



Brighton Bucks State and National Trends

Test Scores are up in Brighton

This past spring, school districts across the nation began analyzing student scores from before the pandemic to the most recent testing cycle. The overwhelming finding across the nation and State is that test scores are down (Sample article: [Test Scores are Down Sharply, Thousands of Third Graders Could have to Repeat Third Grade](#)). While these were unprecedented times and the challenges were great, I am pleased to share the following about the Brighton Area Schools:

1) **SAT Scores are up in Brighton** - The SAT is the official State test for high school students. This test has been used to gauge college and career readiness since 1926, it has a high degree of validity and it has withstood the test of time as a valid measure of student success. The following are results from this year's SAT examination as reported by the Michigan Office of Education Data:

- **State of Michigan** - Average **decline of 5.8%** (33.9% to 28.1%) of students that were proficient in both ELA and Math when compared between 2018-19 and 2021-22.
- **Top Performing Comparison Group***: Average **decline of 10.4%** (66.9% to 56.5% with a range of a **-4.8%** to **-13.5%** decline)
- **Livingston County** (Includes charter schools): **8.3% Decline** (40.4% to 32.1%)
- **Oakland County**: **7.2% decline** (44.5% to 37.3%)
- **Washtenaw County**: **6.6% decline** (53.7% to 47.1%)
- **Genesee County**: **6.8% decline** (28.7% to 21.9%)
- **Brighton Area Schools (BHS and Bridge)**: **Increased by 1.4%** (49.6% to 51%)

**Top Performing Comparison Group: 11 districts identified by Brighton as we set our benchmarks for our strategic plan including Northville, Novi, Troy, Birmingham, Okemos, Ann Arbor, Saline, Forest Hills, Rochester, Grosse Pointe and Bloomfield Hills)*

2) **NWEA Scores are up in Math and ELA** - The NWEA Map testing is administered for millions of students each year including BAS students in 3rd through 8th grades. In addition to raw scores, students are ranked using percentiles to gauge how they compare against students from across the nation. From pre-pandemic testing in 2018-19 through the spring of 2022, the Brighton Area Schools went up **10.4 percentile points in Math (56.5 percentile to 66.9)** and **3.8 percentile points in ELA (63.8 percentile to 67.7)**. This is more evidence that Brighton is bucking State and national trends.

3) **Zero Brighton Students were eligible to be Retained in 3rd Grade** - In 2016, the State of Michigan passed its 3rd grade reading law which calls for students to repeat third grade if they are more than one grade level behind in reading. Here are results from the State level and from BAS:

- In 2018-19 - 4.1% of students in Michigan were eligible to be retained in 3rd grade.
- In 2019-20 – Testing was canceled due to the pandemic.
- In 2020-21 - 4.8% of students in Michigan were eligible to be retained in 3rd grade.
- In 2021-22 – 5.8% of students in Michigan were eligible to be retained in 3rd grade.
- **2021-22: Brighton had zero students that were eligible for retention based on this law.**

We are thankful for the hard work, dedication and perseverance of BAS students, staff and families through these challenging times. If we can move forward as a district under these conditions, there is no doubt that our best days lie ahead.