

# Ridgeview Charter School

Karen Cox, Principal  
Leonard Box, Area Superintendent

5340 S. Trimble Road, Sandy Springs, GA 30342  
404-843-7710 • www.ridgeviewcharterschool.org

## 2008-09 Highlights and Achievements

### Academics and Activities

- Recognized by Superintendent Kathy Cox as one of 10 schools in the state of Georgia with the greatest gains in the percentage of students in the meets and exceeds scoring range for seventh grade math.
- Ridgeview made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) again in 2008-09, removing the state's needs improvement distinction.
- Opened the school attendance zone to accept students from all over Fulton County as well as those from other districts on a cost reimbursement basis
- Enrollment rose from 600 to 745 students
- Oratorical Club placed second at the district competition
- Physics science project won first at the county Science Fair and represented Ridgeview at the state competition
- Continued professional development for the implementation of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme
- Implemented a new program for mathematics – ST Mind Math from the Mind Institute, which is designed for supplemental instruction for English Language Learners and other students who are performing below level
- Jazz Band Ensemble selected for participation in the Rialto Jazz Program
- Media specialist and ESOL teacher won the Media Services Superstar Award for their collaborative lesson planning activities
- Selected to host a Teach For America visiting teacher from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Superior ratings in band, chorus and orchestra in competition
- Music students selected to All-State chorus, district band and orchestra.
- More than 250 students participated in the ING Run for Something Better half-marathon
- Student selected won the ING Run for Something Better essay contest
- 65 students attended the Latin American Association Youth Leadership Conference
- Super Cool Saturday School for more than 150 students needing extra support to achieve at higher levels
- Partner with Junior Achievement to support more than 200 students

### Other Notable Achievements

- During the 2008-09 school year, Ridgeview was completely renovated with all systems replaced, a brick façade and interior renovations to all spaces completed, new gym floor and audiovisual equipment in the gym installed, new parking and landscaping installed, and new equipment throughout the building.
- 47,000 square feet of new space was added to the building, providing additional classrooms, a new media center and new office space.
- All life safety equipment was replaced with state-of-the-art monitoring and response systems
- The school's cafeteria nearly doubled in size and now has windows and doors leading out to the beautiful, new courtyard. The kitchen was totally gutted and rebuilt, also doubling in size, with all new equipment for preparation of meals.
- The construction of a sidewalk to provide safe access to our school via the access road is being completed. This will allow students to walk safely to school as well as provide access to our track and Ridgeview Park for our neighbors on the Northland/High Point Road side of the school
- As part of our construction project, we redesigned our school's logo and all parts of our school brand. See our web site, www.ridgeviewcharterschool.org, for more information and to view the logo and mascot.
- The Ridgeview Charter School Foundation provided support to school arts and sports programs, providing students with opportunities in those areas that are otherwise unavailable
- English language classes were offered to our parents

This report was produced by the Fulton County School System with the assistance of our school.

Equal opportunity agency. Compliance Coordinator. 404-763-4585. TTY 1-800-255-0135

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# Annual Performance Report

Fulton County Schools  
Where Students Come First

VA+ a component of the Value-Added Performance System

2008-09 School Year

October 2009

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### Key Results from 2008-09 School Improvement Plans

Improvement plans, which outline current and ongoing school goals, are developed by each Fulton County school. These guide school administrators and teachers toward improving student achievement and overall school success.

#### Objective – Improve CRCT scores in mathematics

**Results** – Ridgeview's scores in mathematics continue to improve as we focus on teaching the Georgia Performance Standards and implementing the county's blended approach to mathematics instruction. Our goal was to have 65% of our students in on-level mathematics classes score at Level 2 or 3 (meets or exceeds standards). Seventy-three percent of those students earned that score. We also saw a 13% decrease in the number of special education students. Gifted students' math scores performed a bit below expectations, as 63% of students in gifted math scored at the exceeds level. However, Ridgeview was recognized by the state superintendent of schools as having one of the greatest improvements on the CRCT in seventh grade math.

#### Objective – Improve CRCT scores in language arts and Middle Grades Writing Assessment scores

**Results** – Our gifted students' scores on the language arts CRCT continue to improve. We set the goal of 80% of those students scoring at the exceeds level and met that goal with 81%. Writing scores lagged behind expectations with 2% of our eighth graders writing at the exceeds level and 60% of eighth graders meeting expectations. We will strive to have at least 90% of our students meet or exceed expectations on the writing assessment.

#### Objective – Improve scores on the ACCESS test, the instrument used to determine English language acquisition by our English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students.

**Results** – The ACCESS test measures how well a student is learning English. It measures speaking, listening, writing and reading. Scores are reported along performance bands and levels; the higher the band and level, the better the student is learning English. At our school, students in the ESOL program made great progress on this measure. We had a 15.8% increase in the number of students who improved their score by more than one performance band. There was a 12% increase in the number of students who scored a Level 5 or higher on the test. Level 5 is the score needed to exit the ESOL program and enter mainstream language arts and reading classes.

### About this Report

The Fulton County School System uses a framework – called the **Value-Added Performance System** – that guides school leaders in raising student achievement by measuring academic growth as well as performance and by comparing or “benchmarking” against similar schools achieving excellent results.

The system helps answer the questions:

- **How effective are our schools?**
- **How much difference do our schools and teachers make?**
- **How much added value do our schools offer over other schools and school systems?**
- **How can we improve in order to better help each and every student reach his or her fullest potential?**

The Value-Added Performance System uses analytical tools to isolate data that reflects the school's impact on student learning. It enables the school to focus on factors over which they have control to better focus improvement initiatives.

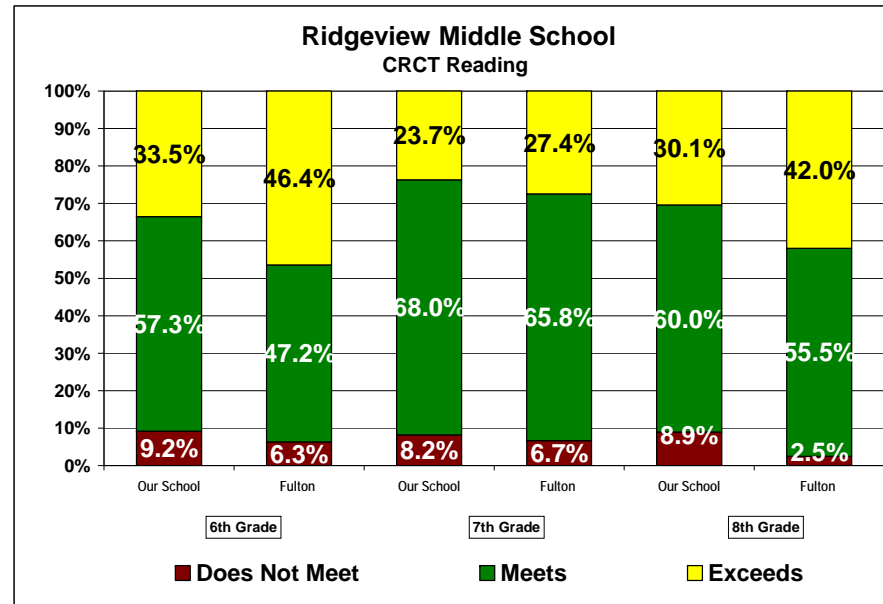
## 2008-09 Academic Achievement

### Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests

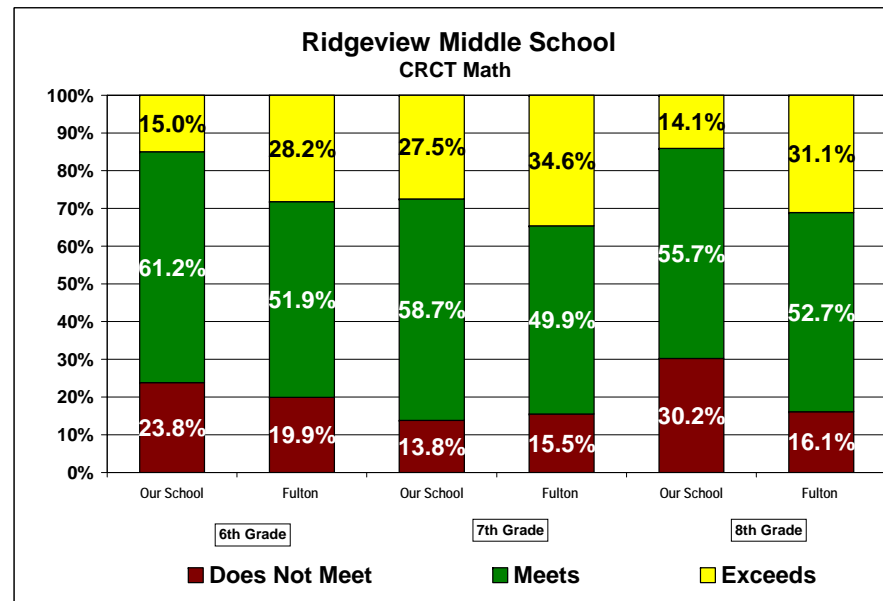
The Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) are given in grades one through eight. The test measures specific skills included in the Georgia core curriculum that are considered essential for continued academic progress.

CRCT scores are reported as levels. Level I indicates students do not yet meet expectations. Students scoring at Level 2 meet the state's expectations of being on grade level, and students at Level 3 exceed expectations, or are above grade level. Scores are reported by the percent of students in a school scoring at or above grade level.

#### Reading Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages

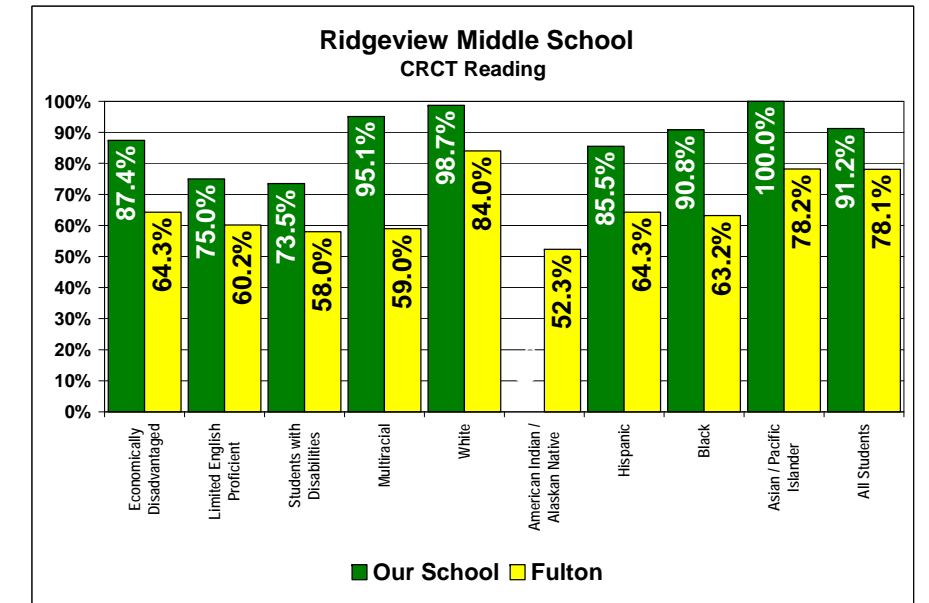


#### Math Achievement – Our School vs. Fulton County Averages



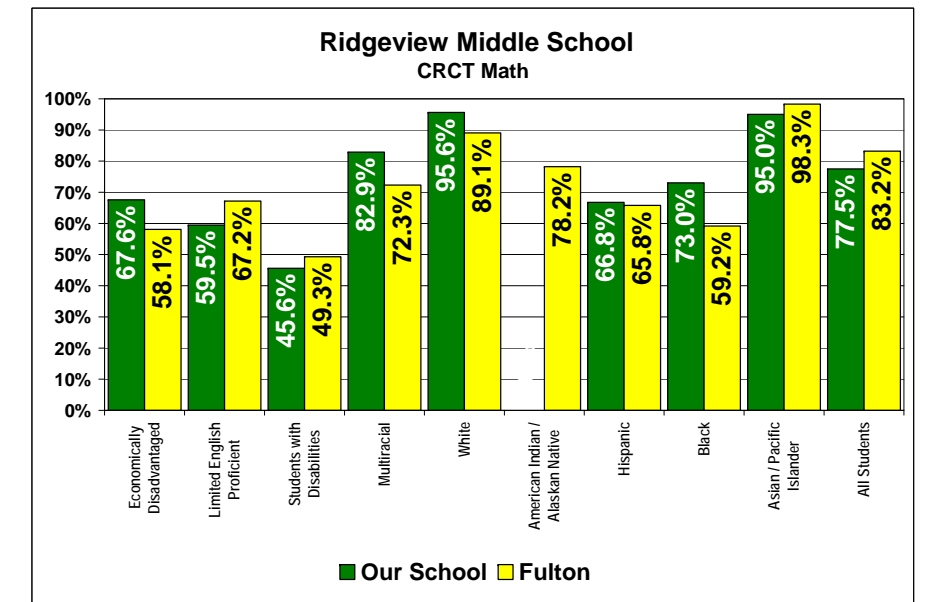
#### Reading Achievement – Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

If there are fewer than ten students in a group, data is not shown for that specific demographic



#### Math Achievement – Separated by Our School's Student Demographics

If there are fewer than ten students in a group, data is not shown for that specific demographic



#### Grade Eight Writing Assessment

Part of the Statewide Testing Program, this writing assessment consists of an evaluation of the student's response to an assigned topic. The topic type may be narrative, persuasive, or expository.

Similar to the CRCT, scores are reported as Does Not Meet, Meets and Exceeds Standards.

