

DISCOVERY ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

EVALUATION: 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

The Discovery Academy of Science¹ met 12 of 13 goals for the 2022-2023 school year. Goals were met for ELA Achievement (Goal: 70% / Result: 78%), Mathematics Achievement (Goal: 77% / Result: 90%), Science Achievement (Goal: 75% / Result: 75%), and Social Studies Achievement (Goal: 90% / Result: 98%). Each of the 4 MAP learning gains goals were met. STAR time-adjusted proficiency increased from PM1 to PM3 for both Reading and Mathematics. Both discipline referrals (Goal: 102 / Result: 58) and Chronic Absenteeism (Goal: 19.5% / Result: 18.4%) declined from prior year results. The Middle School Acceleration goal was not met (Goal: 87% / Result: 79%).

Table 1

2022-2023 INFORMATIONAL BASELINE SCHOOL GRADE				
	GOAL	FINAL GRADE	GOAL MET	RESULT PRIOR TO CUT SCORE ADJUSTMENT
ELA ACHIEVEMENT	70	78	YES	77
MATH ACHIEVEMENT	77	90	YES	91
SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT	75	75	YES	75
SOCIAL STUDIES ACHIEVEMENT	90	98	YES	98
MIDDLE SCHOOL ACCELERATION	87	79	NO	81
TOTAL	399	420		422
PERCENT OF TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS	80	84		84
OVERALL SCHOOL GRADE	A	A	YES	A

DAS students typically have strong baselines yet outperform high expectations given those baselines. Results for 2022-2023 were similar. The Social Studies result in which 55 of 56 students were proficient was notable.

Chronic Absenteeism did not decline substantially from baseline suggesting that further improvement in this area is possible. The total number of discipline referrals declined from 103 to 58 suggesting that efforts to address this challenge were successful as defined by this metric.

Achievement goals for the 2023-2024 school year were set using a statistical model that predicts the likelihood that each student will be proficient based upon their baseline proficiency level. 3rd-Grade ELA Achievement was predicted based upon prior year STAR results. Learning gains expectations could not be modeled as the standards for learning gains were set following administration of assessments for the 2023-2024 school year. In lieu of precise learning gains goals, DAS set goals to exceed Pinellas district averages across all learning gains metrics.

¹ The Discovery Academy of Science is hereafter referred to interchangeably as DAS for parsimony.

DAS chose to use MAP assessment results to evaluate performance of students in grades K-2 as state standards for STAR are not yet finalized. MAP results have demonstrated consistent reliability and validity across years. DAS chose to set goals for 51% of students to meet the MAP growth target. DAS set goals for a Chronic Absenteeism rate less than 15% and for the total number of referrals to remain below 75.

DAS set a final goal for all ESSA subgroups to achieve a Federal Index score above 41%. All subgroups had achieved a score above 41% for both the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years. A review of student baseline proficiency rates suggested that this goal would be met for the 2023-24 school year.

GOALS

- Goal 1: ELA Achievement will be 70% or higher. (Baseline: 78%)
- Goal 2: 3rd-Grade ELA Achievement will be 70% or higher. (Baseline: NA)
- Goal 3: ELA Learning Gains overall will be at or above the Pinellas District Average.
- Goal 4: ELA Learning Gains among the lowest quartile will be at or above the Pinellas District Average.
- Goal 5: Mathematics Achievement will be 85% or higher. (Baseline: 90%)
- Goal 6: Mathematics Learning Gains overall will be at or above the Pinellas District Average.
- Goal 7: Mathematics Learning Gains among the lowest quartile will be at or above the Pinellas District Average.
- Goal 8: Science Achievement will be 75% or higher. (Baseline: 75%)
- Goal 9: Social Studies Achievement will be 86% or higher. (Baseline: 98%)
- Goal 10: Middle School Acceleration will be at or above the Pinellas District Average.
- Goal 11: 51% of students in Grade K-2 will meet the MAP Mathematics growth target. (Baseline: 62%)
- Goal 12: 51% of students in Grades 3-8 will meet the MAP Mathematics growth target. (Baseline: 60%)
- Goal 13: 51% of students in Grade K-2 will meet the MAP Reading growth target. (Baseline: 63%)
- Goal 14: 51% of students in Grades 3-8 will meet the MAP Reading growth target. (Baseline: 62%)
- Goal 15: Reduce the percentage of students absent 10% or more of days attended below 15%. (Baseline: 18.4%)
- Goal 16: the total number of student discipline referrals will remain below 75 referrals. (Baseline: 58 referrals from 45 students)
- Goal 17: Federal Index Scores for all ESSA subgroups will be above 41%. (Baseline: All Scores Above 41%)

GOAL ANALYSIS

Baselines reported are school level results from the prior year. As goals are set in consideration of the baselines of the current cohort they may be lower than prior year school level results.

GOAL 1: ELA ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE 70% OR HIGHER. (BASELINE: 78%)

ELA Achievement was 73% (295 of 404 students). This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 2: 3RD-GRADE ELA ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE 70% OR HIGHER. (BASELINE: NA)

3RD-grade ELA Achievement was 77% (46 of 60 students). This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 3: ELA LEARNING GAINS OVERALL WILL BE AT OR ABOVE THE PINELLAS DISTRICT AVERAGE.

ELA learning gains overall were 65% (218 of 336 students). The Pinellas district average was 59%. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 4: ELA LEARNING GAINS AMONG THE LOWEST QUARTILE WILL BE AT OR ABOVE THE PINELLAS DISTRICT AVERAGE.

ELA learning gains among the lowest quartile were 61% (51 of 84 students). The Pinellas district average was 56%. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 5: MATHEMATICS ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE 85% OR HIGHER. (BASELINE: 90%)

Mathematics Achievement was 88% (355 of 404 students). This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 6: MATHEMATICS LEARNING GAINS OVERALL WILL BE AT OR ABOVE THE PINELLAS DISTRICT AVERAGE.

Mathematics learning gains overall were 70% (234 of 336 students). The Pinellas district average was 60%. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 7: MATHEMATICS LEARNING GAINS AMONG THE LOWEST QUARTILE WILL BE AT OR ABOVE THE PINELLAS DISTRICT AVERAGE.

Mathematics learning gains among the lowest quartile were 61% (51 of 84 students). The Pinellas district average was 54%. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 8: SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE 75% OR HIGHER. (BASELINE: 75%)

Science Achievement was 79% (96 of 132 students). This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 9: SOCIAL STUDIES ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE 86% OR HIGHER. (BASELINE: 98%)

Social Studies Achievement was 94% (60 of 64 students). This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 10: MIDDLE SCHOOL ACCELERATION WILL BE AT OR ABOVE THE PINELLAS DISTRICT AVERAGE.

Middle School Acceleration was 75% (58 of 77 students). 22 of 22 7th-grade students passed the Algebra EOC. 14 eligible students were not enrolled in 8th-grade Algebra. 22 of 27 8th-grade students passed the Algebra EOC. Of those who passed the 8th-grade Algebra EOC, 4 students also passed the Geometry EOC and 11 students also passed the Biology EOC. A separate cohort of 14 8th-grade students were enrolled in and passed both the Geometry and Biology EOCs. The Pinellas district average for MSA was 79%. This goal was not met. The main reason for this goal not being met were the 14 eligible students who were not enrolled in 8th-grade Algebra.

GOAL NOT MET

GOAL 11: 51% OF STUDENTS IN GRADE K-2 WILL MEET THE MAP MATHEMATICS GROWTH TARGET. (BASELINE: 62%)

70% of students in grades K-2 (147 of 209) met their growth target in Mathematics. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 12: 51% OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 3-8 WILL MEET THE MAP MATHEMATICS GROWTH TARGET. (BASELINE: 60%)

59% of students in grades 3-8 (241 of 410) met their growth target in Mathematics. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 13: 51% OF STUDENTS IN GRADE K-2 WILL MEET THE MAP READING GROWTH TARGET. (BASELINE: 63%)

65% of students in grades K-2 (136 of 210) met their growth target in Reading. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 14: 51% OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 3-8 WILL MEET THE MAP READING GROWTH TARGET. (BASELINE: 62%)

65% of students in grades 3-8 (265 of 410) met their growth target in Reading. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

GOAL 15: REDUCE THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ABSENT 10% OR MORE OF DAYS ATTENDED BELOW 15%. (BASELINE: 18.4%)

DAS had a Chronic Absentee rate of 22.5%. 153 of 680 students who were enrolled for 10 days or more were chronically absent (absent for 10% or more of days enrolled). This goal was not met.

GOAL NOT MET

GOAL 16: THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENT DISCIPLINE REFERRALS WILL REMAIN BELOW 75 REFERRALS. (BASELINE: 58 REFERRALS FROM 45 STUDENTS)

43 students received a total of 60 referrals. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

**GOAL 17: FEDERAL INDEX SCORES FOR ALL ESSA SUBGROUPS WILL BE ABOVE 41%.
(BASELINE: ALL SCORES ABOVE 41%)**

Federal Index Scores for all ESSA subgroups were above 41%. This goal was met.

GOAL MET

CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

The Discovery Academy of Science met 15 of 17 goals for the 2023-24 school year. Goals were met for ELA Achievement (Goal: 70% / Result: 73%), 3rd-grade ELA Achievement (Goal: 70% / Result: 77%), ELA Learning Gains Overall (Goal: 59% / Result: 65%) and ELA Learning Gains Among the Lowest Quartile (Goal: 56% / Result: 61%). Goals were met for Math Achievement (Goal: 85% / Result: 88%), Mathematics Learning Gains Overall (Goal: 60% / Result: 70%) and Mathematics Learning Gains Among the Lowest Quartile (Goal: 54% / Result: 61%).

Goals were met for both Science Achievement (Goal: 75% / Result: 79%) and Social Studies Achievement (Goal: 86% / Result: 94%). DAS did not meet its goal for Middle School Acceleration (Goal: 79% / Result: 75%). The main reason for not meeting the MSA goal was non-enrollment of 14 eligible students in 8th-grade Algebra.

Table 2

2023-2024 SCHOOL GRADE GOAL RESULTS			
	GOAL	RESULT	GOAL MET
ELA 3RD-GRADE ACHIEVEMENT	70	77	YES
ELA ACHIEVEMENT	70	73	YES
ELA LEARNING GAINS OVERALL	59	65	YES
ELA LEARNING GAINS LOW QUARTILE	56	61	YES
MATH ACHIEVEMENT	85	88	YES
MATH LEARNING GAINS OVERALL	60	70	YES
MATH LEARNING GAINS LOW QUARTILE	54	61	YES
SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT	75	79	YES
SOCIAL STUDIES ACHIEVEMENT	86	94	YES
MIDDLE SCHOOL ACCELERATION	79	75	NO
SCHOOL GRADE PERCENT OF POINTS	69	74	

Data presented in Table 2 indicate that DAS was expected to exceed the 64% threshold for a school grade of 'A' for the 2023-24 school year. DAS did so and also exceeded the 69% expectation for Percent of School Grade Points with 74%. Enrollment of a higher percentage of eligible students in 8th-grade Algebra would foster continuous improvement in the school grade goal of MSA that was not met. Entering the third year of FAST assessment, stronger models can be used to predict goals across both Proficiency and Learning Gains indices for the coming year as these metrics are now finalized. DAS should set goals for the coming year across metrics based on expectations given the baselines of the current cohort.

DAS met each of its 4 MAP goals. Goals were met for student growth in Mathematics at the K-2 level (Goal: 51% / Result: 70%) and the 3-8 grade levels (Goal: 51% / Result: 59%). Goals were met for student growth in Reading at the K-2 level (Goal: 51% / Result: 65%) and the 3-8 grade levels (Goal: 51% / Result: 65%). These results are either exceptionally strong or the current norms for MAP are no longer valid. Without access to data beyond DAS we will cautiously conclude that MAP had an exceptionally strong year in terms of MAP assessment results.

DAS met its student referral goal (Goal: < 75 / Result: 60). This result suggests that DAS has been able to implement effective behavioral supports at the classroom level. DAS may consider retaining their discipline referral goal for the 2024-25 school year.

DAS did not meet its Chronic Absentee goal (Goal: < 15% / Result: 22.5%). This remains an area for continuous improvement. DAS may consider retaining its Chronic Absentee goal for the 2024-25 school year.

DAS met its goal for all ESSA subgroups to exceed the 41% threshold. DAS may consider retaining this goal as well for the 2024-25 school year.