

FACTS AND FIGURES

2003-04

FACILITIES

Elementary	64
Special Education Centers	2
Middle	19
High	22
TOTAL SCHOOLS	107

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Elementary	30,372
Middle	15,725
High	19,501
Special Education Schools	230
TOTAL STUDENTS	65,828

STUDENTS

Languages/Dialects	82
Student Cultural and Ethnic Groups	123
Low-Income Students	25,000
Special Education Students	10,000
Accelerated Learners	7,000
Students on Free/Reduced Lunch	45%
Minority Students	51%

CLASS OF 2003

Diplomas	3,652
National Merit Scholars	13
National Merit Commended Students	70
Morehead Scholars	1
Parks Scholars	4
Robertson Scholars	1
IB Diplomas Earned	48
AP Diplomas Earned	162
Military Academy Appointments	3
N.C. Teaching Fellow Scholars	31

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED TO GCS

SENIORS KEEP RISING

2003:	\$43.3 million
2002:	\$35.1 million
2001:	\$30.9 million

TOP TEN PERCENT SAT SCORES HIGHER THAN STATE AND NATION

	GCS 2002-03	NC 2002-03	US 2002-03
Verbal	604	584	585
Math	616	601	607
TOTAL	1220	1185	1192

GCS students achieving in the top 10 percent of their class outscored their counterparts in the state and nation on the 2003 Scholastic Aptitude Test. Summer academic and leadership camps sponsored by Action Greensboro allow middle and high school students to practice taking the PSAT, helping them prepare for the SAT. Seventy-one percent of GCS seniors took the SAT, as compared to only 48 percent nationally.

NEW AND RENOVATED SCHOOLS

FUNDED BY 2000 BOND REFERENDUM

Three new schools recently opened to excited students and teachers. A new and bigger Brightwood Elementary School (top) opened to Greensboro students in January 2003, while Gillespie Park Elementary School (middle), also in Greensboro, and Triangle Lake Montessori Elementary School (bottom) in High Point both opened in August 2003.

Students and teachers returned to cool air and hot new technology this fall at Grimsley, High Point Central, Page and Northwest high schools, as well as Penn-Griffin Middle School for the Arts.

Using revenues from the school bond passed in May 2000, the teaching and learning environment has improved dramatically in Guilford County. Major renovations and additions were completed at the following schools during 2002-2003:

RENOVATED CAMPUSES

Elementary Schools	Sedgefield	Mendenhall
Alderman	Millis Road	Penn-Griffin School for the Arts (Phase I)
Allen Jay	Sedalia	
Bessemer	Wiley	
Cone		High Schools
Florence	Middle Schools	Grimsley
Frazier	Jackson	High Point Central
General Greene	Southeast	Northwest
Lindley	Kiser	Page
Northwood	Jamestown	
Montlieu	Lincoln	

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Dudley High School
Penn Griffin School for the Arts (Phase II)
Oak Ridge Elementary School

TECHNOLOGY BOOSTS TEACHING AND LEARNING



COLLEGE TECH PREP

College Tech Prep grads can earn two years of free college tuition, prepare for nationally recognized certifications and earn Advanced Placement credit. Students pursue

courses of study that lead to lucrative careers such as Information Technology, Culinary Arts and Hospitality, Automotive Technology, Medical Technology, Construction Technology, Banking and Financial Services, Chemical Process Technology and others. Many College Tech Prep students learn valuable skills through paid apprenticeships while in high school.

TECHNOLOGY: A SYSTEM PRIORITY

We have over 18,000 computers helping students increase their reading, math and technology skills. Over 98 percent of classrooms have access to the Internet and other on-line resources, compared to only 88 percent of classrooms nationwide.

GCS TECH CENTER:

WHERE TEACHERS GO TO CLASS

GCS has its own Technology Center where teachers and staff take free courses to keep abreast of the latest computer software applications and programs. The center also maintains and repairs the district's computers where the student to computer ratio is four to one.

TARGETED INSTRUCTION

Technology enables GCS teachers to target specific instruction for individual students, helping 38 schools meet adequate yearly progress (AYP) targets for 2002-03. This is more than the Durham school district, with 15 schools meeting AYP, and Forsyth County, with 24 meeting AYP. GCS had fewer schools not meeting AYP targets (30 schools) than Durham (31) and Forsyth (38). GCS also had 36 Schools of Excellence and/or Distinction that met AYP targets, more than Durham (7), Cumberland (32) and Forsyth (18) county schools.



WATCH US ON THE SCHOOL ZONE

GCS has its own cable television channel called *The School Zone*. Tune in to cable channel 2 in Guilford County to

see original educational programs and special events. The station also broadcasts Board of Education meetings at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on the day following the meeting, and the next Saturday.

GCS ON THE WEB

The most current information about GCS may be found on the Internet at www.guilford.k12.nc.us. You can find out which school your child will attend; what academic programs and choices are available throughout the district; your school's test scores; the district's mission, goals and policies; apply for a job, and more.

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The 2002-2003 school year was a year of results, one that produced a record of success, thanks to the continued support of many Guilford County Schools' partners. The year brought unprecedented academic growth for our 65,000 students. It also brought a sizable decrease in the achievement gap and higher expectations and achievement by all our students.



During the 2002-2003 school year, the Guilford County Schools were recognized nationally for a number of academic honors and accomplishments. I am pleased to share this annual report of encouraging results showing we continue to move closer to our goals of higher academic achievement for all students.

This encouraging success is due in large part to our talented and dedicated teachers and administrators. It is also due to the powerful partnerships and support from our parents and volunteers, colleges and universities, businesses and foundations, and the citizens of Guilford County.

Public education has been called the great equalizer. We take any and all children where they are and move them forward to a higher academic level. All children of Guilford County deserve the best schools the community can provide and we have witnessed a lot of support to help us carry out this mission. Together, our partners stepped up to the blackboard with us in 2002-2003 proving they have the best interests of our children in mind.

Whether it was our annual "Fill the Bus" campaign detailed in the July 8, 2003 issue of *Family Circle* magazine, or our 2003 new car give-away to an International Baccalaureate or Advanced Placement graduate made possible by Crown Automotive, we are making a profound difference in the lives of our students because of our many, diverse partners.

Because of the thousands of voters who approved the May 2000 bond referendum, in the 2003-04 school year, we offer our students two brand new elementary schools. Many other schools have been vastly improved, with almost 10,000 new classroom seats added as well as technology and air conditioning.

Indeed, we are seeing remarkable results. Due to our extensive business, foundation, government and parental support, our school drop-out rate has been cut by 43 percent. Student enrollment in higher-level courses is at an all-time high. We are reducing the achievement gap more and more each year.

According to a *News and Record* editorial of May 31, 2003, "A few more years of this kind of progress, and there will no longer be an achievement gap to worry about." That is our goal: to eliminate the achievement gap. The new federal legislation called "No Child Left Behind," will also help us reach this goal. The scores released in July show that Guilford County Schools did better than all but one of the state's largest districts.

Our continuing partnerships are powerful and are turning heads across our state and nation. Our high schools with Advanced Placement programs were ranked in the nation's top four percent by *Newsweek* magazine. Our students soared through the 2002-2003 state Gateways with ease. More than half our schools made Adequate Yearly Progress, the stringent new federal requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act. Our End-of-Grade reading and math test results show that the achievement scores of African American and Hispanic students are increasing at a faster rate than those of their counterparts.

With your continued collaboration and support, we can sustain this positive, progressive momentum and see even more growth during the 2003-04 school year. A strong public school system is crucial in promoting and strengthening economic development in our community and we will continue to do our part. On behalf of the Guilford County Board of Education, I thank you for your confidence in the teachers and administrators of the Guilford County Schools as we all come together to bring even more resounding **results** for our students during 2003-2004.

Sincerely,

Terry Grier, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Mission Statement

"Students will graduate as responsible citizens prepared to succeed in higher education or in the career of their choice."

GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION



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District Goals

- All students will achieve at high academic levels with performance at or above grade level, effectively eliminating any achievement gap.
- Students will exhibit good character development in their personal lives.
- Students will be productive and contributing members of the community.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to think independently.
- Students will recognize the need for balance to achieve enriched lives.

Board of Education meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:45 p.m. Speakers may address the board by calling 370-8992 on the day of the meeting, or they may register to speak 15 minutes prior to the meeting. Check the website listed below for exact meeting schedules, agenda and meeting materials.

GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS
712 NORTH EUGENE STREET, GREENSBORO, NC 27401
PHONE: 336.370.8100
INTERNET ADDRESS: [HTTP://WWW.GUILFORD.K12.NC.US](http://www.guilford.k12.nc.us)
TERRY GRIER, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT

A Year of Results:

A RECORD OF SUCCESS

2002 2003



GUILFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS

Annual Report

RESULTS: Thanks to our teachers, administrators, parents, and business partners

INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS FOR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS AND INTERESTS

Students in Guilford County have a wide range of innovative school choices for both elementary and secondary levels. The learning culture at GCS is one of excited motivation because parents and students choose the program that best fits their needs.

PRESCHOOL PREPARES FOUR-YEAR-OLDS FOR KINDERGARTEN SUCCESS

During the 2002-03 school year, almost 950 four-year-olds attended preschool in 55 GCS classrooms, a 90 percent increase in enrollment since 1999. Thirty-four preschool classes were funded by Title I dollars, eight by "Smart Start," nine by "More at Four," and four classes were funded by local dollars. Preschool students who scored 19 points below average at the beginning of the year scored 11 points above average by the end of the year, a 30 point average gain. All schools with preschool programs demonstrated an increase in student performance on the DIAL-3 assessment tool. Preschool pays off in getting children ready for success when they enter kindergarten.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS OFFER SPANISH

Third, fourth and fifth graders in 27 traditional elementary schools take Spanish classes. This early Spanish instruction helps students get a head start on a second language. Students who wish to become bilingual in Spanish may also apply for enrollment to Jones Elementary Spanish Immersion School, one of 14 elementary magnet programs offered by GCS.

MANY HIGH SCHOOL CHOICES

High school students come with many different interests, learning styles, preferences, abilities and aptitudes. Some are "joiners," some are not. For that reason, GCS offers both traditional and non-traditional high schools known as middle colleges and early colleges. Students attend high school on nearby college campuses such as GTCC, Greensboro, Bennett, N.C. A&T State University and Guilford. With the specialized high schools limited to enrollments of 125, students, teachers, principals and counselors come to know and understand each other on a personal level they did not achieve in traditional high schools.

Higher motivation, achievement and self-esteem are the end results. Students may earn tuition-free college credit while still in high school, giving them a head start to higher education. In 2002-2003, GCS started the only public same-sex high schools in the state, one on the campus of Bennett College for Women, and the other on the N.C. A&T State University campus for young men.

MORE MAGNET CHOICES

Students have a wide range of exciting school choices for both elementary and secondary levels. Visit any of the academic themed magnet schools and you will see motivated students working on-task. In 2002-2003, new magnet programs were offered featuring Montessori education, global studies, performing arts, single gender high schools, and high school academies focusing on business, health sciences, teaching and engineering.



GCS HIGH SCHOOLS RANK AMONG TOP IN NATION

The June 2, 2003 edition of Newsweek magazine ranked all 14 GCS traditional high schools in the nation's top four percent of high schools with Advanced Placement programs. All were included in a prestigious "Challenge Index" developed by the Washington Post for having high numbers of students taking Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams.

A total of 162 seniors earned the Advanced Placement Diploma in 2003, and 48 earned an International Baccalaureate Diploma. Eight of the IB diploma students also earned the Advanced Placement Diploma. AP and IB graduates often enter college with enough credits to qualify as a second semester freshman or a sophomore.

SCHOOLS MAKE HIGH ABCs GROWTH

GCS schools made unprecedented progress on state ABCs tests in 2002-2003. More schools attained a high recognition category than in any other year. Of the 95 schools eligible to attain recognition, 49 or 51.6 percent were named a School of Excellence or a School of Distinction, compared with 37 of 93 schools or 39.8 percent in 2001-2002.

In 2002-2003, GCS had 20 Schools of Excellence and 29 Schools of Distinction, which means in 49 GCS schools, 80 percent or more of the students' scores ranked at proficient levels. The number of Schools of Excellence and Schools of Distinction has consistently increased since the inception of the state's ABCs accountability program. In 1998, GCS had no Schools of Excellence and only 10 Schools of Distinction.

COOL TO BE SMART

The second annual "Cool To Be Smart" Celebration honored 210 Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Diploma graduates with diplomas, recognitions and prizes. Jeffrey Dodson, a 2003 Andrews High School graduate, won the grand prize, his choice of one of six new automobiles--courtesy of Crown Automotive. Jeffrey chose a new BMW Mini-Cooper. Five \$1,500 scholarships and five IBM laptop computers were also given by Harris Teeter Neighborhood Markets. WXII-TV 12 is a proud sponsor of the event.



SIX EARN PERFECT SAT SCORE

Six GCS students found themselves in an elite national group during the 2002-2003 school year. They were among less than one percent of students in the United States who scored a perfect 1600 on their Scholastic Aptitude Tests, one of two major college entrance exams.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY

School Bus Fleet magazine chose the GCS transportation fleet and its 833-member department to represent North Carolina in its "Great Fleets Across America" program for 2003. About 40,000 students ride one of approximately 600 school buses to and from 107 schools each day. Buses travel an average of 8.2 million miles each year.

FEDERAL NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND TEST RESULTS HELP TARGET INSTRUCTION

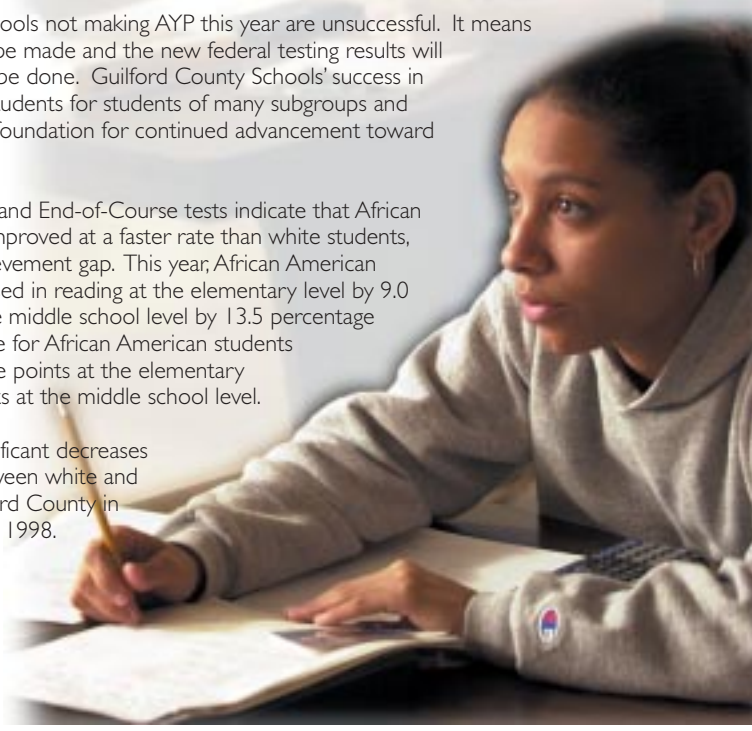
Guilford County Schools has experienced significant progress in raising the achievement of students from all backgrounds and is making progress toward meeting the new expectations of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) regulations. Over half of all Guilford County Schools met the stringent new academic expectations of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) regulations. Over 52 percent of GCS schools met their Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) goals. This means all 10 subgroups of students at each school are working on grade-level proficiency.

Of the 102 schools in Guilford County included in the NCLB analysis for the 2002-03 school year, 54 schools or 52.9% met their AYP goals. Schools that are more diverse have greater difficulty making AYP, because there are many subgroups of students enrolled. If just one subgroup of 40 or more children does not meet its target goals, then the school does not make AYP.

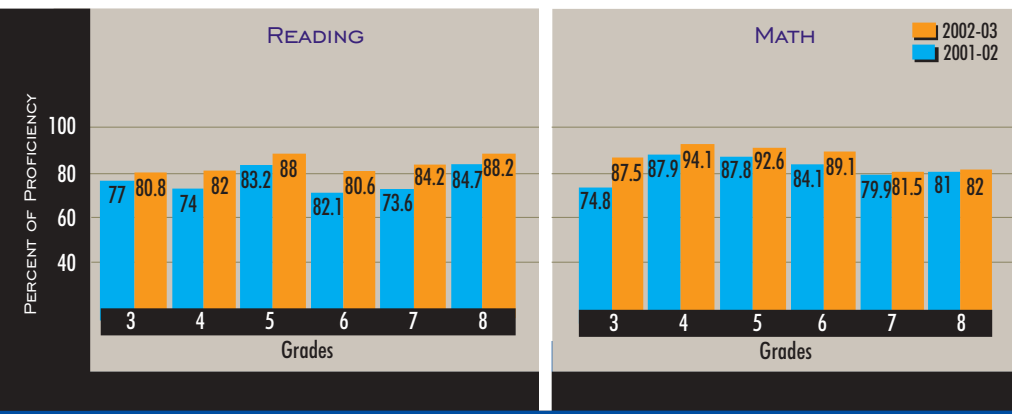
This does not mean that schools not making AYP this year are unsuccessful. It means there are improvements to be made and the new federal testing results will show us just what needs to be done. Guilford County Schools' success in raising the achievement of students for students of many subgroups and backgrounds will serve as a foundation for continued advancement toward meeting future AYP goals.

The 2002-03 End-of-Grade and End-of-Course tests indicate that African American students' scores improved at a faster rate than white students, effectively reducing the achievement gap. This year, African American student performance increased in reading at the elementary level by 9.0 percentage points and at the middle school level by 13.5 percentage points. In math, performance for African American students increased by 12.9 percentage points at the elementary school level and by 5.1 points at the middle school level.

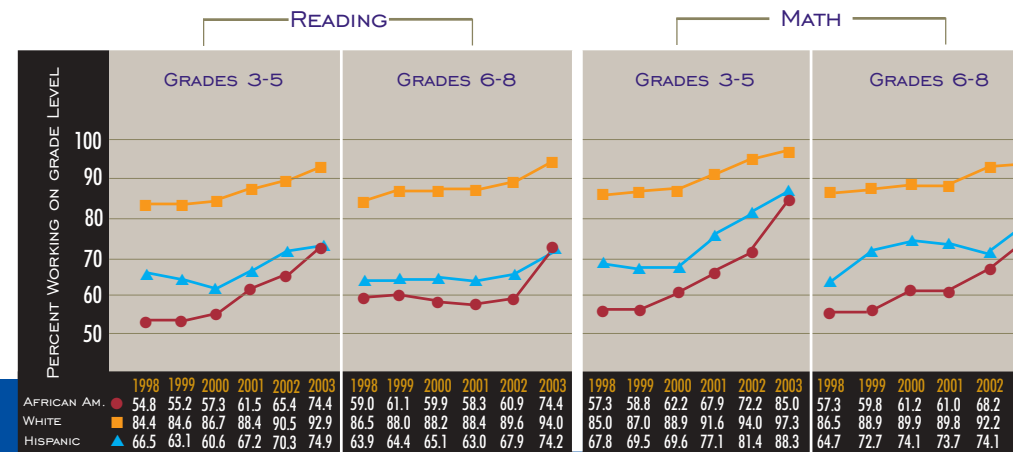
The chart below shows significant decreases in the achievement gap between white and non-white students in Guilford County in both math and reading since 1998.



END OF GRADE TESTS SHOW MARKED IMPROVEMENT



GCS CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP



PTA MEMBERS NUMBER OVER 35,000

Getting parents and grandparents involved and active in their children's schools is one common goal of the individual PTA groups in Guilford County. During 2002-2003, the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro helped promote this goal by awarding SPICE grants valued at \$30,000 to 36 PTAs.

SIX GCS PTAS WIN NATIONAL HONORS

Six Guilford County Schools' PTA units won national recognition in 2002-2003 when they were awarded Certificates of Excellence from the National Parent Teacher Association. GCS PTAs won six of 31 national honors that were bestowed, and took home all but one of the seven North Carolina certificates awarded nationally. Certificates are given to school PTAs across the nation demonstrating the highest standards of parent and family involvement.

OUR COMMUNITY CARES

The business community, organizations, civic clubs, and the general public contributed almost \$2.8 million to GCS schools in 2002-2003. In addition, volunteers logged almost 275,000 hours, offering their valuable expertise and talent. These volunteer hours would cost the system \$2.2 million if performed by employees.

BUSINESS HELPS HONOR TEACHERS

Each year Harris Teeter Neighborhood Markets honor the GCS Teacher of the Year by donating a brand new car of the teacher's choice. Harris Teeter also donates directly to schools through its Together in Education program and provides almost \$100,000 in matching funds for district-wide initiatives.

FILL THE BUS

The "Fill the Bus" campaign, sponsored by the Corporate Volunteer Council, The Volunteer Center, VF Corp. and FOX 8TV, helped raise over \$100,000 in classroom supplies for teachers during 2002-2003. WFMY TV2 and Wal-Mart collected \$13,000 in school supplies for deserving students in the "Tools for Schools" campaign.



ACTION GREENSBORO BRINGS RESULTS

Through the work of Action Greensboro, over 30 companies, foundations and the United Way are contributing \$5 million to help eliminate the achievement gap and promote excellence in education. The best test scores ever produced by GCS students in 2002-2003 prove that the generous business support is paying off.

BRYAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTS PAIDEIA

With support from the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation, GCS hired a full-time Paideia coordinator to support, train and lead staff development. Paideia is a teaching and learning process to help students think critically, communicate better, resolve conflicts and apply knowledge and skills to new situations. The district also works with Dr. Michael Fullan, a national school reform expert and author; to refocus efforts on instruction and leadership development at the school level. The Fullan Leadership Group leads sessions with principals and school teams on how to build professional learning communities within their schools.

2002-2003 SYSTEM HIGHLIGHTS

- Test scores prove that learning goals are achieved in GCS magnet schools. More than half of the 15 GCS elementary and middle magnet schools made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 2002-2003. AYP measures academic progress in the stringent new "No Child Left Behind" federal guidelines.

- GCS high schools ranked in the top four percent of all high schools in the nation having AP programs.

- Spanish classes offered to students in grades 3-5.

- Six students earned perfect 1600 score on SAT.

Dropout rate decreased by 43% since 2001-02.

- Staff and Faculty Highlights
 - GCS partners with The National Conference for Community and Justice for staff training to help create a more inclusive school community. Employees learn personal awareness of racism, sexism and other types of discrimination.

- Percent of minority principals and assistant principals increased to 45% in 2003-04.

- A third of GCS's 4,000 teachers have master's degrees or higher.

- More than 200 GCS teachers hold National Board Certification, the highest affirmation of a teacher's professional skills and knowledge.

- Average teacher's salary: \$40,000 for 10 months

- One of the lowest teaching turnover rates in state compared to other large systems, 9.9 %

STUDENT PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

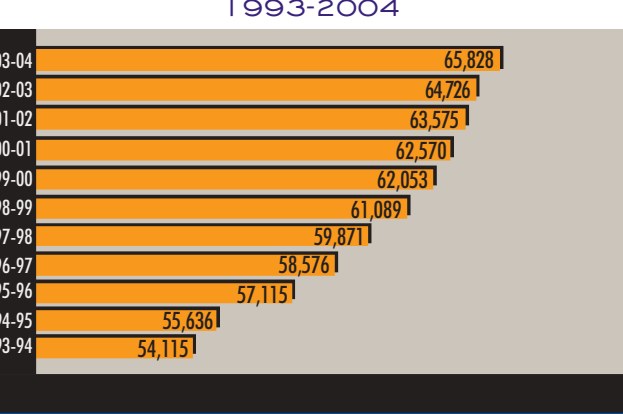
- GCS students took 4,823 Advanced Placement (AP) exams in 2002-03, a 43% increase over the previous year.

- Five GCS middle school students won World Odyssey of the Mind titles for creativity in May 2003. The award was the highest national honor presented for creativity at the competition held on the campus of Iowa State University.

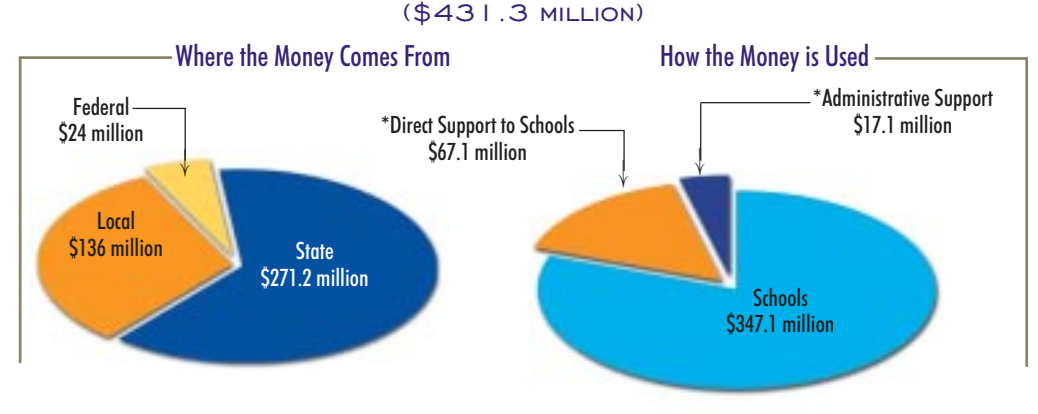
- Student attendance improved to an average K-12 attendance rate of 94.9% during 2002-2003.

- Almost 84% of graduates plan to attend two- or four-year colleges and universities.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT GROWS EACH YEAR 1993-2004



OPERATING FUND - 2002-2003 (\$431.3 MILLION)



In 2002 - 2003, GCS spent an average of \$6,517 to educate each student.

* Direct Support to Schools includes maintenance, facilities, child nutrition, technology, instruction and student services.
 * Administrative support services include personnel, finance, Board of Education, Superintendent, community services, insurance.