

Summary of PSAT 9th Grade:

BCSD administered the PSAT exam to all 9th-grade students in the Fall of 2019 and 2020. In the Fall of 2021, the exam was administered to all 9th-grade students as well as 9th-grade students at WRHS and CHS.

BCSD Fall 2021 9th Grade Performance:

Group	Number of Test Takers	Mean Total Score 240-1440 ?	Mean Evidence-based Reading and Writing Score 120-720 ?	Mean Math Score 120-720 ?
District ?	246	850	430	419
State ?	1,605	838	424	415
Total Group ?	584,577	847	429	418

School	Number of Test Takers	Mean Total Score 240-1440 ?	Mean Evidence-based Reading and Writing Score 120-720 ?	Mean Math Score 120-720 ?
Carey High School 130090	22	882	441	441
Wood River High School 130270	224	847	429	417

Group	Number of Test Takers	Met Both Benchmarks ?	Met No Benchmarks ?	ERW Benchmark (410) ?	Math Benchmark (450) ?
District ?	246	37% Met Both	36% Met None	Met 60% Approaching 7% Strengthen Skills 33%	Met 40% Approaching 5% Strengthen Skills 54%
State ?	1,605	31% Met Both	41% Met None	Met 55% Approaching 8% Strengthen Skills 37%	Met 35% Approaching 6% Strengthen Skills 59%
Total Group ?	584,577	33% Met Both	41% Met None	Met 56% Approaching 7% Strengthen Skills 37%	Met 36% Approaching 5% Strengthen Skills 58%

2021 9th Grade Takeaways:

1. BCSD achieved higher mean scores than the state and whole group averages!
2. BCSD had an average EBRW mean score of 430 and math score of 419. The average expected growth is 25-30 points in a single year and the target is 500+ by Spring of 11th grade on the SAT. We need to continue to push hard the next two years in order to get the majority of students to this mark.

3. BCSD had 60% of students meeting the benchmark for ERW and 40% in math, but we also had 33% of students in Tier 3 ERW and 54% in Tier 3 math. These numbers are alarming and we require immediate attention.

Math Section as a whole:

- ❖ A significant majority of students scored in Tier 2 in both the heart of algebra and problem solving and data analysis. We may need to exam middle school curriculum alignment, pacing, and academic culture to further understand if we are preparing students for entry into 9th grade.

Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section as a whole:

- ❖ A significant majority of students scored in Tier 2 in both reading and language. We may need to exam middle school curriculum alignment, pacing, and academic culture to further understand if we are preparing students for entry into 9th grade.

How does PSAT Scoring Work

The total PSAT Scoring Scale is 320-1520 and is measured in 10-point increments. The PSAT has three major sections: Math, Reading, and Writing and Language (hereafter Writing).

Each section is first scored on a scale of **8-38 in one-point increments**; these are your PSAT *test* scores. These test scores are then converted into *section* scores on scales of **160-760 in 10-point increments** (which combine to give you a total PSAT score out of 1520).

To get your Math section score, simply multiply your Math test score by 20. To get your Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) score, add your Reading and Writing test scores together and then multiply the sum by 10.

There are also subscores and cross-test scores, which measure mastery of specific skills and knowledge on each section. Subscores are scored on scales of **1-15** and encompass the following seven areas:

EBRW

- Command of Evidence
- Words in Context
- Expression of Ideas
- Standard English Conventions

Math

- Heart of Algebra
- Problem Solving and Data Analysis

Cross-test scores are a little different in that they apply to *all* PSAT sections and use scoring scales of **8-38**. The two cross-test scores are as follows:

- Analysis in History/Social Studies
- Analysis in Science

Here is a table showcasing the current PSAT score ranges for each PSAT section, subscore, and cross-test score:

PSAT Score Range

PSAT Section	Score Range
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW)	160-760
Reading	8-38
Writing and Language	8-38
Command of Evidence	1-15
Words in Context	1-15
Expression of Ideas	1-15
Standard English Conventions	1-15
Math	160-760
Math (Test Score)	8-38
Heart of Algebra	1-15
Problem Solving and Data Analysis	1-15
TOTAL (EBRW + Math)	320-1520
Cross-Test Scores*	—

Analysis in History/Social Studies 8-38

Analysis in Science 8-38

**Cross-test scores are for all sections of the PSAT.*

The above information was provided by Hannah Muniz 2017 Prepscholar

Math:

The Math Test focuses in-depth on three essential areas of math: Problem Solving and Data Analysis, Heart of Algebra, and Passport to Advanced Math.

Problem Solving and Data Analysis is about being quantitatively literate. It includes using ratios, percentages, and proportional reasoning to solve problems in science, social science, and career contexts.

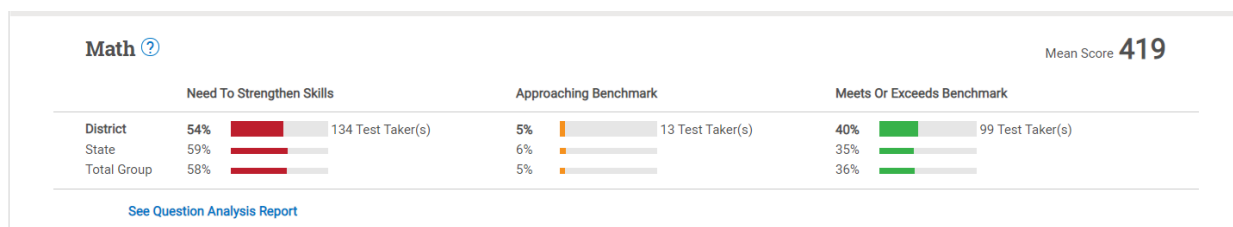
Heart of Algebra focuses on the mastery of linear equations and systems, which helps students develop key powers of abstraction.

Current research shows that these areas are used in a wide range of majors and careers. The redesigned SAT also includes questions on other topics in math, including the kinds of geometric and trigonometric skills that are most relevant to college and careers.

How are we performing overall in Math on the PSAT at BCSD:

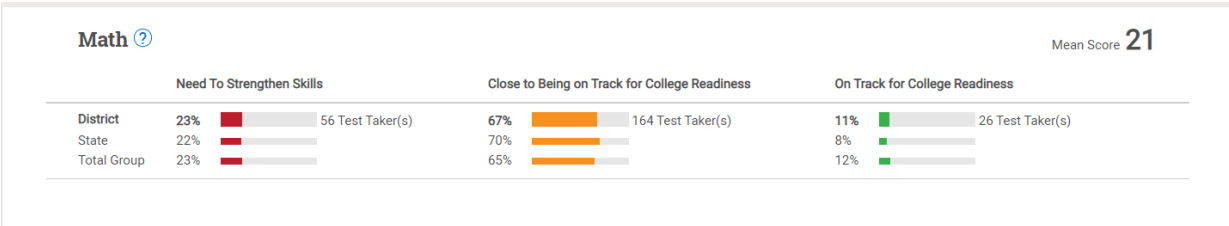
PSAT Section Performance 9th Grade Math:

Fall of 2021



PSAT Test Performance 9th Grade Math:

Fall of 2021



[Fall of 2021 Math Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 Math Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

Breaking the data down by section

Heart of Algebra questions ask students to:

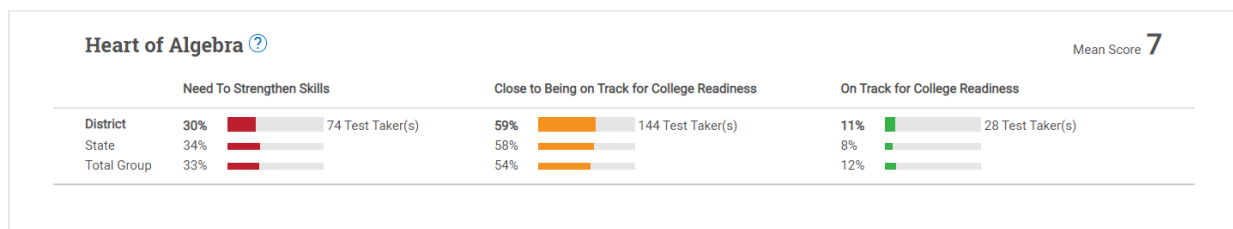
- 1. Create, solve, or interpret a linear expression or equation in one variable** that represents a context. The expression or equation will have rational coefficients, and multiple steps may be required to simplify the expression, simplify the equation, or solve for the variable in the equation.
- 2. Create, solve, or interpret linear inequalities in one variable** that represent a context. The inequality will have rational coefficients, and multiple steps may be required to simplify or solve for the variable.
- 3. Build a linear function that models a linear relationship between two quantities.** The student will describe a linear relationship that models a context using either an equation in two variables or function notation. The equation or function will have rational coefficients, and multiple steps may be required to build and simplify the equation or function.
- 4. Create, solve, and interpret systems of linear inequalities in two variables.** The student will analyze one or more constraints that exist between two variables by creating, solving, or interpreting an inequality in two variables or a system of inequalities in two variables to represent a context. Multiple steps may be required to create the inequality or system of inequalities or to determine whether a given point is in the solution set.
- 5. Create, solve, and interpret systems of two linear equations in two variables.** The student will analyze one or more constraints that exist between two variables by creating, solving, or analyzing a system of linear equations to represent a context. The equations will have rational coefficients, and multiple steps may be required to simplify or solve the system.
- 6. Algebraically solve linear equations (or inequalities) in one variable.** The equation (or inequality) will have rational coefficients and may require multiple steps to solve for the variable; the equation may yield no solution, one solution, or infinitely many solutions. The student may also be asked to determine the value of a constant or coefficient for an equation with no solution or infinitely many solutions.
- 7. Algebraically solve systems of two linear equations in two variables.** The equations will have rational coefficients, and the system may yield no solution, one solution, or

infinitely many solutions. The student may also be asked to determine the value of a constant or coefficient of an equation in which the system has no solution, one solution, or infinitely many solutions.

- 8. Interpret the variables and constants in expressions for linear functions within the context presented.** The student will make connections between a context and the linear equation that models the context and will identify or describe the real-life meaning of a constant term, a variable, or a feature of the given equation.
- 9. Understand connections between algebraic and graphical representations.** The student will select a graph described by a given linear equation, select a linear equation that describes a given graph, determine the equation of a line given a verbal description of its graph, determine key features of the graph of a linear function from its equation, or determine how a graph may be affected by a change in its equation.

How are we performing in the area of Heart of Algebra at BCSD?

Fall of 2021



[Fall of 2021 Heart of Algebra Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 Heart of Algebra Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

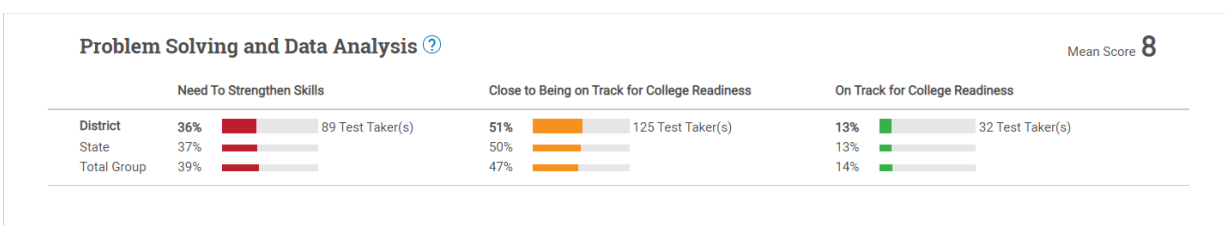
Problem Solving and Data Analysis questions ask students to:

- 1. Use ratios, rates, proportional relationships, and scale drawings to solve single- and multistep problems.** The student will use a proportional relationship between two variables to solve a multistep problem to determine a ratio or rate; calculate a ratio or rate and then solve a multistep problem, or take a given ratio or rate and solve a multistep problem.
- 2. Solve single- and multi step problems involving percentages.** The student will solve a multistep problem to determine a percentage; calculate a percentage and then solve a multistep problem; or take a given percentage and solve a multistep problem.
- 3. Solve single- and multi step problems involving measurement quantities, units, and unit conversion.** The student will solve a multistep problem to determine a unit rate; calculate a unit rate and then solve a multistep problem; solve a multistep problem to complete a unit conversion; solve a multistep problem to calculate density, or use the concept of density to solve a multistep problem.

4. **Given a scatter plot, use linear, quadratic, or exponential models to describe how the variables are related.** The student will, given a scatter plot, select the equation of a line or curve of best fit; interpret the line in the context of the situation; or use the line or curve of best fit to make a prediction.
5. **Use the relationship between two variables to investigate key features of the graph.** The student will make connections between the graphical representation of a relationship and properties of the graph by selecting the graph that represents the properties described, or using the graph to identify a value or set of values.
6. **Compare linear growth with exponential growth.** The student will infer the connection between two variables given a context in order to determine what type of model fits best.
7. **Use two-way tables to summarize categorical data and relative frequencies, and calculate conditional probability.** The student will summarize categorical data or use categorical data to calculate conditional frequencies, conditional probabilities, association of variables, or independence of events.
8. **Make inferences about population parameters based on sample data.** The student will estimate a population parameter given the results from a random sample of the population. The sample statistics may mention confidence intervals and measurement error that the student should understand and make use of, but need not calculate.
9. **Use statistics to investigate measures of center of data and analyze shape, center, and spread.** The student will calculate measures of center and/or spread for a given set of data or use given statistics to compare two separate sets of data. The measures of center that may be calculated include mean, median, and mode, and the measures of spread that may be calculated include range. When comparing two data sets, the student may investigate mean, median, mode, range, and/or standard deviation.
10. **Evaluate reports to make inferences, justify conclusions, and determine appropriateness of data collection methods.** The reports may consist of tables, graphs, or text summaries.

How are we performing in this area at BCSD:

Fall of 2021



[Fall of 2021 Problem Solving and Data Analysis Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 Problem Solving and Data Analysis Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

Reading and Writing

When you take the Reading Test, you'll read passages and interpret informational graphics. Then you'll use what you've read to answer questions.

Some questions ask you to locate a piece of information or an idea stated directly. But you'll also need to understand what the author's words imply. In other words, you have to read between the lines.

The Reading Test always includes:

- One passage from a classic or contemporary work of U.S. or world literature.
- One passage or a pair of passages from either a U.S. founding document or a text in the Great Global Conversation they inspired. The U.S. Constitution or a speech by Nelson Mandela, for example.
- A selection about economics, psychology, sociology, or some other social science.
- Two science passages (or one passage and one passage pair) that examine foundational concepts and developments in Earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics.

The Writing and Language Test asks you to be an editor and improve passages that were written especially for the test—and that include deliberate errors.

When you take the Writing and Language Test, you'll do three things that people do all the time when they write and edit:

1. Read.
2. Find mistakes and weaknesses.
3. Fix them.

The good news: You do these things every time you proofread your own schoolwork or workshop essays with a friend.

It's the practical skills you use to spot and correct problems—the stuff you've been learning in high school and the stuff you'll need to succeed in college—that the test measures.

Quick Facts

- All questions are multiple-choice and based on passages.
- Some passages are accompanied by informational graphics, such as tables, graphs, and charts—but no math is required.
- Prior topic knowledge is never tested.
- The Writing and Language Test is part of the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section.

Reading Areas Measured:

Command of Evidence

Some questions ask you to:

- Find evidence in a passage (or pair of passages) that best supports the answer to a previous question or serves as the basis for a reasonable conclusion.
- Identify how authors use evidence to support their claims.
- Find a relationship between an informational graphic and the passage it's paired with.

Words in Context

Many questions focus on important, widely used words and phrases that you'll find in texts in many different subjects. The words are ones that you'll use in college and the workplace long after test day.

The PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 focus on your ability to:

- Use context clues in a passage to figure out which meaning of a word or phrase is being used.
- Decide how an author's word choice shapes meaning, style, and tone.

Analysis in History/Social Studies and in Science

The Reading Test includes passages in the fields of history, social studies, and science. You'll be asked questions that require you to draw on the reading skills needed most to succeed in those subjects. For instance, you might read about an experiment then see questions that ask you to:

- Examine hypotheses.
- Interpret data.
- Consider the implications.

Answers are based only on the content stated in or implied by the passage.

What the Writing and Language Test Is Like

To answer some questions, you'll need to look closely at a single sentence. Others require reading the entire piece and interpreting a graphic. For instance, you might be asked to choose a sentence that corrects a misinterpretation of a scientific chart or that better explains the importance of the data.

The passages you improve will range from arguments to nonfiction narratives and will be about careers, history, social studies, the humanities, and science.

What the Writing and Language Test Measures

Questions on the Writing and Language Test measure a range of skills.

Command of Evidence

Questions that test command of evidence ask you to improve the way passages develop information and ideas. For instance, you might choose an answer that sharpens an argumentative claim or adds a relevant supporting detail.

Words in Context

Some questions ask you to improve word choice. You'll need to choose the best words to use based on the text surrounding them. Your goal will be to make a passage more precise or concise, or to improve syntax, style, or tone.

Analysis in History/Social Studies and in Science

You'll be asked to read passages about topics in history, social studies, and science with a critical eye and make editorial decisions that improve them.

Expression of Ideas

Some questions ask about a passage's organization and its impact. For instance, you will be asked which words or structural changes improve how well it makes its point and how well its sentences and paragraphs work together.

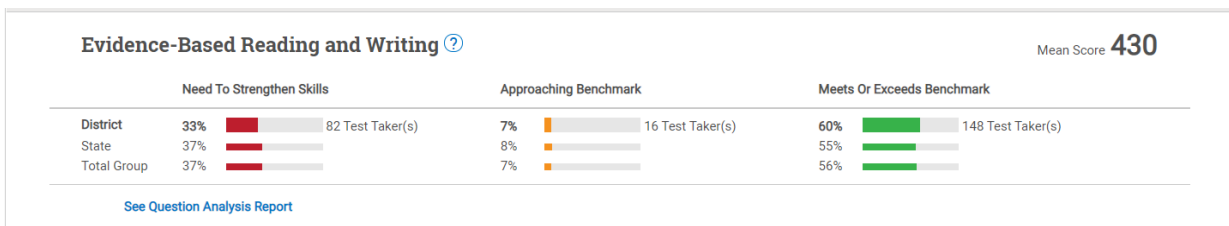
Standard English Conventions

This is about the building blocks of writing: sentence structure, usage, and punctuation. You'll be asked to change words, clauses, sentences, and punctuation. Some topics covered include verb tense, parallel construction, subject-verb agreement, and comma use.

How are we performing overall in Reading on the PSAT at BCSD:

PSAT Section Performance 9th Grade EBRW

Fall of 2021

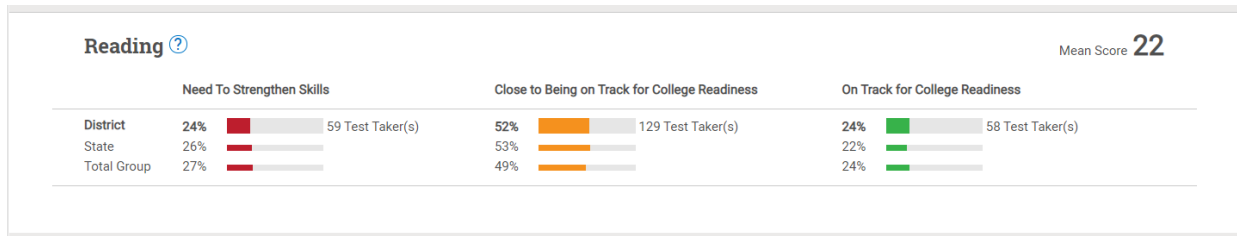


[Fall of 2021 EBRW Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 EBRW Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

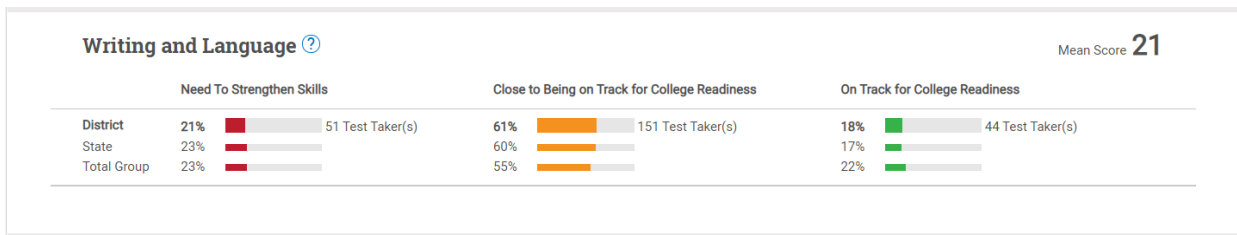
PSAT Test Performance 9th Grade Reading:

Fall of 2021



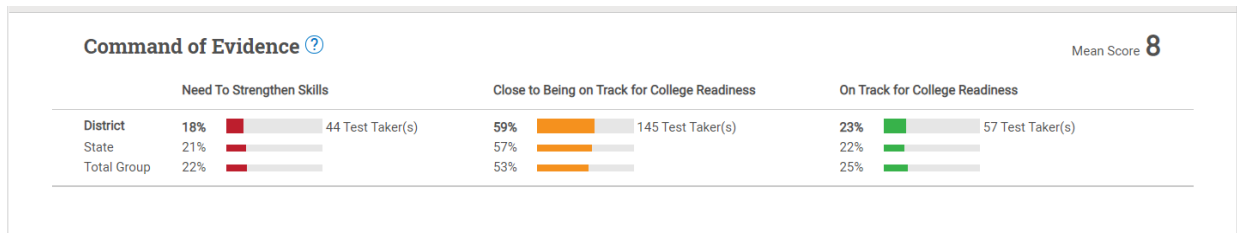
PSAT Test Performance 9th Grade Writing and Language:

Fall of 2021



How are we performing at BCSD in Command of Evidence 9th Grade:

Fall of 2021

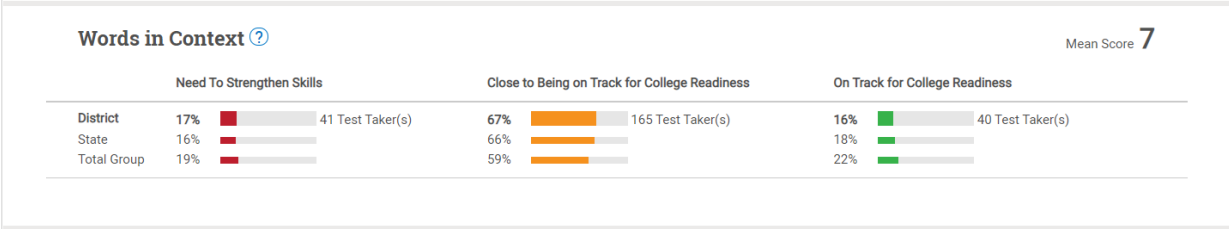


[Fall of 2021 Command of Evidence Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 Command of Evidence Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

How are we performing at BCSD in Words in Context 9th Grade:

Fall of 2021

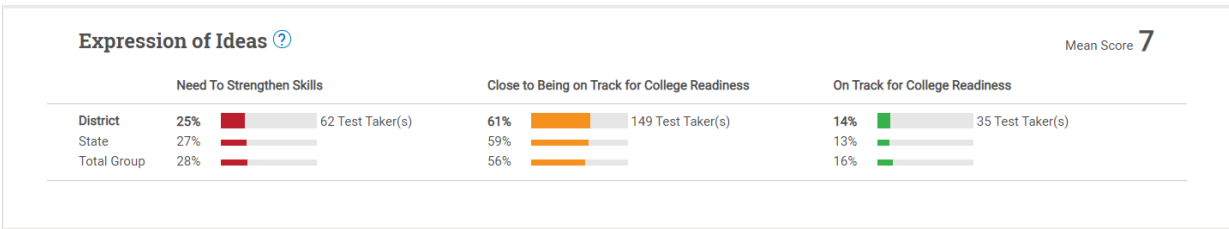


[Fall of 2021 Words in Context Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 Words in Context Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

How are we performing at BCSD in Expression of Ideas 9th Grade:

Fall of 2021

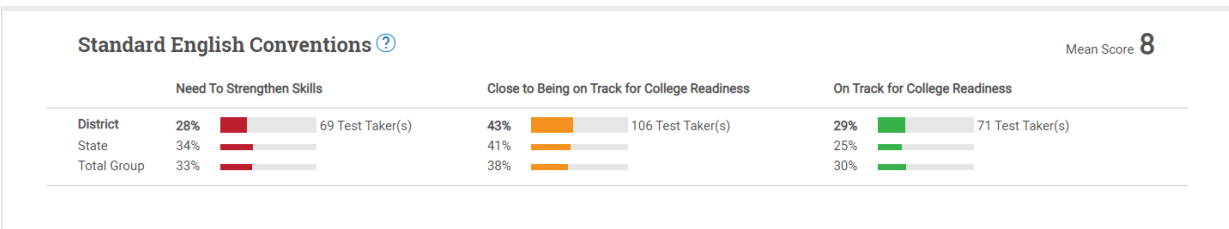


[Fall of 2021 Expression of Ideas Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 Expression of Ideas Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

How are we performing at BCSD in Standard English Conventions 9th Grade:

Fall of 2021









[Fall of 2021 Standard English Conventions Student Responses](#)

[Fall of 2021 Standard English Conventions Questions, Answers, and Explanations](#)

How are we performing at BCSD in Cross Section Scores for 9th Grade:

Fall of 2021

Group	Number of Test Takers	Analysis in Science 6-36 ?	Analysis in History/ Social Studies 6-36 ?
District ?	246	21 	22 
State ?	1,605	21 	21 
Total Group ?	584,577	21 	21 

[Fall of 2021 Analysis Science Student Responses-ELA](#)

[Fall of 2021 Analysis in Science Questions, Answers, and Explanations -ELA](#)

[Fall of 2021 Analysis in Social Studies Student Responses - ELA](#)

[Fall of 2021 Analysis in Social Studies Questions, Answers, and Explanations-ELA](#)

[Fall of 2021 Analysis Science Student Responses-Math](#)

[Fall of 2021 Analysis in Science Questions, Answers, and Explanations -Math](#)

[Fall of 2021 Analysis in Social Studies Student Responses -Math](#)

[Fall of 2021 Analysis in Social Studies Questions, Answers, and Explanations-Math](#)