



September 13, 2023

ALA Community,

Recently the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) released data related to grade level proficiency and student academic growth as measured by state-mandated End-of-Course/Grade exams. This data reveals a great deal about our school and the progress we are making toward becoming the best secondary school in both Lee and Harnett Counties. Below are some highlights that we have identified as significant from the data. The following page provides more specific data related to the performance of ALA students in comparison to local schools and school districts.

- ALA **exceeded expected growth** standards as identified by NCDPI. (1 of 50 charter schools)
- ALA **ranks 27th** in School Growth Score out of 201 charter schools.
- Each demographic subgroup that ALA serves **met expected growth** standards.
- ALA increased the School Performance Grade by **10 points** from a 56/C in 21-22 to a 66/C in 22-23.
- ALA increased overall grade level proficiency by **10 percentage points** from 21-22 (49.7%) to 22-23 (59.4%).
- ALA **outperformed the State of North Carolina, Harnett and Lee County schools** in overall composite EOG/EOC grade level proficiency.
- ALA **outperformed the State of North Carolina, Harnett and Lee County schools** in overall composite college and career readiness proficiency.
- ALA **outperformed both Harnett and Lee County School Districts** in grade level proficiency percentage in all tested subjects and by more than 10% in 10 of 11 tested subject areas.
- ALA **outperformed the state grade level proficiency percentage** in 10 of 11 tested subject areas.

There are numerous positive takeaways from this data. However, we want to continue to build off of this growth to establish a school that consistently performs well on state mandated assessments. Among our primary goals is to continue to exceed growth every school year and outperform the local districts (Harnett and Lee Counties) by 10% in both grade level proficiency and college readiness as measured by EOG/EOC exams. I assure you that ALA's faculty and staff will continue to make efforts to adapt our program in order to continue to meet these goals. Naturally, this includes targeted professional development for teachers and a renewed commitment to the individual needs of all of our students. We appreciate your continued support as we seek to empower students for the 21st Century!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Smith', written over a white background.

Justin Smith, M.A., NBCT

Managing Director

Ascend Leadership Academy



ALA 22-23 School Performance Data

School proficiency data on state-mandated assessments was recently released for the 2022-23 school year. Below is a summary of Ascend Leadership Academy's performance as compared to local schools, districts and the State of North Carolina.

School Performance Grade

Performance grades are based 80% on each school's achievement score and 20% on academic growth.

Local School	Performance Score	Performance Grade	School Growth Status	School Growth Score
Ascend Leadership Academy	66	C	Exceeded	87.9
East Lee Middle	49	D	Met	79
West Lee Middle	39	F	Not Met	54.1
Western Harnett Middle	56	C	Exceeded	88.9
Overhills Middle	55	C	Exceeded	93.1
Lee County Senior High	55	C	Not Met	57.5
Western Harnett High	56	C	Not Met	53.9
Overhills High	64	C	Not Met	60.9

Grade Level Proficiency

Percent of students deemed proficient and at or above grade level.

Assessment	ALA % Proficient	State of NC % Proficient	Harnett County % Proficient	Lee County % Proficient
All Subjects	59.4	54	42	47
6th Grade EOGs	63.4	51	37	42
7th Grade EOGs	56.5	50	38	42
8th Grade EOGs	60.6	55	46	44
6th - 8th EOGs	60.3	52	40.3	43.3
High School EOCs	57.6	51.5	41	42.75

Student Growth Measures (By subgroup)

Group	Growth Score (out of 100)	Growth Status
All Students	87.9	Met Growth
Black	83.6	Met Growth
Hispanic	84.1	Met Growth
White	84.3	Met Growth
Economically Disadvantaged	84.1	Met Growth
Students w/Disabilities	83.1	Met Growth