			DNM	M	E
All Students	83	232	19	54	27
Regular Program Students	68	238	13	56	31
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	15	201	47	47	7
NICKAJACK			DNM	M	E
All Students	104	213	19	76	5
Regular Program Students	96	217	15	80	5
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
NORTON PARK			DNM	M	E
All Students	98	201	34	63	3
Regular Program Students	87	205	29	68	3
Limited English Proficient	22	192	55	45	0
Special Education	11	167	73	27	0
PITNER			DNM	M	E
All Students	174	219	20	67	13
Regular Program Students	151	223	15	70	15
Limited English Proficient	11	181	64	36	0
Special Education	23	195	52	48	0
POWDER SPRINGS			DNM	M	E
All Students	147	210	20	71	9
Regular Program Students	120	218	8	83	10
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	27	177	78	19	4
POWERS FERRY			DNM	M	E
All Students	71	205	34	62	4
Regular Program Students	58	207	33	62	5
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	13	197	38	62	0
RIVERSIDE			DNM	M	E
All Students	183	198	42	57	1
Regular Program Students	162	202	36	63	1
Limited English Proficient	31	179	71	29	0
Special Education	21	170	86	14	0
ROCKY MOUNT			DNM	M	E
All Students	101	229	9	71	20
Regular Program Students	82	233	6	71	23
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	19	210	21	74	5

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Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
RUSSELL			DNM	M	E
All Students	93	207	27	65	9
Regular Program Students	83	209	25	65	10
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	10	191	40	60	0
SANDERS			DNM	M	E
All Students	128	206	26	70	5
Regular Program Students	110	211	20	75	5
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	18	179	61	39	0
SEDALIA PARK			DNM	M	E
All Students	101	219	18	70	12
Regular Program Students	91	223	11	76	13
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	10	184	80	20	0
SHALLOWFORD FALLS			DNM	M	E
All Students	112	236	10	59	31
Regular Program Students	90	241	6	59	36
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	22	214	27	59	14
SKY VIEW			DNM	M	E
All Students	57	212	21	74	5
Regular Program Students	49	217	14	80	6
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
SMYRNA IMAGINE INT			DNM	M	E
All Students	47	213	21	79	0
Regular Program Students	42	215	17	83	0
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
SOPE CREEK			DNM	M	E
All Students	187	240	7	64	28
Regular Program Students	153	246	4	63	33
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	34	213	24	71	6
STILL			DNM	M	E
All Students	127	219	12	79	9
Regular Program Students	107	22	7	83	9
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	20	205	35	55	10

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Cobb County School District
Fifth Grade Writing Assessment: 2008
Percentages of Students in Performance Levels by Program Type

Table II

	# Tested	Average Scale Score	Percentages		
TEASLEY			DNM	M	E
All Students	66	221	14	71	15
Regular Program Students	59	225	12	73	15
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
TIMBER RIDGE			DNM	M	E
All Students	69	247	9	55	36
Regular Program Students	55	249	5	56	38
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	14	238	21	50	29
TRITT			DNM	M	E
All Students	149	251	1	57	42
Regular Program Students	124	255	1	52	47
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	25	234	0	80	20
VARNER			DNM	M	E
All Students	136	213	25	68	7
Regular Program Students	123	215	21	72	7
Limited English Proficient	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	13	192	62	38	0
VAUGHN			DNM	M	E
All Students	191	218	12	77	11
Regular Program Students	169	221	8	80	12
Limited English Proficient	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC	TFC
Special Education	22	198	45	55	0

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COBB COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

TESTING BRIEF

Fifth Grade Writing Assessment Spring 2008

Georgia law (O.C.G.A. §20-2-281) states “writing assessments shall be administered to students in grades three, five, eight, and eleven.” The purpose of the Grade 5 Writing Assessment is to assess student achievement in the Georgia Performance Standards in writing and to improve writing and writing instruction. The Grade 5 Writing Assessment provides predictive information to fifth graders about their future writing performance in advance of taking the Grade 8 Writing Assessment.

The percentage of Cobb County School District students achieving the Meets and Exceeds standards in 2008 ranged from 48 percent for English Language Learners (ELL) to 92 percent for Asian students. The mean scaled scores for Cobb student ranged from a 189 for ELL students to 236 for Asian students.

The scale score range for the Grade 5 Writing Assessment is 100 to 350. Writing scores are also reported in the following performance levels: Does Not Meet (100-199), Meets (200-249), and Exceeds (250-350).

KEY FINDINGS

- A total of **7779** Cobb students were assessed in the 2008 Grade 5 Writing Assessment. **Eighty-one (81)** percent of all students achieved the Meets or Exceeds standards set for writing with a mean scaled score of **220**. This group includes all students with scorable papers.
- A total of **1081** Special Education students were assessed in writing. **Fifty-two (52)** percent of students achieved the Meets or Exceeds standards set for writing with a mean scaled score of **195**.
- A total of **376** English Language Learner (ELL) students were assessed in writing. **Forty-eight (48)** percent of students achieved the Meets or Exceeds standards set for writing with a mean scaled score of **189**.

KEY FINDINGS (CONTINUED)

Table 1

Comparison of 2007 and 2008 Percentages of 5th Grade Students Meeting and Exceeding Writing Standards

Cobb Student Groups	Percentage of Students by Performance Level				Differences from 2007 to 2008	
	2007		2008		Meets	Exceeds
	Meets	Exceeds	Meets	Exceeds		
All Students	66	12	66	15	0	+3
Regular Program	70	13	69	16	-1	+3
Students with Disabilities	42	3	47	5	+5	+2
English Language Learners	39	0	47	1	+8	+1
Males	63	8	65	11	+2	+3
Females	69	16	68	18	-1	+2
Asian	69	20	65	27	-4	+7
Black	65	5	66	7	+1	+2
Hispanic	58	5	63	6	+5	+1
White	68	18	67	22	-1	+4
Multi-Ethnic	68	9	73	12	+5	+3

Table 2

Comparison of Mean Scale Scores for 5th Grade Writing Assessment

Cobb Student Group	2007	2008	Difference from 2007 to 2008
All Students	216	220	+4
Regular Program	220	223	+3
Students with Disabilities	190	206	+16
English Language Learners	187	189	+2
Males	209	214	+5
Females	223	225	+2
Asian	229	236	+7
Black	207	210	+3
Hispanic	203	206	+3
White	225	229	+4
Multi-Ethnic	214	221	+7

- Thirty-seven (37) of Cobb's elementary schools had overall mean scale scores equal to or higher than the state mean scale score.
- Thirty-three (33) of Cobb's elementary schools had overall mean scale scores equal to or higher than the mean scale score for Metro RESA.
- Twenty-nine (29) of Cobb's elementary schools had higher mean scale scores equal to or greater than the mean scale score for Cobb.
- Forty-two (42) of Cobb's elementary schools had percentages higher than or equal to that of the state for students meeting or exceeding standards.
- Thirty-five (35) of Cobb's elementary schools had percentages higher than or equal to that of the district for students meeting or exceeding standards.
- There were ten (10) schools increasing the overall percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards by 10 points or more.

Acworth	Argyle	Blackwell	Bryant	Clarkdale
Clay	Kennesaw Charter	Mountain View	Norton Park	Skyview

- Fourteen schools increased their scale scores by 10 points or more:

Argyle	Blackwell	Bryant	Clay
Eastside	Eastvalley	Harmony Leland	Kennesaw Charter
King Springs	Mountain View	Nicholson	Skyview
Timber Ridge	Tritt		