

**GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS
MISSION POSSIBLE PROGRAM**

**Smith High School
Treatment Year 2 (2007-08) Progress Report**

SERVE Center
at the University of North Carolina
at Greensboro

Prepared by:

Holli Gottschall Bayonas
SERVE Center at UNCG
Gateway University Research Park - Dixon Building
5900 Summit Avenue
Browns Summit, NC 27214
(800) 755-3277

Contact:

Holli Gottschall Bayonas
Project Manager
hbayonas@serve.org
336-315-7438

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For permission, contact:
Amy Holcombe, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Talent Development
Guilford County Schools
Department of Human Resources
712 North Eugene Street
Greensboro, NC 27401
(336) 335-3294 x5016 office
(336) 370-8398 fax
<http://www.gcsnc.com>
holcoma@gcsnc.com

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**GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS
MISSION POSSIBLE PROGRAM
SMITH HIGH TREATMENT YEAR 2 (2007-08)
PERFORMANCE AGAINST COMPARISON SCHOOLS**

Executive Summary

Introduction

In February 2007, Guilford County Schools (GCS) contracted with the SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro to conduct an external evaluation of the Mission Possible (MP) program. The program was in the first year of implementation when a Federal Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) grant was awarded. The new monies from the TIF grant were allocated to pay for an additional eight schools to participate in Mission Possible and to pay for the external evaluation. The original cohort that began in 2006-07 consisted of 22 schools (20 Mission Possible schools and 2 Cumulative Effects High Schools¹). The second cohort of eight schools began the program in the 2007-08 school year.

As part of the evaluation, propensity score matching was used to identify three comparison schools for each MP school. This report documents activities that occurred during the 2007-08 academic year of the MP Program, specific to Smith High and its three comparison schools. In addition, the individual reports include results to the annual climate surveys administered within the school.

Background Information About the Mission Possible Program

Mission Possible is a comprehensive teacher incentive program. The program provides recruiting and performance incentives to help recruit and retain highly qualified teachers for schools with critical needs. Recruiting incentives range from \$2,500 to \$10,000 and performance incentives range from \$2,500 to \$5,000. Receiving the individual performance incentive hinges on the teacher completing 100% of the yearly prescribed professional development activities and earning value-added scores² that are at least one standard error above the mean for the district. Conversely, if MP teachers obtain value-added scores of at least two standard errors below the mean for two consecutive years, they are transferred out of the MP school. This system of accountability is just one tool that the MP program uses in order to try to ensure that MP schools are employing the most effective teachers for any given MP school. Teachers in their first year of participation complete workshops on *Cooperative Learning* and *Undoing Racism*. Teachers in their second year of participation complete workshops on *Differentiated Instruction* and *Teacher Expectations Student Achievement (TESA)*. The program theory is such that offering teachers recruitment and performance incentives will result in a larger applicant pool for any one open MP position, whereas before the MP program, there would be close to zero applicants for open positions. In addition, it is hoped that the performance incentive will encourage teachers to perform at their highest level in order to attain the highest possible academic growth within the classroom. Thus, the recruiting of highly qualified candidates who can show that they contribute to

¹ Cumulative Effects Program is a program to recruit and retain highly qualified math teachers in Guilford County Schools. The program is a collaborative project involving Action Greensboro, the University of North Carolina system, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and North Carolina A&T State University. See the following site for more information http://www.guilford.k12.nc.us/depts/mission_possible/cumulative.htm

² Value-added is a statistical method used to calculate academic growth among students by comparing test scores from a previous year to test scores of a current year. This is an alternative to traditional achievement testing in North Carolina where the percentage of students who pass the North Carolina End of Course or End of Grade tests is reported. GCS contracts with SAS® EVAAS® to provide the value-added scores.

growth within student achievement would naturally result in higher student achievement overall in the school. It is important to point out to the reader that while students may have grown in academic knowledge from one year to the next, this growth is not reflected by current North Carolina End of Course (EOC) and End of Grade (EOG) exams results. The EOC and EOG tests are not designed to measure academic growth, but rather they are criterion/standards-referenced tests and measure whether or not a student has met a certain cutoff or passing score. Failing to meet a cutoff does not mean that a student could not have made a grade level worth of growth in terms of knowledge, given the right learning environment, teacher, and motivation. Ideally, students make academic growth and within a few years time, they catch up with their peers in terms of grade level content and course content measured on the EOC and EOG exams.

Background Information About the SERVE Center

The SERVE Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) is a university-based research, development, dissemination, evaluation, and technical assistance center. Its mission is to support and promote teaching and learning excellence in the K-12 education community. The SERVE Center provides contracted evaluation services to state and local education agencies in and around the southeast region. *The Program Evaluation Standards, Second Edition* (The Joint Committee on Standards for Educational Evaluation, 1994) and the *Guiding Principles for Evaluators* (American Evaluation Association, 1995) guide the evaluation work performed at the SERVE Center.

Evaluation Plan

On November 27, 2007 Eric Becoats and Emily Scott from GCS met with Pamela Finney, Kathleen Mooney, and Melissa Williams from the SERVE Center to discuss the external evaluation of MP. Based on those discussions, the SERVE Center created an evaluation plan, timeline, and budget, which was sent to GCS on December 15, 2007. In April 2007, the technical service agreement for the evaluation was signed by GCS and the SERVE Center management. The evaluation agreement covers the length of the TIF grant (until September 30, 2011).

The evaluation of MP is guided by the main question stated in the original RFP: Are the goals and objectives of the project being met as outlined by the proposal? The goals as outlined in the RFP were:

Goal one: Attracting and retaining the most qualified teachers and administrators at the most highly impacted schools.

Goal two: Increasing student achievement on EOC and EOG tests.

Goal three: Rewarding teachers and administrators who work in participating schools that meet their value-added goals or adequate yearly progress and state ABC goals.

Given these goals, the SERVE Center developed an evaluation plan using the following evaluation questions as a guide:

- To what extent are the most highly qualified teachers and administrators being recruited and retained at MP Schools?
- To what extent were the MP teachers and administrators trained as proposed?
- To what extent did the MP training and incentives impact teacher and student outcomes?

Data used to answer these questions consist primarily of student discipline referrals, student promotion rates, comparison of teacher data between MP and non-MP schools, comparison of AYP and ABC data between MP and non-MP schools, documentation of teacher/administrator participation in professional development activities, surveys of teacher/administrator satisfaction with professional

development activities, compilation of Teacher Working Conditions (TWC) Surveys, interviews/focus groups with teachers and administrators regarding MP project activities, Parent/Student/Staff Climate Surveys, and documentation of incentives paid to teachers. The majority of data come from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) through the website www.ncreportcard.org. The complete evaluation plan is available in Appendix A of the district report. The evaluation methodology was approved by UNCG's Institutional Review Board (October 22, 2007, protocol #067328), which ensures the protection of human subjects in evaluation and research activities.

The evaluation plan includes an analysis of MP schools with matched comparison schools identified through propensity score matching. This current report is part of the individual progress reports that each MP school will receive. The reports include data from the three non-MP school matches identified in Year 1. Individual school progress reports should be examined for further detail about a particular school and how it has performed in relation to the comparison school. This will facilitate identifying potential treatment effects at individual schools. In addition, climate survey results for MP schools are included in the individual report. These can be used as a tool for identifying areas of the school that are excelling and areas in need of more attention.

The comparison schools were identified using the variables of enrollment size, 1-year teacher turnover rate, percent free lunch, percent reduced lunch, percent minority, percent of teachers with 0-3 years of experience, performance composite for 2004-05, and performance composite for 2005-06. The comparison schools are not identified by name, but these schools most closely match Smith on the propensity score that was generated using the aforementioned factors.

Points to Highlight

The outcomes for each school can be summarized in relation to the three outcome areas. In the following table, there are indicators of retention, recruitment of teachers, and student achievement. Note that all of GCS data are inclusive of MP schools.

Retention from 2006-07 to 2007-08:

- No principal turnover at Smith or any of the three comparison schools.
- Improvement in teacher turnover at Smith and all comparison schools.
- Voluntary³ incentive-paid personnel turnover from Smith was 11.5%, and involuntary turnover was 3.8% (See Table 4).

Recruitment from 2006-07 to 2007-08:

- The number of teachers with an initial or continuing license increased by 12 percentage points from 2007 to 2008 at Smith, increased by 1 percentage points in Comparison School A, decreased by 8 percentage points in Comparison School B, and remained the same at Comparison School C.
- The percentage of classes taught by highly qualified teachers at Smith remained the same, and decreased at Comparison Schools A, B, and C.
- The percentage of teachers at Smith with 4-10 years of experience increased by 2 percentage points while the percentage of teachers with 0-3 years of experience decreased by 3 percentage points. This is a positive change. The increase in percentage of teachers with 4-10 years of experience was also seen at Comparison School A.

³ Voluntary turnover within a school includes those that resigned, transferred to a non-MP school, or transferred to a different MP school. Involuntary turnover includes those that retired, had a VIF contract expiring, or earned a promotion.

- The percentage of teachers at Smith with 10+ years of experience increased by 2 percentage points and decreased at all three comparison schools.

Student Achievement from 2006-07 to 2007-08:

- The percentage of AYP goals achieved at Smith increased by 21.4 percentage points. Comparison Schools A and B both saw a decrease in this number, whereas Comparison School C saw an increase of 4.1 percentage points.
- The percentage of students who passed the ABCs increased at Smith and Comparison School C.
- Only Smith High saw ABC Growth in 2007-08.
- The performance composite increased by 4.2 percentage points at Smith and 6.1 points at Comparison School C. Comparison School A and B both decreased.
- Algebra II, Geometry, and English I scores decreased in 2007-08 at Smith and increased in at least one of the comparison schools.
- Algebra I scores increased at Smith and decreased at all three comparison schools.
- The high school cohort graduation rate increased at Smith and decreased at all three comparison schools.
- Forty percent of incentive-eligible teachers earned a performance incentive at Smith (based on SAS® value-added calculations of student achievement growth).

Table 1 below is a summary of results. The color coding indicates positive or negative change. The figure within the table is an indicator of amount of change from previous year, unless otherwise noted.


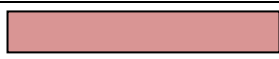
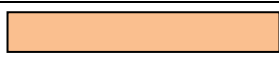

Legend	
Positive Change	
Negative Change	
No Change	
Change Unknown-First Year of data-Unable to Categorize	

Table 1. Summary of Results for Smith and Comparison Schools-Percentage Point Changes from 2006-07 to 2007-08

Category	Smith Status	Comparison A Status	Comparison B Status	Comparison C Status	State Overall	GCS Overall
Retention Indicators						
Principal Turnover	No	No	No	No	N/A	N/A
Teacher Turnover	-22	-19	-25	-6	-8	-11
Incentive-paid turnover	2008=19%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Recruitment of Quality Teacher Indicators						
Teachers with Initial or Continuing License	12	1	-8	0	0	0

Category	Smith Status	Comparison A Status	Comparison B Status	Comparison C Status	State Overall	GCS Overall
Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers	0	-4	-6	-2	0	0
Teachers 0-3 experience	-3	-7	10	2	1	0
Teachers 4-10 experience	2	10	-1	-1	1	3
Teachers 10+ experience	2	-3	-9	-1	-1	-2
Student Achievement Indicators						
Percentage of AYP Goals	21.4	-26.9	-10.9	4.1	N/A	-7.9
Percentage of Students who Passed ABCs	2	-2.8	-7.8	5.3	2	1.9
ABC Growth	Yes	No	No	No	N/A	N/A
Performance Composite	4.2	-0.7	-7	6.1	7.6	-7.7
Alg I	4.7	-1.8	-17.9	-0.6	2	2
Alg II	-0.9	-10.7	-24.5	1.3	2.2	4.1
Geometry	-4.8	-5.9	8.1	6	4.9	2.2
English I	-2.5	-1.5	-19.9	6.6	1.1	2.7
Cohort Graduation Rate	8.2	-5.7	-35.5	-1.5	0.8	0
Incentives Earned	2008=40%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note. The numbers in the table represent percentage point change from 2007 to 2008.

The data from Smith High School and the three comparison schools suggests that the Mission Possible program is showing an effect on Algebra I scores and AYP Goals at Smith High School as well as the percentage of teachers with 4-10 years of experience and the cohort graduation rate. Algebra I scores increased by a 4.7 percentage points, while the comparison schools decreased in percent passing. The percent of AYP goals achieved increased by 21.4 percentage points; 17.3 points more than Comparison School C.

Since 2006-07, Smith has attracted more teachers with 4-10 years of experience, while the percentage of teachers with 0-3 years of experience has declined. It also seems that the Mission Possible program is helping to attract licensed teachers; with 71% being licensed in 2006, and 88% licensed in 2008. The cohort graduation rate increased from 56.8% in 2006 to 72.1% in 2008, while the comparison schools saw a decrease.

In addition, in comparison with Guilford County Schools, Smith High appears to be narrowing the gap in teacher turnover, percentage of teachers with initial or continuing license, percentage of teachers with 10+ years of experience, percentage of AYP goals obtained, and the cohort graduation rate. Note that the narrowing of the gap within Guilford County cannot solely be attributed to the Mission Possible program without a comparison group within Guilford County.

Though the indicators suggest that the Mission Possible program is working in Smith High, it is important for principals and administrators to consider what other factors (such as reading programs, math programs, magnet, smaller learning communities, etc) may explain this increase in performance since 2005-06.

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The cohorts include the following:

Cohort 1 (began 2006-07 with local funds)	Cohort 2 (began in 2007-08 with federal funds)
Andrews High	Academy at Central (Opened in January 2008)
Dudley High	Allen Middle
Eastern Guilford High	Aycock Middle
Fairview Elementary	Bessemer Elementary
Ferndale Middle	Cone Elementary
Foust Elementary	Falkener Elementary
Gillespie Elementary	Penn Griffin Middle
Hairston Middle	Union Hill Elementary
Hampton Elementary	
High Point Central High	
Jackson Middle	
Kirkman Park Elementary	
Middle College at Bennett	
Middle College at NC A&T	
Oak Hill Elementary	
Parkview Elementary	
Smith High	
Academy at Smith	
Southern Guilford High	
Washington Elementary	
Welborn Middle	
Wiley Elementary	

As part of the evaluation, propensity score matching was used to identify three comparison schools for each MP school. This report documents activities that occurred during the 2007-08 academic year of the MP Program, specific to Smith High and its three comparison schools.

⁴ Cumulative Effects Program is a program to recruit and retain highly qualified math teachers in Guilford County Schools. The program is a collaborative project involving Action Greensboro, the University of North Carolina system, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and North Carolina A&T State University. See the following website for more information http://www.guilford.k12.nc.us/depts/mission_possible/cumulative.htm

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Not every teacher in a MP school is part of the program. In addition, not every teacher in the MP program who receives a recruitment incentive is eligible for a performance incentive. Each position has a corresponding contract which the employee signs, indicating their eligibility for a performance incentive. For example, though K-2 teachers receive a recruitment incentive, they are not eligible for a performance incentive because their students do not have test scores. Many math teachers in high school receive the \$9,000 recruitment incentive but if they are teaching a non-EOC-tested math course, they are not eligible for a performance incentive. Similar to K-2 teachers, these math teachers do not have students with state test data, which is how the achievement growth is calculated by SAS®. In addition, if a MP teacher is placed on an action plan for inappropriate conduct, the teacher does not earn a recruitment incentive during the time that they are on the action plan.

⁵ Value-added is a statistical method used to calculate academic growth among students by comparing test scores from a previous year to test scores of a current year. This is an alternative to traditional achievement testing in North Carolina where the percentage of students who pass the North Carolina End of Course or End of Grade tests is reported. GCS contracts with SAS® EVAAS® to provide the value-added scores. For more information on EVAAS® see <http://www.sas.com/govedu/edu/services/effectiveness.html>

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Results

The following results are organized by outcome type and show the outcomes for the specific MP school as well as the three comparison schools. The results document progress of the goals as they pertain to the MP schools. Where results are reported for GCS overall, it is important to note that the GCS results are inclusive of MP schools.

Principal Turnover

The percentage of principal turnover is calculated by examining the principal on record for each MP school during each data year (taken from www.ncreportcard.org). If the principal on record changes from one year to the next, it is counted as turnover. Turnover for each school is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Principal Turnover

School	2004-05 to 2005-06	2005-06 to 2006-07	2006-07 to 2007-08
Smith High	No	No	No
Comparison School A	No	No	No
Comparison School B	No	Yes	No
Comparison School C	No	No	No

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>. Yes=New principal from previous year to current year. No=the principal stayed the same from one year to the next.

Teacher Turnover

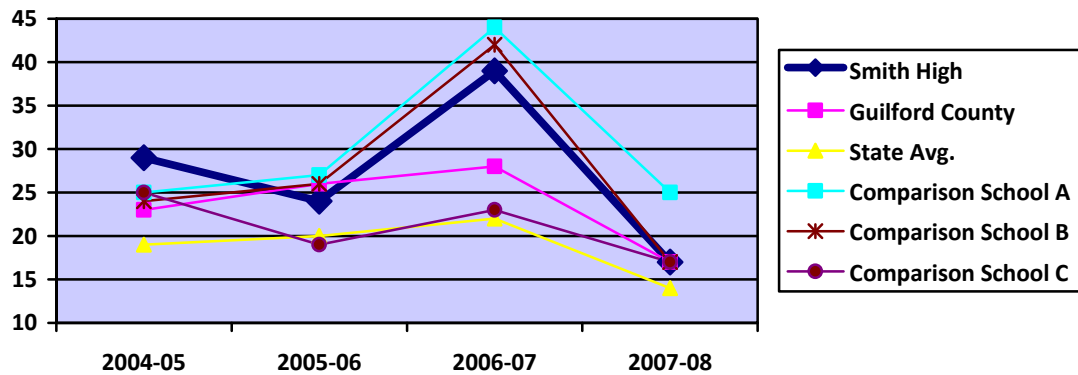
Teacher turnover is a measure of the number of teachers who did not return to the school in the following year. One of the main outcomes sought by providing teachers with MP incentives is the reduction of teacher turnover. Table 3 and Figure 1 reflect each individual schools' percentage of teacher turnover. This includes all teachers in a school, not just incentive-paid teachers.

Table 3. Percentage of Teacher Turnover

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	29	24	39	17	-5	15	-22
Guilford County	23	26	28	17	3	2	-11
State Avg.	19	20	22	14	1	2	-8
Comparison School A	25	27	44	25	2	17	-19
Comparison School B	24	26	42	17	2	16	-25
Comparison School C	25	19	23	17	-6	4	-6

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 1. Teacher Turnover



Incentive Paid Personnel Turnover

Records were kept by the GCS MP office that show turnover rates specific to each MP school and the MP incentive-paid personnel⁶. While turnover rates were reported in Year 1, they are not included in this report for comparison due to a change in the way turnover was counted. Table 4 shows the various reasons that were given for leaving Smith in 2007-08 and total turnover for all of MP schools and MP high schools. Table 5 gives specific reasons for resigning. In 2007-08, records indicate that 2 incentive-paid personnel resigned from Smith.

Table 4. Incentive Paid Turnover

School	Documented Reason for Leaving School in 2007-08 School Year						Interim Contract -not Rehired	Total Turnover Rate by School	Total MP Personnel by School
	Voluntary Reasons			Involuntary Reasons					
	Transfer to other MP school	Resigned ^a	Transfer to non-MP School	VIF ^b	Retire ^d	Higher Level Placement /Promotion			
Smith High		2	1			1	1	5 (19%)	26
High School Totals	5	14	3	0	3	3	5	33 (25%)	131
Overall Turnover Within MP Schools ^c	12 of 608 (2.0%)	81 of 608 (13.3%)	42 of 608 (6.9%)	5 of 608 (0.8%)	12 of 608 (2.0%)	8 of 608 (1.3%)	19 of 608 (3.1%)	179 of 608 (29.4%)	608

Note. ^aReasons for resignation are broken down in the subsequent table. Data were provided by the MP office. ^bVIF is an acronym for Visiting International Faculty. The VIF faculty have a 3-year limit for teaching in the United States. ^cReflects overall turnover for the incentive-paid personnel.

⁶ Within a MP school, there are personnel that are not considered to be MP personnel and thus do not receive any form of incentive.

Table 5. Reasons for MP Personnel Resigning From Smith in 2007-08

School	Documented Reason for Resigning in 2007-08 School Year										
	Accept non teaching position in Ed.	Go back to School	Other	Re-location	Career Change	Teach in Other NC District	Teach in Other State	Health, person or family related	Job Dis-satisfaction	Teach in Non public school	Total % of Turnover
Smith High					1	1					2 of 5 (40%)
High School Totals	1	2	0	1	3	3	1	2	0	1	14 of 33 (42%)
Overall Totals	3 of 608 (0.5%)	3 of 608 (0.5%)	9 of 608 (1.5%)	9 of 608 (1.5%)	9 of 608 (1.5%)	17 of 608 (2.8%)	6 of 608 (1.0%)	13 of 608 (2.1%)	7 of 608 (1.2%)	5 of 608 (0.8%)	81 of 608 (13.3%)

Note. Data provided by GCS.

Percentage of Teachers with Initial or Continuing Licenses

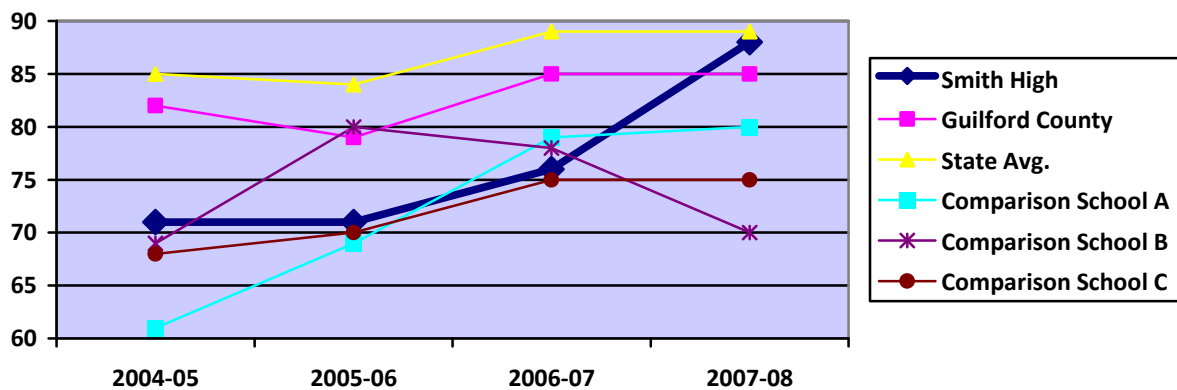
Table 6 and Figure 2 show the percentage of classroom teachers with a clear initial or clear continuing licenses in the school. This includes all license areas in the school.

Table 6. Percentage of Teachers With Initial or Continuing Licenses

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	71	71	76	88	0	5	12
Guilford County	82	79	85	85	-3	6	0
State Avg.	85	84	89	89	-1	5	0
Comparison School A	61	69	79	80	8	10	1
Comparison School B	69	80	78	70	11	-2	-8
Comparison School C	68	70	75	75	2	5	0

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 2. Teachers with Initial or Continuing Licenses



Percentage of Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers

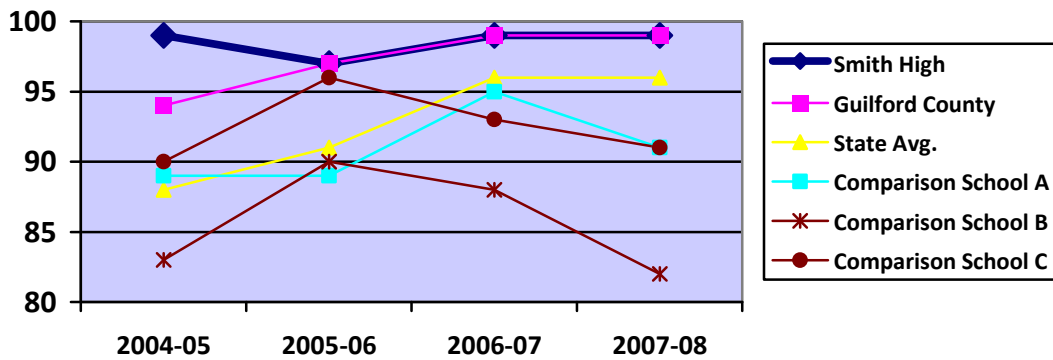
Table 7 and Figure 3 show the percentage of classes that are taught by Highly Qualified teachers as defined by federal law. The definition of Highly Qualified is in Appendix A.

Table 7. Percentage of Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	99	97	99	99	-2	2	0
Guilford County	94	97	99	99	3	2	0
State Avg.	88	91	96	96	3	5	0
Comparison School A	89	89	95	91	0	6	-4
Comparison School B	83	90	88	82	7	-2	-6
Comparison School C	90	96	93	91	6	-3	-2

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 3. Change in Highly Qualified Teachers



Years of Teaching Experience

Tables 8-10 and Figures 4-6 show the percentage of teachers in the school that have 0-3 years of experience, 4-10 years of experience, and 10 plus years of experience, along with the percentages in all schools in the state and in Guilford County.

Table 8. Percentage of Teachers With 0-3 Years Experience

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	34	32	32	29	-2	0	-3
Guilford County	27	29	29	29	2	0	0
State Avg.	22	23	22	23	1	-1	1
Comparison School A	30	35	45	38	5	10	-7
Comparison School B	31	26	33	43	-5	7	10
Comparison School C	35	38	34	36	3	-4	2

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 4. Percentage of Teachers With 0-3 Years Experience

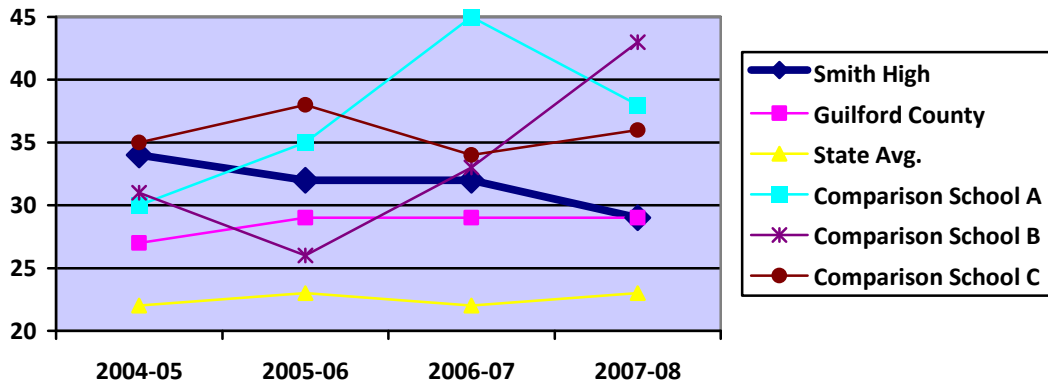


Table 9. Percentage of Teachers With 4-10 Years Experience

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	26	29	30	32	3	1	2
Guilford County	24	24	24	27	0	0	3
State Avg.	25	25	25	26	0	0	1
Comparison School A	28	25	17	27	-3	-8	10
Comparison School B	25	31	29	28	6	-2	-1
Comparison School C	32	30	37	36	-2	7	-1

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>

Figure 5. Percentage of Teachers With 4-10 Years Experience

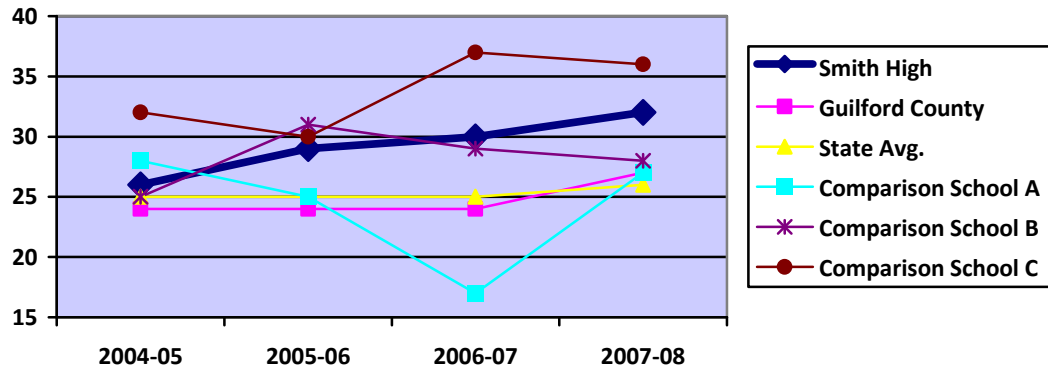
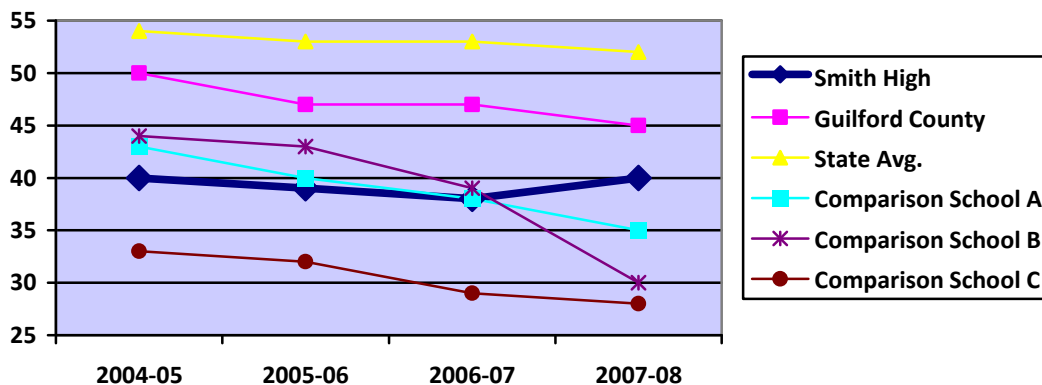


Table 10. Percentage of Teachers With 10+ Years Experience

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	40	39	38	40	-1	-1	2
Guilford County	50	47	47	45	-3	0	-2
State Avg.	54	53	53	52	-1	0	-1
Comparison School A	43	40	38	35	-3	-2	-3
Comparison School B	44	43	39	30	-1	-4	-9
Comparison School C	33	32	29	28	-1	-3	-1

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>

Figure 6. Percentage of Teachers with 10+ Years Experience



Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) Goals Obtained

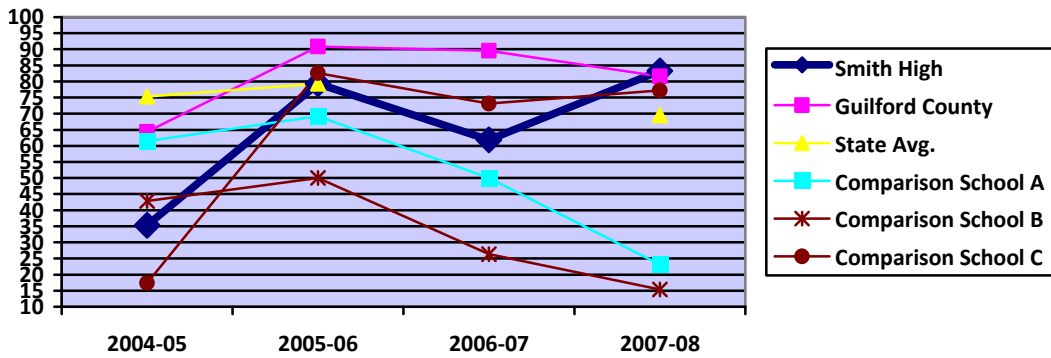
Table 11 and Figure 7 show the percentage of AYP goals obtained. This percentage is obtained by dividing the number of targets obtained by the number of total targets.

Table 11. Percentage of AYP Goals Obtained

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	35.3	79.3	61.9	83.3	44	-17.4	21.4
Guilford County	64.4	90.8	89.5	81.6	26.4	-1.3	-7.9
State Avg.	75.3	79.3	N/A	69.5	4	N/A	N/A
Comparison School A	61.5	69.2	50	23.1	7.7	-19.2	-26.9
Comparison School B	42.9	50	26.3	15.4	7.1	-23.7	-10.9
Comparison School C	17.4	82.6	73.1	77.2	65.2	-9.5	4.1

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>

Figure 7. Percentage of AYP Goals Obtained



Percentage of Students who Passed the ABCs

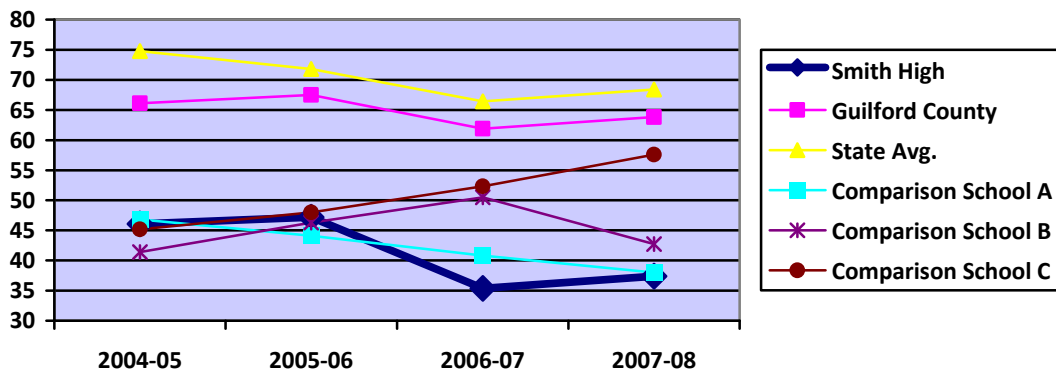
Table 12 and Figure 8 show the percentage of all students in each school that passed the End of Course tests.

Table 12. Percentage of Students Passing ABCs

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	46.1	47.2	35.4	37.4	1.1	-11.8	2
Guilford County	66.1	67.5	61.9	63.8	1.4	-5.6	1.9
State Avg.	74.8	71.8	66.4	68.4	-3	-5.4	2
Comparison School A	46.8	44.1	40.8	38	-2.7	-3.3	-2.8
Comparison School B	41.4	46.3	50.5	42.7	4.9	4.2	-7.8
Comparison School C	45.2	48	52.3	57.6	2.8	4.3	5.3

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 8. Percentage of Students Passing the ABCs



ABC Growth Met

Growth within the North Carolina ABC Accountability Model is determined by predicting EOG and EOC test scores for a particular school year based on test scores of the same students from the previous year, and comparing the actual scores to the predicted scores. Students meet growth when their actual score is at or above their predicted score. It is possible for students to pass the EOG or

EOC yet not have growth. School growth is determined by averaging student scores together. Table 13 shows whether individual schools met the ABC Growth.

Table 13. ABC Growth Met at Each School

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Smith High	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Comparison School A	Yes	No	No	No
Comparison School B	Yes	No	No	No
Comparison School C	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Note. Data taken from <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org/abcs/>

Performance Composite

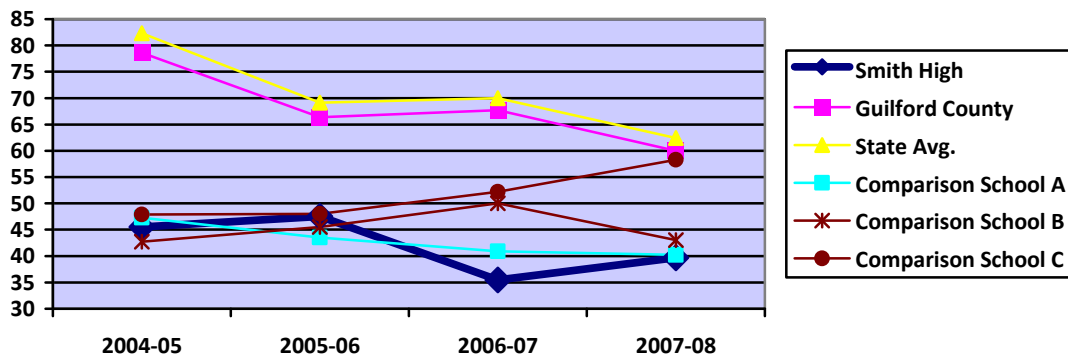
The Performance Composite is defined by NCDPI (2008) as “the percentage of the test scores in the school at or above Achievement Level III (also referred to as at “grade level” or “proficient”).” Table 14 and Figure 9 show the performance composite for each school.

Table 14. Performance Composites for Mission Possible Schools

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	45.5	47.5	35.5	39.7	2	-12	4.2
Guilford County	78.6	66.4	67.7	60	-12.2	1.3	-7.7
State Avg.	82.3	69.1	70	62.4	-13.2	1.1	7.6
Comparison School A	47.3	43.5	40.9	40.2	-3.8	-2.6	-0.7
Comparison School B	42.7	45.5	50	43	2.8	4.5	-7
Comparison School C	47.9	48	52.2	58.3	0.1	4.2	6.1

Note. Data taken from <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org/abcs/>

Figure 9. Performance Composite



Math Achievement

Tables 15-17 and Figures 10-12 show Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry performance, respectively.

Table 15. Algebra I Performance

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	37.7	63.2	36	40.7	25.5	-27.2	4.7
Guilford County	63.8	74.4	63	65	10.6	-11.4	2
State Avg.	80.3	82.6	67	69	2.3	-15.6	2
Comparison School A	40.5	50.1	32	30.2	9.6	-18.1	-1.8
Comparison School B	49	61.8	56	38.1	12.8	-5.8	-17.9
Comparison School C	34.4	57.7	56	55.4	23.3	-1.7	-0.6

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 10. Algebra I Performance

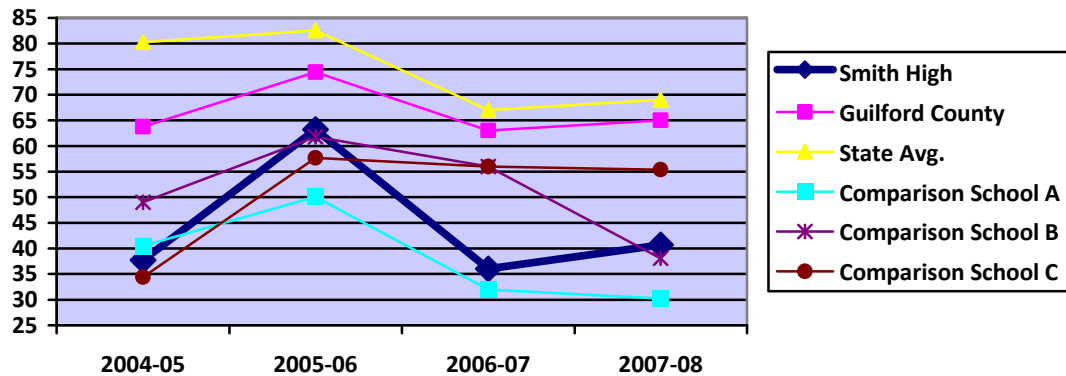


Table 16. Algebra II Performance

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	47.8	52.9	35	34.1	5.1	-17.9	-0.9
Guilford County	69.9	74.1	55	59.1	4.2	-19.1	4.1
State Avg.	79.1	80.3	65	67.2	1.2	-15.3	2.2
Comparison School A	42.2	43.2	45	34.3	1	1.8	-10.7
Comparison School B	48.3	60.7	45	20.5	12.4	-15.7	-24.5
Comparison School C	67	58.6	56	57.3	-8.4	-2.6	1.3

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 11. Algebra II Performance

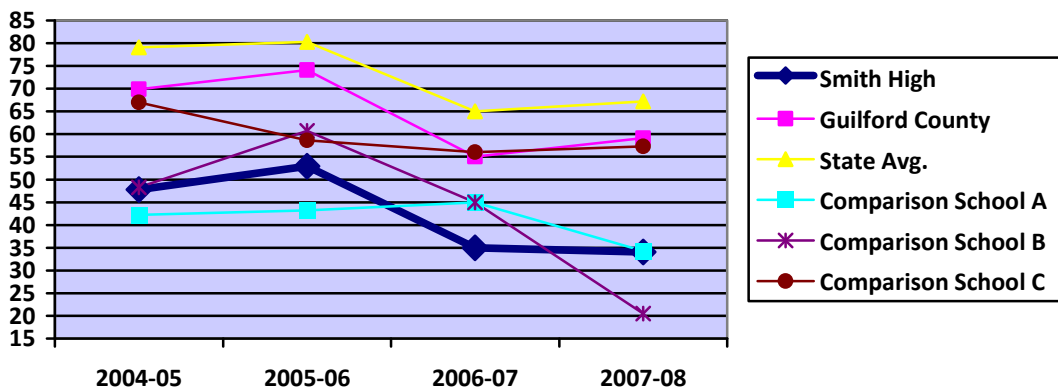
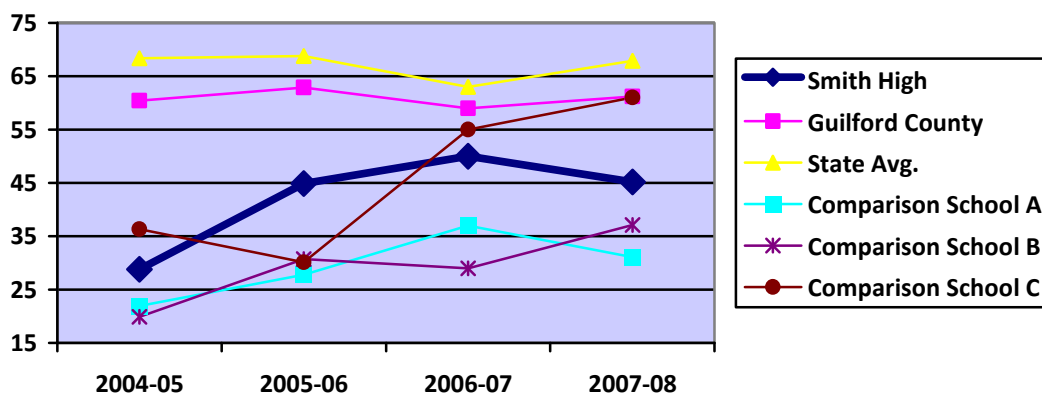


Table 17. Geometry Performance

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	28.8	44.9	50	45.2	16.1	5.1	-4.8
Guilford County	60.4	62.9	59	61.2	2.5	-3.9	2.2
State Avg.	68.4	68.8	63	67.9	0.4	-5.8	4.9
Comparison School A	21.9	27.8	37	31.1	5.9	9.2	-5.9
Comparison School B	19.9	30.7	29	37.1	10.8	-1.7	8.1
Comparison School C	36.3	30.1	55	61	-6.2	24.9	6

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 12. Geometry Performance



Reading Achievement

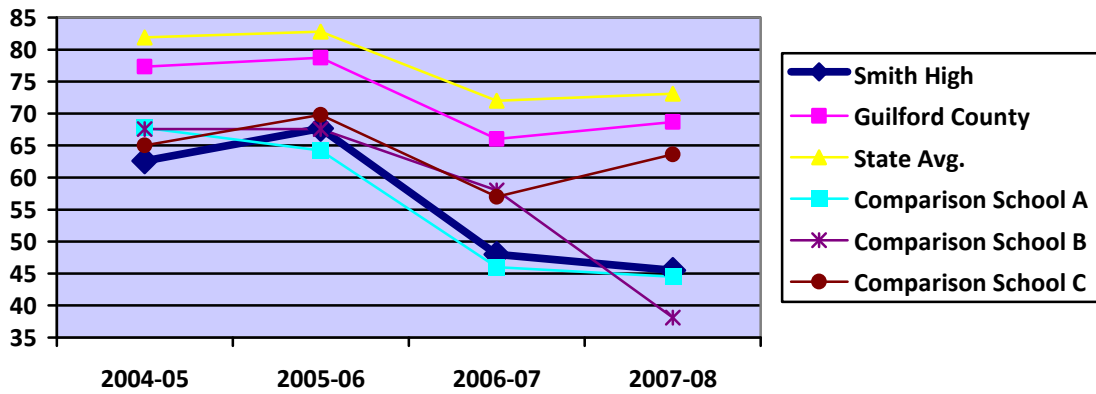
Table 18 and Figure 13 show English I performance.

Table 18. English I Performance

School	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 04-05 to 05-06	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	62.6	67.7	48	45.5	5.1	-19.7	-2.5
Guilford County	77.3	78.7	66	68.7	1.4	-12.7	2.7
State Avg.	81.9	82.8	72	73.1	0.9	-10.8	1.1
Comparison School A	67.8	64.2	46	44.5	-3.6	-18.2	-1.5
Comparison School B	67.6	67.6	58	38.1	0	-9.6	-19.9
Comparison School C	65	69.8	57	63.6	4.8	-12.8	6.6

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 13. English I Performance



Cohort Graduation Rate

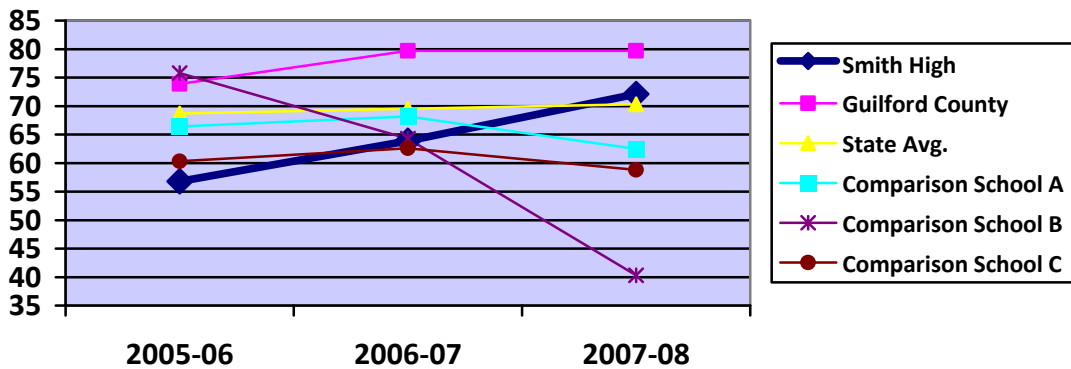
Table 19 and Figure 14 show the graduation rates for each school as well as for the state and Guilford County.

Table 19. Graduation Rate in Percentage

School	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Change 05-06 to 06-07	Change 06-07 to 07-08
Smith High	56.8	63.9	72.1	7.1	8.2
Guilford County	73.9	79.7	79.7	5.8	0
State Avg.	68.7	69.5	70.3	0.8	0.8
Comparison School A	66.4	68.2	62.5	1.8	-5.7
Comparison School B	75.8	64.3	40.3	-11.5	-35.5
Comparison School C	60.3	62.6	58.8	2.3	-1.5

Note. Data taken from <http://www.ncreportcard.org>.

Figure 14. Cohort Graduation Rate



Performance Incentives

The total amount of money paid for performance incentives is an indicator of teacher performance and growth in student achievement. When teacher value-added scores increase, the amount of performance incentives paid to teachers will also increase. The percentage of eligible faculty who earned an incentive at Smith increased in 2008, from 19% to 40% (Table 20).

Table 20. Performance Incentives by Year

School	2007		2008	
	Total \$	Total Faculty	Total \$	Total Faculty
Smith High	\$16,000	4 of 21 (19%)	\$34,000	10 of 25 (40%)

School Climate

The SERVE Center staff developed a Climate Survey for staff, parents, and students at MP schools. Climate Surveys are intended to provide a snapshot of the school climate at one point in time, and are generally used as a catalyst for change within a school. The surveys consisted of demographic questions and 5-point Likert scale items. In addition, the staff survey contained four open-ended questions about positive and negative aspects of the MP program, professional development, and other comments. The internal consistency of the items was measured using Cronbach's alpha. This value is dependent upon how much the items intercorrelate. The alpha of the parent survey when first administered in Fall 2007 was .96; student was .91, and staff was .93. Instruments with alphas above .80 are considered to have good reliability.

Staff Climate Surveys. Staff at the 30 MP schools were sent a web-based Climate Survey. An email invitation with a link to the web-based survey was sent to teachers through various school email lists and school principals via the MP director. A total of 824 staff surveys were submitted electronically by respondents. Calculating a response rate was not possible because it is not known how many staff and teachers the survey ultimately reached. Human Resources at GCS was not able to provide this data before the report was complete. However, it is known that the number of surveys submitted decreased from 1,086 received the previous year. At Smith High, 53 staff members responded in Fall 2008.

The results from Fall 2007 Staff Climate Survey serve as the baseline for the program period and thus the mean item scores for Fall 2007 are included on the Fall 2008 results for comparison purposes.

Question H on the survey was included as an indication of potential turnover for the 2009-2010 school year. In Smith High, 6 staff members said that they will not return in 2009-2010 and 15 are unsure if they will return.

Question I asked participants if they received an incentive. The results were used to ensure that there was representation from both incentive and non-incentive-paid teachers. Participants could also indicate if they were unsure that they received an incentive. Of the Smith respondents, 5 participants were unsure if they received an incentive; 21 indicated that they were incentive-paid and 26 were non-incentive-paid.

In reviewing the results, principals may find it useful to compare the Fall 2007 staff results to the Fall 2008 staff results, or look for themes in results. The results can also be used to help you confirm or disconfirm areas of concern you have already identified.

Within the staff summary in Appendix B, there are items that are highlighted based on a mean score from the 2008 results. These items stand out as potential areas for improvement. However, one should keep in mind that all survey results contain a margin of error. As the number of staff who have completed the survey increases, the precision of the results increase. Likewise, the lower the number of staff who completed the survey, the greater the margin of error in the results. If for example, it is known that there are 40 teachers yet only 20 have completed the survey, then there will be more error when interpreting the results than if 30 teachers completed the survey. When examining the results, one will see that the problem with low response rates is especially prevalent among the student and parent results.

In order to control for response acquiesce in the staff survey, some items were worded negatively. Additional instructions within the staff summary results are included that relate to this.

Parent and Student Climate Surveys. Survey packets containing an introductory letter, IRB consent forms, parent survey (both English and Spanish versions of all documents), a student survey, and a preaddressed postage-paid envelope were sent out to parents via students at each school on March 31, 2008. Coordinators at each school were given a letter instructing them how to hand out the survey packets. Students in grades 4 through 12 were given survey packets. Schools that had less than 450 students were given 100 survey packets to distribute and schools that had more than 450 students were given 200 packets to distribute. After reviewing response rates, the coordinators at schools where there was no or little response were asked to either request more surveys or remind students to have their parents complete the survey. All coordinators who were contacted indicated that they would work to get students to return the surveys. A total of 200 surveys were sent out to parents at Smith. Only 2 parents and 1 student completed a survey.

Parent Climate Results. Results not included because number of respondents was less than eight.

Student Climate Results. Results not included because number of respondents was less than eight.

Points to Highlight

The outcomes for each school can be summarized in relation to the three outcome areas. In the following table, there are indicators of retention, recruitment of teachers, and student achievement. Note that all of GCS data are inclusive of MP schools.

Retention from 2006-07 to 2007-08:

- No principal turnover at Smith or any of the three comparison schools.
- Improvement in teacher turnover at Smith and all comparison schools.
- Voluntary⁷ incentive-paid personnel turnover from Smith was 11.5%, and involuntary turnover was 3.8% (See Table 4).

Recruitment from 2006-07 to 2007-08:

- The number of teachers with an initial or continuing license increased by 12 percentage points from 2007 to 2008 at Smith, increased by 1 percentage points in Comparison School A,

⁷ Voluntary turnover within a school includes those that resigned, transferred to a non-MP school, or transferred to a different MP school. Involuntary turnover includes those that retired, had a VIF contract expiring, or earned a promotion.

decreased by 8 percentage points in Comparison School B, and remained the same at Comparison School C.

- The percentage of classes taught by highly qualified teachers at Smith remained the same, and decreased at Comparison Schools A, B, and C.
- The percentage of teachers at Smith with 4-10 years of experience increased by 2 percentage points while the percentage of teachers with 0-3 years of experience decreased by 3 percentage points. This is a positive change. The increase in percentage of teachers with 4-10 years of experience was also seen at Comparison School A.
- The percentage of teachers at Smith with 10+ years of experience increased by 2 percentage points and decreased at all three comparison schools.

Student Achievement from 2006-07 to 2007-08:

- The percentage of AYP goals achieved at Smith increased by 21.4 percentage points. Comparison Schools A and B both saw a decrease in this number, whereas Comparison School A saw an increase of 4.1 percentage points.
- The percentage of students who passed the ABCs increased at Smith and Comparison School C.
- Only Smith High saw ABC Growth in 2007-08.
- The performance composite increased by 4.2 percentage points at Smith and 6.1 points at Comparison School C. Comparison School A and B both decreased.
- Algebra II, Geometry, and English I scores decreased in 2007-08 at Smith and increased in at least one of the comparison schools.
- Algebra I scores increased at Smith and decreased at all three comparison schools.
- The high school cohort graduation rate increased at Smith and decreased at all three comparison schools.
- Forty percent of incentive-eligible teachers earned a performance incentive at Smith (based on SAS® value-added calculations of student achievement growth).

Table 21 below is a summary of results. The color coding indicates positive or negative change. The figure within the table is an indicator of amount of change from previous year, unless otherwise noted.





Legend	
Positive Change	
Negative Change	
No Change	
Change Unknown-First Year of data-Unable to Categorize	

Table 21. Summary of Results for Smith and Comparison Schools-Percentage Point Changes from 2006-07 to 2007-08

Category	Smith Status	Comparison A Status	Comparison B Status	Comparison C Status	State Overall	GCS Overall
Retention Indicators						
Principal Turnover	No	No	No	No	N/A	N/A
Teacher Turnover	-22	-19	-25	-6	-8	-11
Incentive-paid turnover	2008=19%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Recruitment of Quality Teacher Indicators						
Teachers with Initial or Continuing License	12	1	-8	0	0	0
Classes Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers	0	-4	-6	-2	0	0
Teachers 0-3 experience	-3	-7	10	2	1	0
Teachers 4-10 experience	2	10	-1	-1	1	3
Teachers 10+ experience	2	-3	-9	-1	-1	-2
Student Achievement Indicators						
Percentage of AYP Goals	21.4	-26.9	-10.9	4.1	N/A	-7.9
Percentage of Students who Passed ABCs	2	-2.8	-7.8	5.3	2	1.9
ABC Growth	Yes	No	No	No	N/A	N/A
Performance Composite	4.2	-0.7	-7	6.1	7.6	-7.7
Alg I	4.7	-1.8	-17.9	-0.6	2	2
Alg II	-0.9	-10.7	-24.5	1.3	2.2	4.1
Geometry	-4.8	-5.9	8.1	6	4.9	2.2
English I	-2.5	-1.5	-19.9	6.6	1.1	2.7
Cohort Graduation Rate	8.2	-5.7	-35.5	-1.5	0.8	0
Incentives Earned	2008=40%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note. The numbers in the table represent percentage point change from 2007 to 2008.

The data from Smith High School and the three comparison schools suggests that the Mission Possible program is showing an effect on Algebra I scores and AYP Goals at Smith High School as well as the percentage of teachers with 4-10 years of experience and the cohort graduation rate. Algebra I scores increased by a 4.7 percentage points, while the comparison schools decreased in

percent passing. The percent of AYP goals achieved increased by 21.4 percentage points; 17.3 points more than Comparison School C.

Since 2006-07, Smith has attracted more teachers with 4-10 years of experience, while the percentage of teachers with 0-3 years of experience has declined. It also seems that the Mission Possible program is helping to attract licensed teachers; with 71% being licensed in 2006, and 88% licensed in 2008. The cohort graduation rate increased from 56.8% in 2006 to 72.1% in 2008, while the comparison schools saw a decrease.

In addition, in comparison with Guilford County Schools, Smith High appears to be narrowing the gap in teacher turnover, percentage of teachers with initial or continuing license, percentage of teachers with 10+ years of experience, percentage of AYP goals obtained, and the cohort graduation rate. Note that the narrowing of the gap within Guilford County cannot solely be attributed to the Mission Possible program without a comparison group within Guilford County.

Though the indicators suggest that the Mission Possible program is working in Smith High, it is important for principals and administrators to consider what other factors (such as reading programs, math programs, magnet, smaller learning communities, etc) may explain this increase in performance since 2005-06.

References

- Joint Committee on Standards for Educational Evaluation. (1994). *The program evaluation standards* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. (2008, August 3). *2007-08 ABCs of public education technical notes*. Retrieved August 6, 2009, from <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/accountability/reporting/abc/2007-08/technicalnotes.pdf>

Appendix A-Federal Definition of Highly Qualified Teacher

From <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg107.html>

ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

Title IX — General Provisions

SEC. 901. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

PART A — DEFINITIONS

SEC. 9101. DEFINITIONS.

(23) HIGHLY QUALIFIED- The term highly qualified' —

(A) when used with respect to any public elementary school or secondary school teacher teaching in a State, means that —

(i) the teacher has obtained full State certification as a teacher (including certification obtained through alternative routes to certification) or passed the State teacher licensing examination, and holds a license to teach in such State, except that when used with respect to any teacher teaching in a public charter school, the term means that the teacher meets the requirements set forth in the State's public charter school law; and

(ii) the teacher has not had certification or licensure requirements waived on an emergency, temporary, or provisional basis;

(B) when used with respect to —

(i) an elementary school teacher who is new to the profession, means that the teacher —

(I) holds at least a bachelor's degree; and

(II) has demonstrated, by passing a rigorous State test, subject knowledge and teaching skills in reading, writing, mathematics, and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum (which may consist of passing a State-required certification or licensing test or tests in reading, writing, mathematics, and other areas of the basic elementary school curriculum); or

(ii) a middle or secondary school teacher who is new to the profession, means that the teacher holds at least a bachelor's degree and has demonstrated a high level of competency in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches by —

(I) passing a rigorous State academic subject test in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches (which may consist of a passing level of performance on a State-required certification or licensing test or tests in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches); or

(II) successful completion, in each of the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches, of an academic major, a graduate degree, coursework equivalent to an undergraduate academic major, or advanced certification or credentialing; and

(C) when used with respect to an elementary, middle, or secondary school teacher who is not new to the profession, means that the teacher holds at least a bachelor's degree and —

(i) has met the applicable standard in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (B), which includes an option for a test; or

(ii) demonstrates competence in all the academic subjects in which the teacher teaches based on a high objective uniform State standard of evaluation that —

(I) is set by the State for both grade appropriate academic subject matter knowledge and teaching skills;

(II) is aligned with challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards and developed in consultation with core content specialists, teachers, principals, and school administrators;

(III) provides objective, coherent information about the teacher's attainment of core content knowledge in the academic subjects in which a teacher teaches;

(IV) is applied uniformly to all teachers in the same academic subject and the same grade level throughout the State;

(V) takes into consideration, but not be based primarily on, the time the teacher has been teaching in the academic subject;

(VI) is made available to the public upon request; and

(VII) may involve multiple, objective measures of teacher competency.

Appendix B-Staff Climate Results-Fall 2008

Smith High (N=53)

Introduction

Below are the results of the climate survey administered to staff in the above named Mission Possible school in Fall 2008. In addition, the mean scores from Fall 2007 are included when available so that the viewer can compare the 2008 results with the 2007 results. The open-ended comments are written as recorded from the survey. To control for response agreement, negatively worded items were included in the survey. These items are listed below the positively worded items.

Viewing Notes

Means are calculated based on a 5-point Likert scale. The scale goes from 5=Strongly Agree to 1=Strongly Disagree. When interpreting the results for positively worded questions, a mean score of less than 3.0 (midpoint of scale) indicates that this item may be notable. When interpreting the results for negatively worded questions, a mean score greater than 3.0 may be notable. These notable items from the 2008 results have been highlighted for your convenience. Please review all items, not just those that are highlighted.

Results for a particular question will not always sum to 100% due to nonrespondents.

Question	African American/Black	American Indian/Native Alaskan	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic	White	Other
B Race/Ethnicity	23 (43%)	0	1 (2%)	3 (6%)	23 (43%)	2 (4%)

Question	Female	Male
C Gender	38 (72%)	14 (27%)

Question	Administrator or Curriculum Facilitator	Teacher/Teaching Assistant	Other	No Response
D Primary Position Type	2 (4%)	39 (74%)	10 (19%)	2 (4%)

Question	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	4-6 years	7-10 years	11 or more years
E Number of Years in current position	11 (21%)	16 (30%)	3 (6%)	12 (23%)	11 (21%)
F Number of Years working in Guilford County Schools	9 (17%)	19 (36%)	6 (11%)	8 (15%)	10 (19%)
G Number of Years working in current school	15 (28%)	22 (42%)	6 (11%)	7 (13%)	3 (6%)

Question	Yes	No	Unsure
H Is it your intent to return to this school next year?	31 (59%)	6 (11%)	15 (28%)
Why not?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • atmosphere • have to spend too much of my own money for resources • I am retired/part-time. My position is based on schl. needs • Not enough time to explain • Not happy here anymore. • Not Satisfied with School Climate, and it is not the students we serve • Possibility of relocating 		

	• This is the worst environment I have worked in bar none			
1	Are you in a position that will enable you to receive a performance incentive?	21 (40%)	26 (49%)	5 (9%)

Questions with Mean Scores <u>Lower</u> than 3.0 are highlighted		2007		2008 SA=5, A=4, U=3, D=2, SD=1							
		Mean	St.Dev.	Mean	St.Dev.	SA	A	U	D	SD	
1	I feel safe at my school.	3.76	.91	4.04	0.96	30%	57%	4%	6%	4%	0%
2	The school building is kept clean.	4.04	.83	4.34	0.83	47%	47%	0%	4%	2%	0%
3	The school personnel work together as a team.	3.12	1.09	3.19	1.33	15%	38%	9%	23%	13%	2%
4	Administrators solve problems effectively.	2.92	1.23	2.91	1.31	13%	25%	17%	30%	15%	0%
5	My students performed at grade level or above last year.	2.93	.99	2.81	1.19	9%	21%	21%	36%	11%	2%
6	Adequate disciplinary measures are used to deal with disruptive behavior.	2.88	1.24	3.23	1.22	11%	45%	6%	30%	8%	0%
8	My principal represents the school in a positive manner.	4.02	.94	3.85	1.12	30%	43%	13%	8%	6%	0%
9	I devote time to remediation.	4.05	.73	4.15	0.61	25%	66%	6%	2%	0%	2%
10	My grade levels/content areas plan together.	3.72	1.14	3.54	1.31	26%	36%	8%	21%	8%	2%
11	My principal responds to my concerns.	3.51	1.19	3.40	1.23	19%	38%	15%	21%	8%	0%
12	My principal treats me with respect.	3.70	1.21	3.49	1.35	26%	36%	9%	17%	11%	0%
13	My colleagues and I share resources.	4.13	.83	4.13	0.96	40%	47%	0%	13%	0%	0%
24	Students generally come to my class at the beginning of the term prepared for the grade level or courses I teach.	2.12	.99	2.46	1.06	0%	19%	30%	26%	23%	2%
25	I feel satisfied concerning how my career is progressing at this school.	3.20	1.08	3.25	1.25	15%	36%	19%	19%	11%	0%
26	I have a feeling of job security in my present position.	3.38	1.01	3.26	1.18	11%	42%	19%	19%	9%	0%
27	I like working at my school.	3.64	1.08	3.50	1.23	21%	38%	19%	11%	9%	2%
28	Staff morale is high at my school.	2.37	1.17	2.57	1.23	6%	25%	11%	38%	21%	0%
30	Teacher evaluations are fair and reasonable.	3.71	.89	3.59	1.08	15%	49%	15%	11%	6%	4%
31	Teacher evaluations are used to improve teacher performance.	3.45	.99	3.22	1.19	13%	30%	26%	17%	9%	4%
32	In-service programs keep me informed of the latest educational strategies.	3.65	.91	3.58	1.09	19%	43%	13%	21%	2%	2%
34	This school is free of racism.	2.59	1.00	2.75	1.07	6%	21%	26%	38%	9%	0%
35	I am adequately trained to differentiate instruction.	3.70	1.00	4.08	0.74	25%	62%	6%	6%	0%	2%
36	I am prepared to have students with different learning levels in my classroom.	3.64	.99	3.96	0.69	17%	64%	13%	4%	0%	2%
37	The overall climate or atmosphere at my school is positive for learning.	3.07	1.17	3.34	1.16	15%	38%	19%	23%	6%	0%
38	We are all actively trying to make this a better school.	3.81	1.04	3.77	1.03	23%	51%	9%	15%	2%	0%
39	I am adequately prepared to use cooperative learning in the classroom.	3.98	.78	4.06	0.80	26%	57%	11%	2%	2%	2%
40	Parental participation is high.	1.93	.82	2.08	0.95	4%	4%	13%	53%	25%	2%

Questions with Mean Scores <u>Lower</u> than 3.0 are highlighted		2007		2008 SA=5, A=4, U=3, D=2, SD=1							
		Mean	St.Dev.	Mean	St.Dev.	SA	A	U	D	SD	
Positively Worded Questions											
43	Students in my school complete homework assignments.	2.32	1.03	2.45	1.03	0%	21%	19%	40%	17%	4%
44	My students come to class prepared.	2.35	1.05	2.56	0.99	2%	19%	19%	45%	9%	6%
45	Parents respond to material sent home to them.	2.53	.98	2.62	1.00	4%	15%	32%	38%	11%	0%
*SA=Strongly Agree, A=Agree, U=Unsure, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree, NR=No Response											

Questions with Mean Scores <u>Greater</u> than 3.0 are highlighted		2007		2008 SA=5, A=4, U=3, D=2, SD=1							
		Mean	St.Dev.	Mean	St.Dev.	SA	A	U	D	SD	NR
Negatively Worded Questions											
7	My principal is not an effective administrator.	2.60	1.24	2.87	1.26	9%	28%	17%	30%	15%	0%
14	My principal is not supportive of teachers.	2.65	1.14	2.70	1.17	6%	23%	25%	30%	17%	0%
15	I am limited by too many students in each class.	2.73	1.08	2.52	1.13	4%	21%	15%	42%	17%	2%
16	I am limited by student deficiencies in basic academic skills.	3.88	1.13	3.65	1.15	25%	40%	13%	17%	4%	2%
17	I am limited by lack of concern/support from parents.	3.80	1.12	3.63	1.07	21%	42%	17%	17%	2%	2%
18	I am limited by lack of concern/support from the principal.	2.46	1.08	2.75	1.23	9%	21%	15%	38%	13%	4%
19	I am limited by school violence.	2.38	1.01	2.00	0.78	2%	2%	11%	60%	21%	4%
20	I am limited by insufficient resources (e.g., funds, books, equipment, supplies, etc.).	3.94	1.02	3.29	1.32	19%	38%	2%	32%	8%	2%
21	I am limited by lack of concern/support from the district administration.	3.06	1.03	2.83	1.02	4%	23%	34%	28%	9%	2%
22	Student gang activity is a problem at my school.	3.65	1.01	3.00	1.19	11%	26%	19%	34%	8%	2%
23	Drugs are a problem at my school.	3.66	.89	3.04	1.13	9%	28%	26%	28%	8%	0%
29	I frequently feel overloaded or overwhelmed while working at my school.	3.60	1.24	3.74	1.18	26%	47%	6%	15%	6%	0%
33	Children are not receiving a good education here.	2.41	.95	2.10	0.89	0%	8%	21%	44%	26%	2%
41	I hear racist comments from staff.	2.24	1.06	2.33	1.25	6%	17%	11%	34%	30%	2%
42	I hear racist comments from students.	3.53	1.03	3.31	1.23	8%	57%	2%	19%	11%	4%
*SA=Strongly Agree, A=Agree, U=Unsure, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree, NR=No Response											

Question	A	A-	B	B-	C	C-	D	D-	F
46 What overall grade would you give to this school?	6%	11%	19%	11%	21%	11%	11%	8%	2%

47. What positive changes, if any, have you noticed in your school that you think can be attributed to the implementation of the Mission Possible program?

- The math department at our school has remained intact for the past three years.
- Better equipment, teaching aids.
- different computers and printers (although I had to buy my own ink and paper) new reading program
- discipline, climate
- do not know
- Highly qualified teachers Teacher retention due to incentive pay
- I am not familiar with MP.

- I am really not sure because it is hard to evaluate with all the other programs running at the same time. The incentive for teachers is good because we are underpaid.
- Lower class sizes definitely!! This is the greatest help, otherwise the task at hand would be IMPOSSIBLE. Money incentive keeps teachers from leaving and greatly reduces turnover, most definitely.
- Lower drop out rate
- SMOD--The school dress code is good, but the whole school needs it, not just 9th and 10th grades.
- so many!
- teachers plan and collaborate together
- The change in the IIO has been the biggest asset. John Eldridge is helpful and pleasant to work with as a support administrator. He has a vision and interest in our school. He listens and his presence in our building is much more than the IIO from last year. The implementation of the Talent Development Model and READ 180 have also been a plus. I sincerely hope these added programs will continue in our school.
- The children seemed to more motivated this year, and I think is because the staff is really pushing higher educational standards.
- The freshman academy is the biggest and best change at the school.
- the gradual implementation of SMOD by grade levels.
- the implementation of a reading program (Reading 180); Zero Tolerance policies on discipline; Increased professional development opportunities; diversity training.
- The math department had very little turn-over. This makes them stronger. They seem like a team that works very well together

48. What negative situations, if any, have you seen in your school that you think can be attributed to the implementation of the Mission Possible program? Please also offer suggestions for improving the situation.

- (2) None
- The program should be more adequately distributed throughout the school. I teach a "paid" class but do not get the incentive pay even though I am certified with several years of experience in the subject (the paid class) in which I am teaching. This is VERY frustrating to me. I love teaching what I am teaching but I would like to be compensated in the same manner as all those who are being compensated. Equality in the program needs to be addressed. There is no perfect way but the process needs to be reevaluated.
- Dissention and division among staff because of inequitable pay for certain subject area teachers
- do not know
- English 9 teachers feel "left out" since they do not receive \$4,000 the same as Algebra I teachers. Not all teachers care to teach English 9 because of the EOC attachment. With that added bonus, plus an additional incentive for scores, this would keep our English 9 teachers in place. The other negative situation is not adequately funding MP schools. As a faculty, we are never told our budget, and this becomes a problem when you need to implement projects or order incentives for your students. It would be nice if each school could have an account with their allotted monies available for use.
- Knowing we are a mission possible puts so much pressure on the administration that numbers and results and tests and attendance and all of these things that improvement is measured by IS the ONLY thing that matters. Somehow the students get left out of the equation and all that matters is how things look on the external or the "outside numbers". Pressure is put on teachers and it all falls back on them. There is no cost for the students. No responsibility rests on them OR their parents for THEIR education. They are NOT HELD responsible for ANYTHING!!!! If they fail a class by sitting there and never doing any work, then WE - the teachers - have to come up with a plan for them to succeed. Excuse me, but the student earned the grade - they should come up with their plan. There is NO RESPONSIBILITY whatsoever given to the students for THEIR education, all fault and all glory rests with the teachers!!! This is doing the students a complete disservice and instilling within them an entitlement mentality and robbing them of the tools that will make them successful and responsible adults within society!!!
- Many, many, and many coaches, school coaches, Talent Development coaches, ap's, and others offering suggestions on my class room. I have scored above the state averages by at least 7 points--- do I really need all these coaches?
- No support from administration. Constant preferential treatment based on race. Constant threats of being fired.

- Teacher resentment of those who receive incentive payments.
- teacher resources are not equitable academies that really aren't academies-planning for academy functions that are postponed-being moved to a different room at the beginning of school for one academy only to be moved to a different academy
- The John Hopkins Talent Development Academy reform model is not working for our school. The school is not set up or laid out so that we can have true academies. Everyone seems to be confused by exactly what we should be doing within our academies.
- The more pressure placed on administration the more they place on the teachers. We are all professionals and would like to be treated as such not like children.
- The only subject areas that administrators care about are EOC courses. They ignore other areas. Also, the administration forges numbers (such as attendance) to make us look better without actual improvement.
- The stipend has separated many of the staff members all should be rewarded for working in a school like this.....

49. What professional development is needed in your school?

- *Scheduling for Academies
- A more positive attitude with staff and cafeteria workers make everyone feel they belong together. very racist against white people a complete opposite situation at this school very negative. hateful administrator
- A workshop on use of email. If people would learn to email, we could have far less meetings. Possibly a workshop on "How to have less pointless meetings, so we can spend more time tutoring and working with students."
- Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate staff development
- computers/gradebook/google earth/examview/test generator/powerpoint
- Developing Inter-Disciplinary Units
- Effective Leadership Decision Making
- I don't think we need anymore. I believe we need help with the discipline and constant disruptions that are the reasons instruction is not as effective as it should be. If you complain too much or have too many write ups, then we are accused of not being able to control a classroom. I'd like to see someone control some of these children. This is the problem. But it is a catch 22. Therefore you endure with the constant disrespect from a handful of students and your heart breaks for the students who are there to learn and have to endure CONSTANT discipline and disruptions to their education within the classroom. These disruptive students NEVER pay a price and neither do their parents, so why should they ever change???
- more hands on activities
- None--there is a fantastic staff working here--Administration/trainer HEAVY--get rid of the fluff and pay the teachers more
- Other than what we are getting, none.
- Professional development should be provided to all teachers who would like to participate regardless of the fact that one doesn't teach in the "paid" aka--(courses of value)areas.
- Teaching Reading
- teaching software to use in the class interactive web page development we have new lesson plans to follow but no one ever really explained what each section should have
- the inservices are appropriate
- Thinking Maps Training (using advanced graphic organizers) Higher Level Questioning Strategies Cooperative Learning Strategies Peer Mentoring/Tutoring Initiatives
- We need professional development on how programs that have worked in schools with a population like ours not what works in theory or in the academic world.
- We spend a ton of time after school in WOT meetings and remediating students. Then we have an occasional mandatory training session that no one cares about Let's have a half day every second Friday where we could do targeted school specific PD sessions along with mandated training in the afternoons. I did that at a previous school and it was fantastic!

50. What other comments or suggestions do you have that are related to the Mission Possible Program at your school?

- (2) None
- Adequate funding for basic materials and more technology is needed to turn the Mission Possible School into one which is competitive globally as 21st Century School.
- All teachers at MP school should be paid more--it is a more difficult position to teach in than at a high performing school
- Everyone should be treated equally when it comes to rewards, staff development selections, decision making for the school, and all should be paid extra.....
- I am sure you have a busy schedule, but it would be nice if you would visit the schools more. This would show teachers your interest and "buy-in" as well.
- I like it and i think it is effective
- More emphasis should be placed on the students and the parents. Have the students and parents buy into a system to help their children be successful and I think we would get even more results.
- More flexibility in who receives MP pay and training
- supposedly the state gives this school money for special education resources but I have yet to see any - any curriculum materials I need I have to buy - 3 teachers have to share books and what little resources we have - our scores may not count for much now but someday they will
- The Mission Possible program has been an asset to our school. It has definitely enhanced teacher retention and increased teacher morale.
- The money is the key, but if you really want change and advance the whole mentality of education has to change from entitlement to it being a privilege.

Appendix C-Parent Climate Results-Spring 2008

Smith High School						
Total Number of Surveys Received = 2 Total Number of Surveys Sent = 200 Survey response rate = 1%						
Question	SA	A	U	D	SD	Blank
1						
2	Results not Include because number of respondents was less than eight.					
3						
4						
5						
6						
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34						

35	The overall climate or atmosphere at my child's school is positive and helps my child learn.						
36	What overall grade would you give to your child's school?						
*SA=Strongly Agree, A= Agree, U=Unsure, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree							

Appendix D-Student Climate Results-Spring 2008

Smith High School							
Total Number of Surveys Received = 1		Total Number of Surveys Sent = 200		Survey response rate = 0.5%			
Question		SA	A	U	D	SD	Blank
1	I feel safe at my school.						
2	The school building is kept clean.						
3	The students in my school usually follow school rules.	Results not included because number of respondents was less than eight.					
4	My teachers require that I work very hard for the grades I get.						
5	My school has enough books and equipment to help me learn.						
6	The school serves lunches that are nutritious.						
7	The school serves lunches that taste good.						
8	Most of my teachers are friendly and easy to talk to.						
9	Most of my teachers make learning interesting.						
10	Most of my teachers make learning relevant.						
11	Most of my teachers make me to want to learn.						
12	My teachers know a lot about the subjects they teach.						
13	My teachers assign meaningful homework that helps me learn.						
14	My teachers are interested in how I do in the future.						
15	My teachers let me know how I am doing on my school work.						
16	Violence is a problem at my school.						
17	Gangs are a problem at my school.						
18	Many students are being distracted by alcohol.						
19	Many students are being distracted by drugs.						
20	The assistant principal is easy to talk to.						
21	The principal is easy to talk to.						
22	People at my school help me with personal problems.						
23	People at my school help me with learning problems.						
24	The adults at my school care about me.						
25	My teachers teach me how to get along with different kinds of people.						
26	I like coming to school.						
27	I am learning a lot at my school.						
	What overall grade would you give to your school?						
<p>*SA=Strongly Agree, A= Agree, U=Unsure, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly Disagree</p>							