

**Great results with  
senior year to go!**

# **2008 HSA Results**

Maryland State Board of Education  
October 28, 2008

# Questions we will answer...

- Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?
- How will they meet the HSA graduation requirement?
- What have we learned from the data?
- What will school systems do to assure students graduate on time?
- How do Maryland's efforts compare with other states?

**Will members of the class of 2009  
graduate on time?**

**Yes,** because *every student matters.*

If students have met their local and state requirements, the 2009 rate of graduation will be comparable to or better than previous classes ...

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

## Yes.

Analysis shows ...

- **Tests**

- Good student performance

- **Alternatives**

- Good success with Combined Score Option
- Good success with Bridge Plan

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

**Yes.**

**Panelists will describe ...**

- Improved Student Records
- Individual Student Approach
- Fewer Watered-Down Courses
- Raised Expectations

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

**Yes.**

Analysis shows ...

- Dropout Rate: **Improved**
- Non-Promote Rate: **Improved**
- Delayed Graduation Rate: **Unchanged**
  - Course credit shortfalls will continue to be the cause

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

**Yes.**

Analysis shows ...

- **Tests:** Good student performance

# Class of 2009 Cohort: HSA Opportunities

Grade 9  
2005-06 SY

- January
- May
- July

Grade 10  
2006-07 SY

- January
- May
- July

Grade 11  
2007-08 SY

- October
- January
- May
- July

Grade 12  
2008-09 SY

- October
- January
- April
- May
- July



# What have we learned from the data?

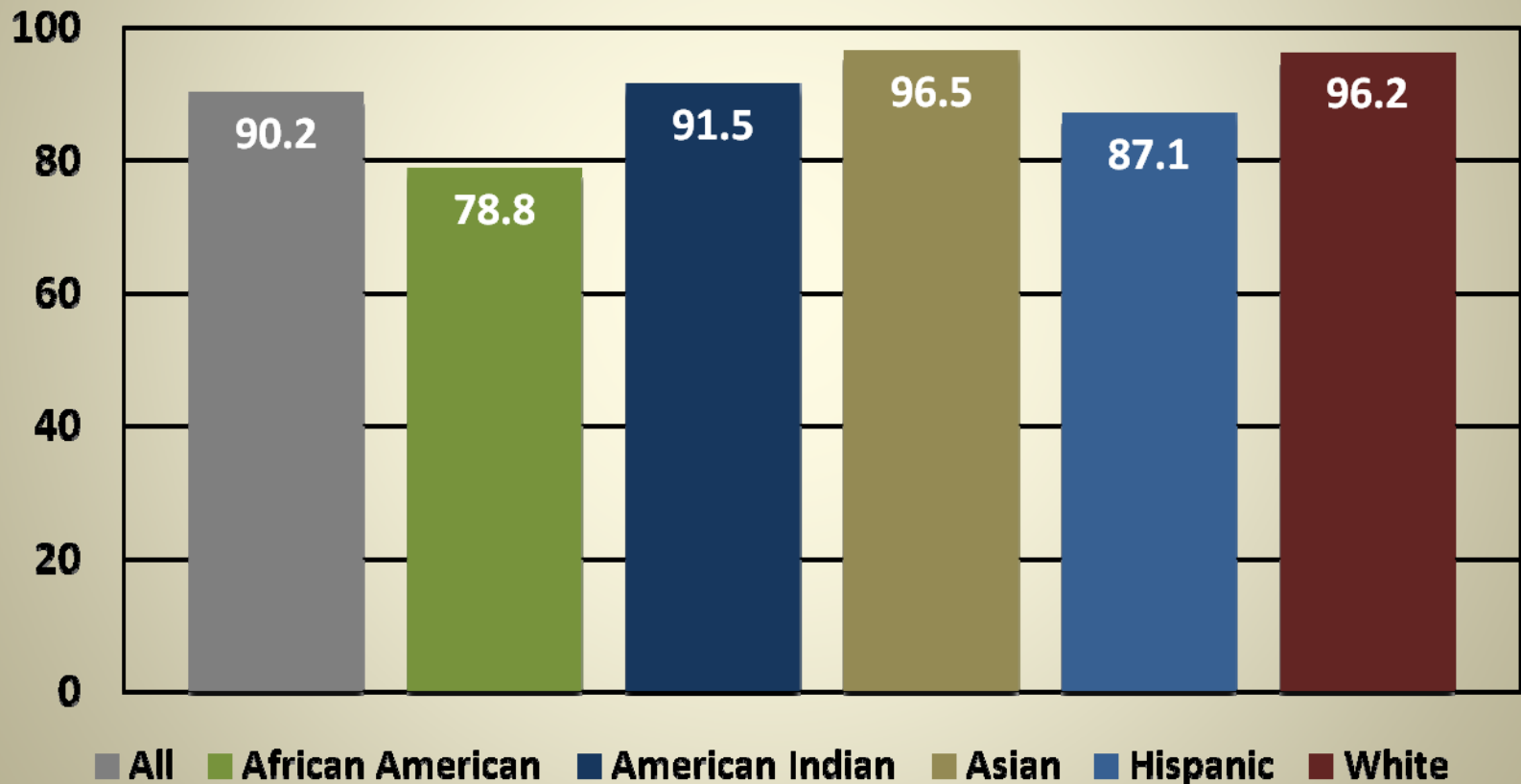
9 out of 10 takers already met requirement.

45,569 of 50,539 test takers who took all 4 tests by June 2008



**90.2% met!**

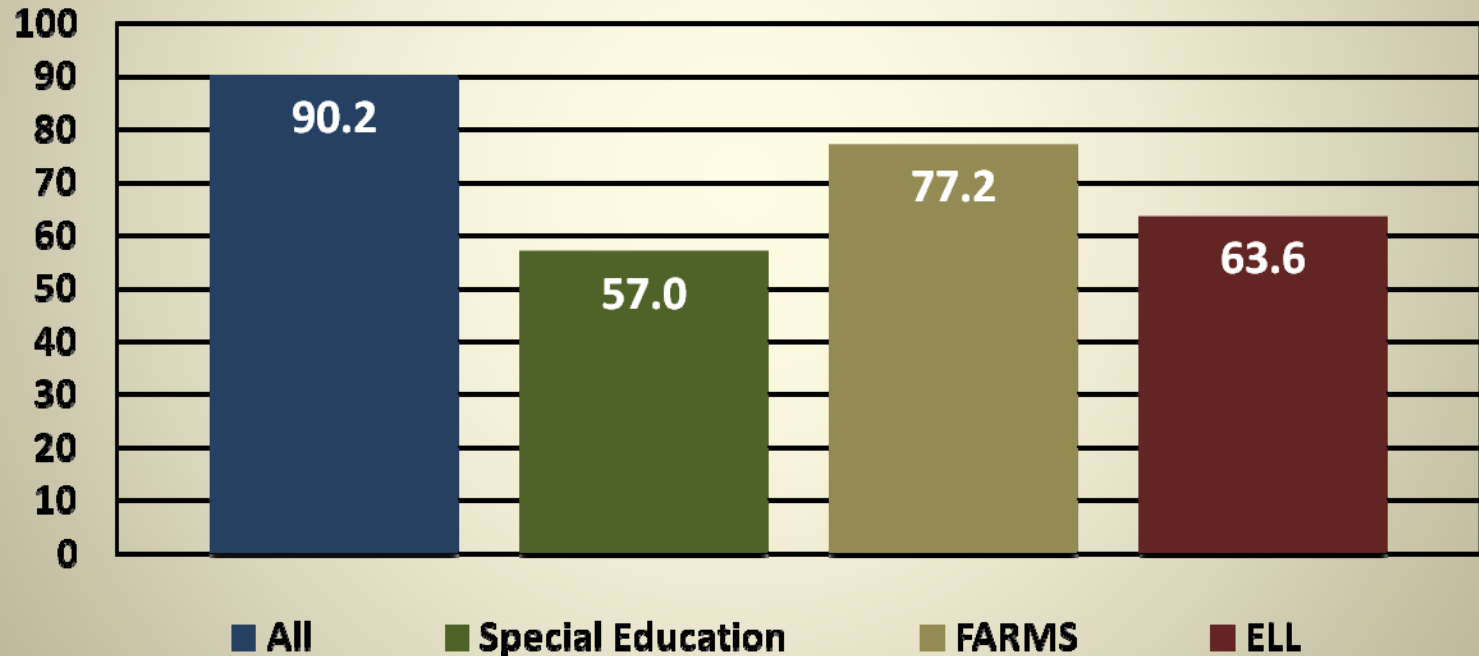
# Students who have taken all 4 tests and met requirement (by race)



# Students who have taken all 4 tests and met requirement (by race)

	Total takers	Total % met	Total # met
All	50,539	90.2%	45,569
White	28,586	96.2%	27,488
African American	16,034	78.8%	12,638
Hispanic	2,779	87.1%	2,421
Asian	2,987	96.5%	2,882

# Students who have taken all 4 tests and met requirement (by special services)



# Students who have taken all 4 tests and met requirement (by special services)

	Total Takers	Total % met	Total # met
All	50,539	90.2%	45,569
Special Education	3,463	57.0%	1,794
FARMS	9,779	77.2%	7,554
ELL	250	63.6%	159

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

## Yes.

Analysis shows ...

- Alternatives:

- Good success with Combined Score Option
- Good success with Bridge Plan

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

**Yes.**

Analysis shows ...

- Alternatives:
  - **Good success with Combined Score Option**

# Combined Score option

- Allows students to compensate for a lower score on one or more tests with a higher score in another content area.
- About 15% of students who met their requirement used the combined score option.



# Students who have taken all 4 tests and met requirement with combined score option (by race)

	Met with combined score option (1602)
All	<b>15.1%</b> (7,610)
White	<b>10.4%</b> (2,972)
African American	<b>23.3%</b> (3,743)
Hispanic	<b>22.0%</b> (612)
Asian	<b>8.5%</b> (255)

# Students who have taken all 4 tests and met requirement with combined score option (by special services)

	Met with combined score option (1602)
All	<b>15.1%</b> (7,610)
Special Education	<b>26.1%</b> (903)
FARMS	<b>23.9%</b> (2,334)
ELL	<b>29.2%</b> (73)

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

**Yes.**

Analysis shows ...

- Alternatives:
  - **Good success with Bridge Plan**

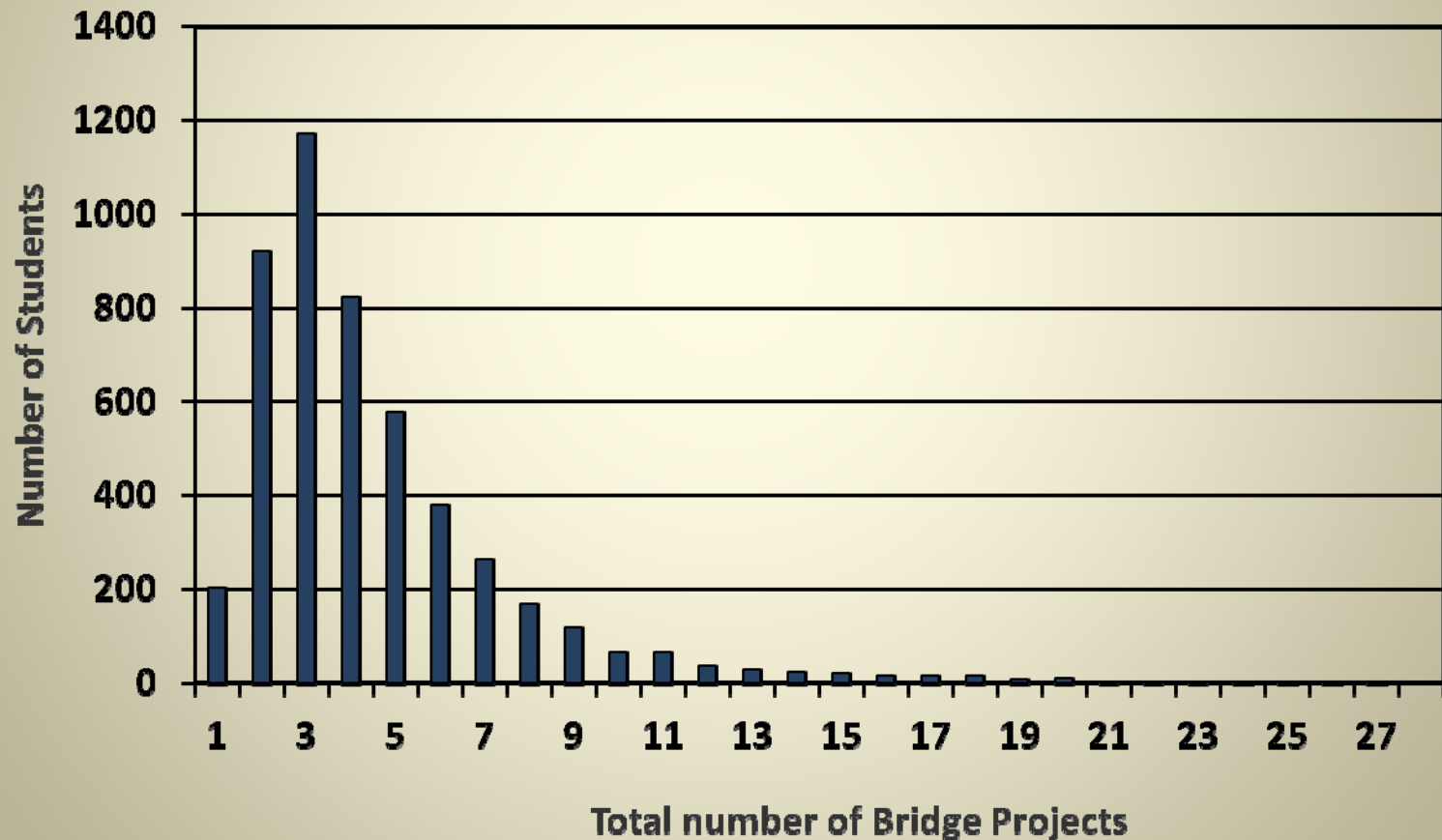
# Bridge Plan for Academic Validation

- **Two-year Task Force Study**
  - Announced August 2007
- **Reflects best of national models for alternative routes**
- **Successful Summer 2008 Pilot**
  - Full-scale launch August 2008
- **Addresses needs of special education and English language learners, and those with test anxiety**

# Bridge Plan for Academic Validation

- Instructional projects reflecting VSC and content on HSAs
- Students complete projects demonstrating their knowledge of content
- Projects are scored by content experts outside of the school
- Required number of projects determined by gap between HSA score and passing

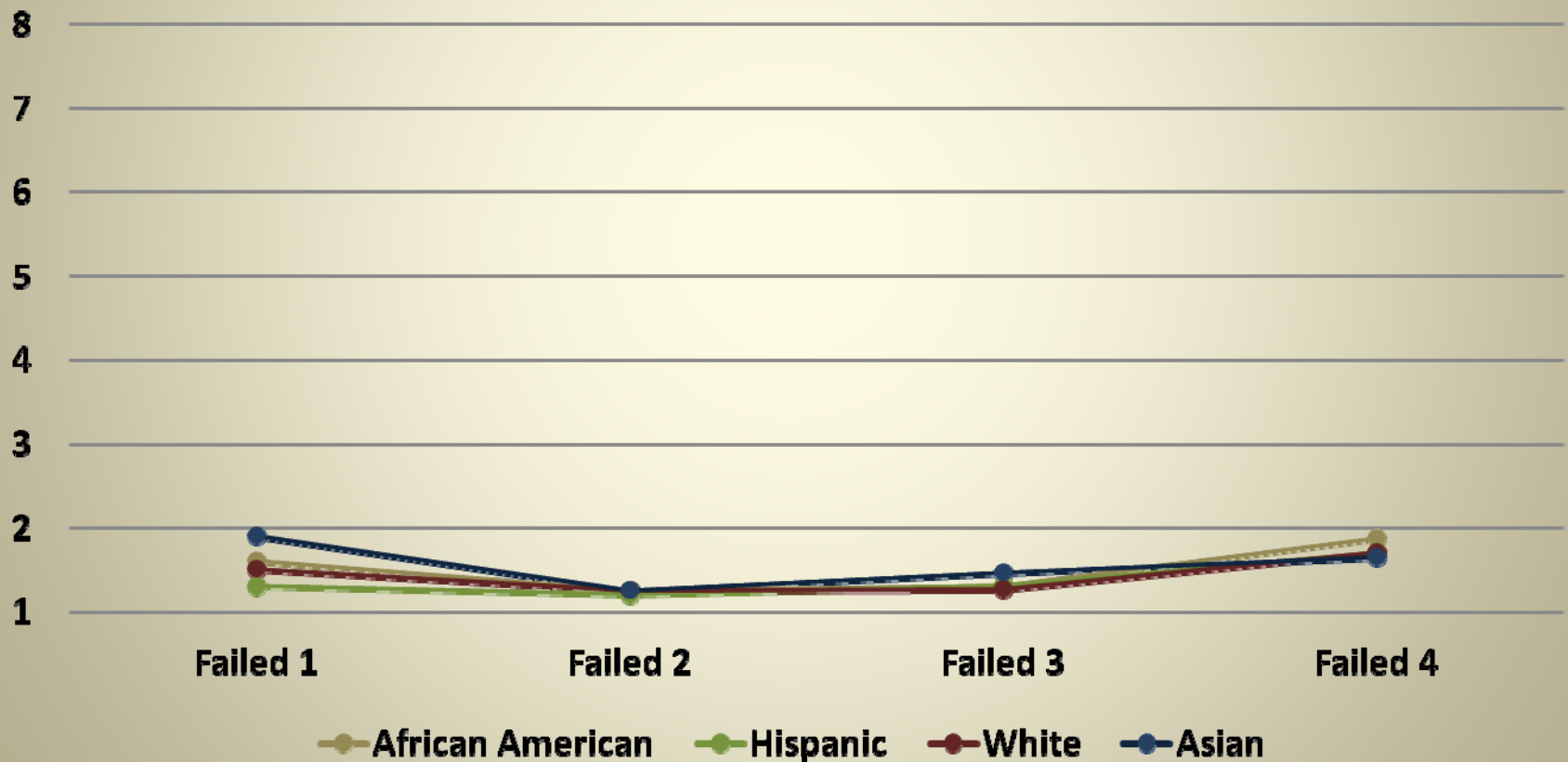
# Frequency distribution of Bridge Projects



# Students who have taken all 4 tests

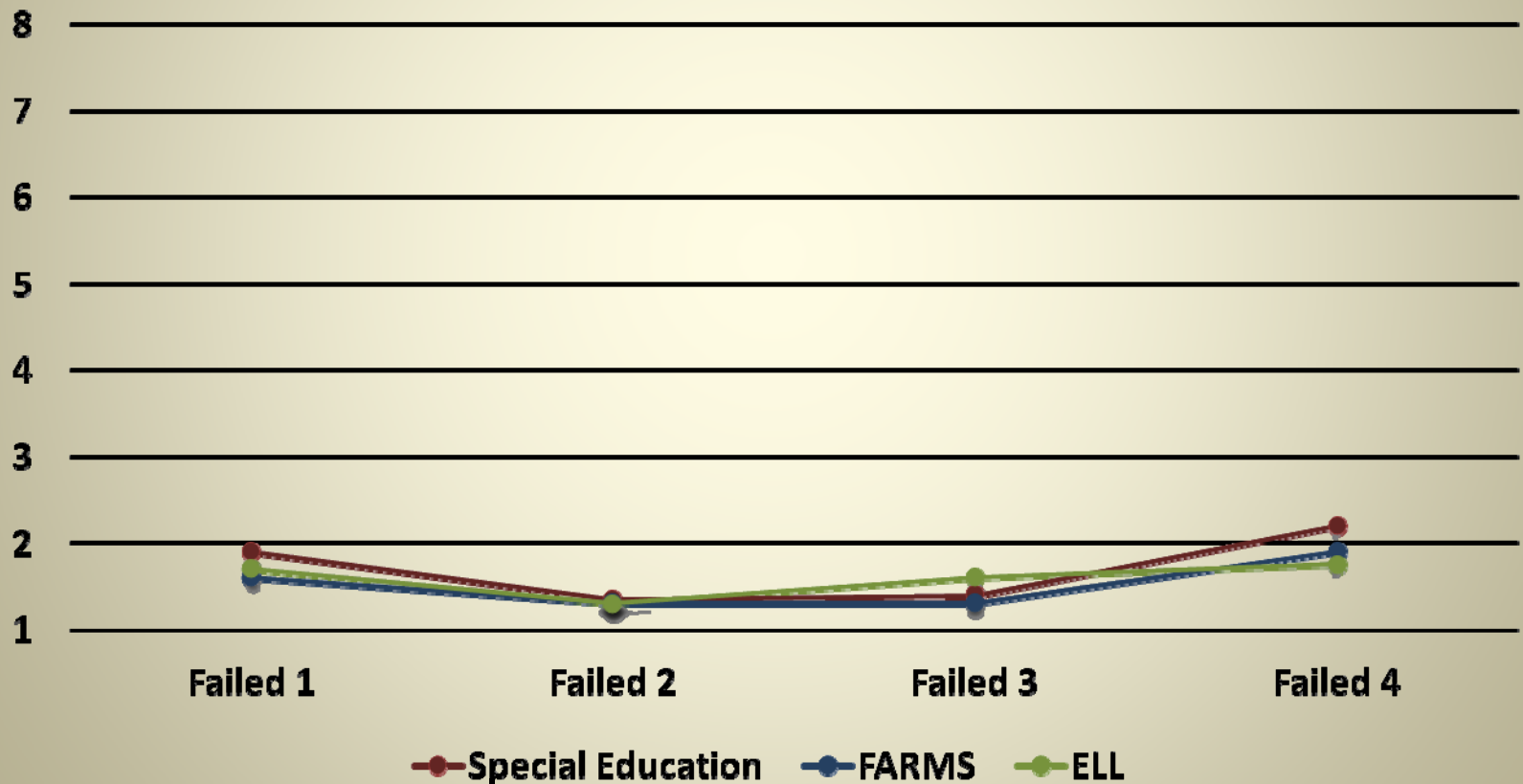
Passing	Average number of Bridge Projects	Number of students
4 tests	0	45,569
3 tests	1.6	327
2 tests	2.5	1,285
1 test	3.9	1,590
0 tests	7.3	1,766

# Average number of Bridge Plan projects per test (by race)





# Average number of Bridge Plan projects per test (by special services)



# Bridge Plan analysis for students who failed HSAs

- **Modest project work required for students who failed to date**
  - Average of 2 or fewer projects per test
  - Average total number of projects for students failing four tests less than 8
- **Many such students on parallel paths**
  - Retaking HSAs
  - Working on Bridge Plan projects

# Individual Examination of Student Records

- Studied those not yet meeting requirement
- Fell into two groups
  - Taken all 4 tests
  - Not yet taken all 4 tests

# Students who have taken all 4 tests

Passing	Average number of Bridge Projects	Number of students
3 tests	1.6	327
2 tests	2.5	1,285
1 test	3.9	1,590
0 tests	7.3	1,766

- Total of 4,968 not met
- 470 within 5 points of 1602
- 3,693 (74%) need 5 or fewer projects
- 100 students with 15-25 projects

# Students needing to take 1 or 2 tests

Missing	Average number of Bridge Projects	Number of students
1 test	3.5	2,098
2 tests	1.1	719

- 51% are missing only one test—on average, they can score 82 points below the cut and still reach 1602.
- 1,477 have passed all of the tests they have taken.
- Over 2,000 are expected to pass their test(s) if they pass the course.
- 45 will reach 1602 just by taking their last test.

# Students needing to take 3 or 4 tests

Missing	Number of students
3 tests	517
4 tests	759

- These students are likely to pass the HSAs if they successfully complete their courses.
- Some may not obtain sufficient course credits to graduate in four years.
- These students may be on track to graduate in five years or more.

# Number and percent of students not yet taking 3 or 4 HSA courses and tests (by special services)

	Not taken 3 or 4 courses/tests
All	<b>2.3%</b> (1,277)
Special Education	<b>3.6%</b> (142)
FARMS	<b>3.8%</b> (420)
ELL	<b>24.5%</b> (258)

# Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?

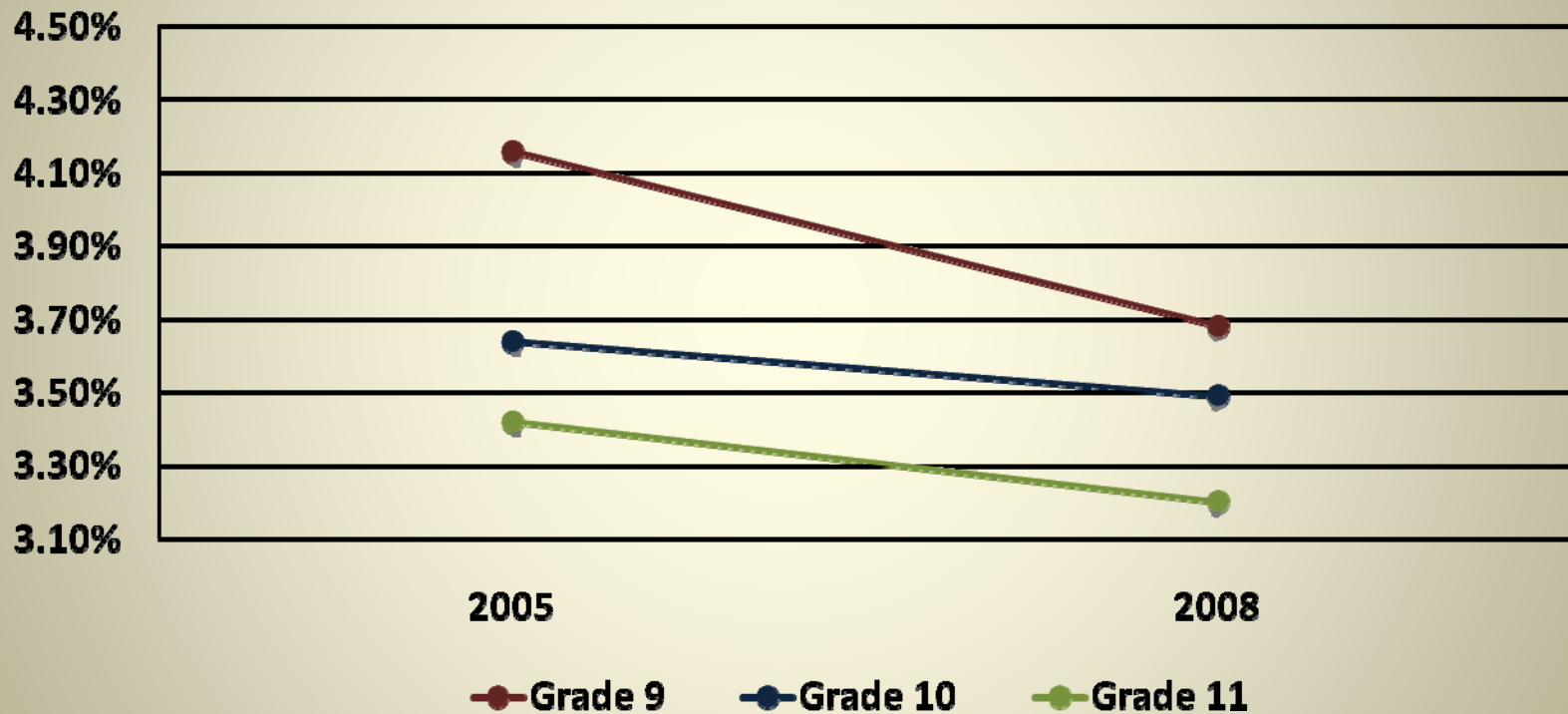
**Yes.**

Analysis shows ...

- Dropout Rate: **Improved**
- Non-Promote Rate: **Improved**

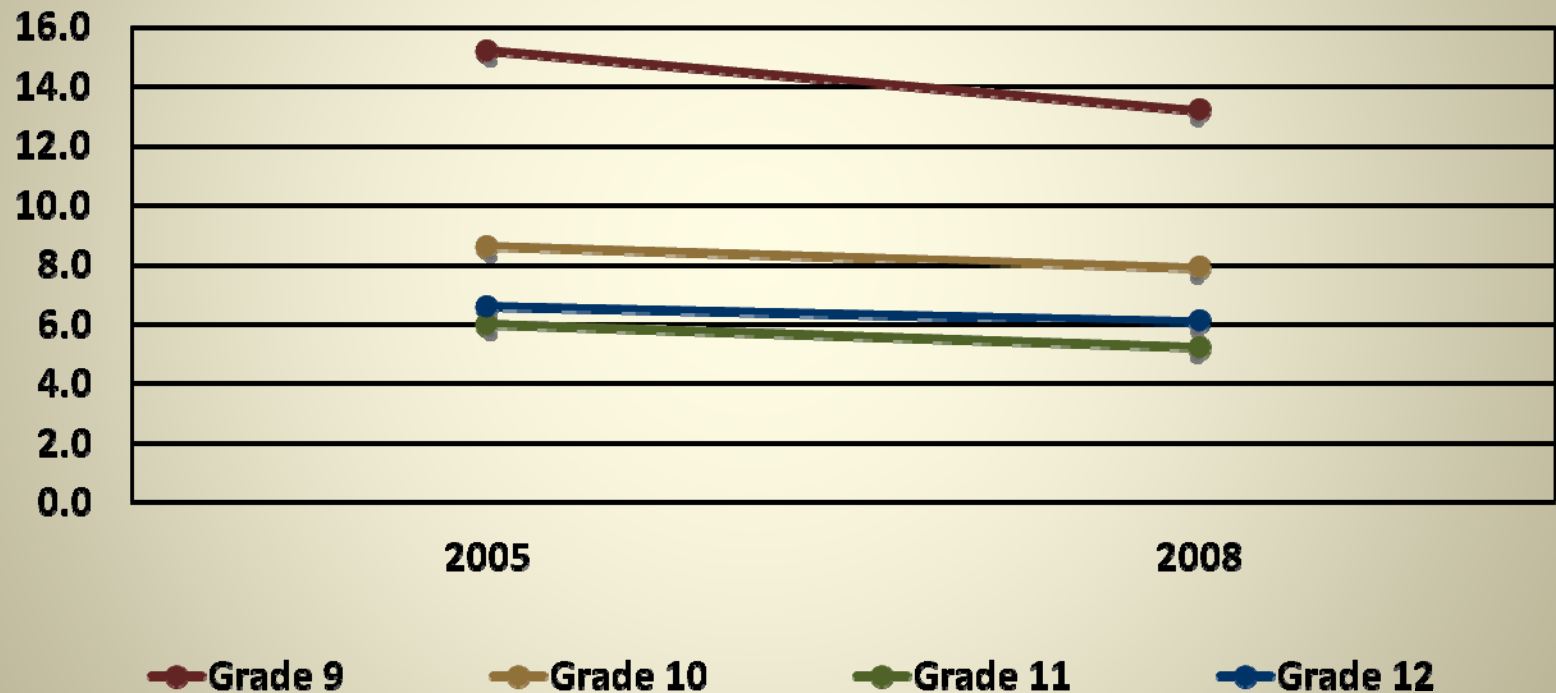


# Improved Dropout Rate



Students affected by the tests are less apt to drop out of high school.

# Improved Non-Promote Rate



# Conclusions

- Results are complex, but more complete than ever before
- 54,628 students must meet the requirement, and will do so on time
- With one-fourth of high school to go, those still working can make it
- Concern for small proportion facing tests for the first time senior year

# Questions we answered ...

- Will members of the class of 2009 graduate on time?
  - YES, if they have met their local and state credit requirements
- How will they meet the HSA graduation requirement?
  - Pass, 1602, Bridge Plan
- What have we learned from the data?
  - Students passing, alternatives working
  - Adequate time remaining for most
  - Appeals option for selected seniors