

# North Hampton School Student Assessment Report

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## Message From The School Board

This is the third annual student assessment data report compiled for the community and it is our hope that you find this information interesting and useful. There are a number of areas that we feel should be pointed out and celebrated.

In the area of standardized testing, our students performed once again in the top percentage of schools in the state on the New Hampshire state assessment test (NHEIAP). This achievement has been recognized by the State Department of Education in their nomination of North Hampton School, as one of three in the state, to qualify for the federal Blue Ribbon Schools Program. This application will be completed this winter and the results will be learned in the fall of 2004. NHS 7<sup>th</sup> grade students also continue to perform well above the national average on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills.

The reading and writing assessments conducted by teachers at NHS also show

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## NHS Student Survey

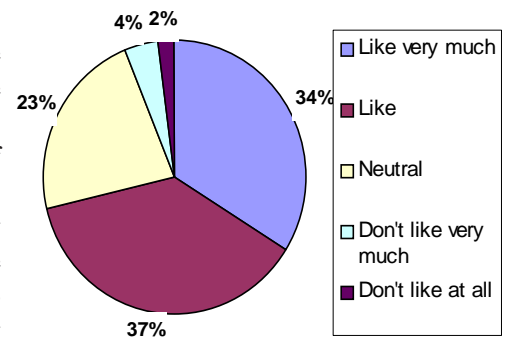
In December of 2003, North Hampton School conducted a survey of students in grades 3-8. The purpose of the survey was to better understand those factors outside of school that may impact or provide opportunity for enhancing a student's education. Areas such as extracurricular activities, computer usage and available assistance were explored. The results follow:

1.) 96% of North Hampton School students in grades 3-8 participate in some type of extracurricular activity. Participation in sports is consistent across all grade levels with 80% participating in sports. 41% of students participate in music.

2.) The chart on page 2 illustrates the percent of students participating in different extracurricular activities by grade level.

A substantial percentage of students participate in scouts in the younger grades. Theater and community service have greater participation rates in the middle school grades. The strong percentages of students participating in a variety of activities in the middle school years demonstrate the school's belief that elementary and middle school children should be able to explore many interests before they matriculate to high school where they may or may not have these opportunities.

### 71% of Students Like NHS



3.) In grades 3-4, 19% of students participate in activities over 4 days a week (nearly every school day). In grades 5-8, 26% participate in over 10 hours of extracurricular activities per week.

4.) Despite their busy schedules, only 9% of students would decrease their hours in extracurricular activities and 33% would increase the amount of time they spend in extracurricular activities.

5.) The amount of sleep the average student gets decreases by grade level. The average third grader gets 10.2 hours of sleep per school night, while the average eighth grader gets 8.9 hours of sleep per school night.

6.) 9 out of 10 North Hampton School students in grades 3-8 have access to a computer and to the internet in their home.

7.) 66% of students in grades 3-8 choose to use the computer to do their homework. Usage level increases with grade level and nearly all middle school students who have access to a computer choose to use it to complete their homework.

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## School Board (Con't)

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strong results. An extremely high percentage of our students are reading at or above grade level. This is the third year that the Six Plus One Traits of Writing program has been in use and students are showing consistent gains in their writing abilities. Teachers use these assessments to tailor their classroom instruction for the students' immediate benefit.

A look at NHS students in high school shows impressive performance with continually high private school acceptance rates, a higher than WHS average enrollment in honors and "A" level classes, achievement of the honor roll, graduation rate, and college attendance rate. This year over 87% of our graduates (including those from private high schools) are attending four-year colleges or universities.

Beyond the academic achievement illustrated, a look at the lives of North Hampton students will highlight significant participation in leadership roles within areas such as student government, sports, arts, music, journalism, community service and more. These skills and attitudes are hard to measure or quantify but add to the overall success that the children of North Hampton achieve.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report and please share your feedback with the School Board.

Mary Coppinger & Kim Kisner

## Writing Achievement at NHS Continues to Improve

In the fall of Fall 2001 NHS adopted the 6+1 Writing rubric as a way to add consistency to our school wide teaching, thereby allowing students to continually receive feedback in common language. The rubric allows teachers and students to look at all different types of writing in a range of traits: Ideas and Content, Organization, Word Choice, Voice, Sentence Fluency, and Conventions.

To help us determine if our teaching has been effective, each year we have collected writing samples from all students within a literacy folder that then gets passed on with the student as he/she moves through the grades. With all teachers implementing the use of the 6 + 1 Traits rubric (the +1 stands for presentation), the work can be easily understood by the receiving teacher, allowing for a more detailed understanding of students' skills upon entering the classroom.

In addition, we have continued to conduct school wide writing prompts in the spring. These prompts, which follow a set procedure and time constraints much like any formal outside testing would do, are scored by a minimum of two adults using the standardized rubric. The rubric changes at grade 3, with K-2 students being scored on a beginning writer rubric and at grade 3 the standard rubric, which is used directly through grade 8.

Consequently, scores in grade 3 are typically much lower than those students may have seen in grade 2. This is typical.

Our goal with this work includes:

- Continually creating stronger, more balanced and skilled writers.
- Collecting samples of authentic student writing that show what meeting standard looks like at each grade level.
- Using this collected writing to help us implement our new writing report card that includes a continuum of skills and specific descriptors for what each child is currently able to do in his/her writing and what the next steps for growth will be. The descriptors on the writing continuum match the traits as scored using the 6 Traits rubric.

The graph below shows our school-wide continued improvement in student writing skills in each of the traits.

For the prompt, a score of 3, out of a possible 5, is considered meeting the standard. We have increased the percentage of students meeting standard. Our average improvement during this two-year period is over 23%. Again, for more detailed information on what that writing looks like, please refer to the writing continuum descriptors and examples of student writing that can be found on line at: [www.northhamptonschool.com](http://www.northhamptonschool.com).

If you are interested in learning more about NHS's implementation of the writing program, please feel free to read the book: *Creating Writers* by Vicki Spandel or visit [nwrel.org](http://nwrel.org).

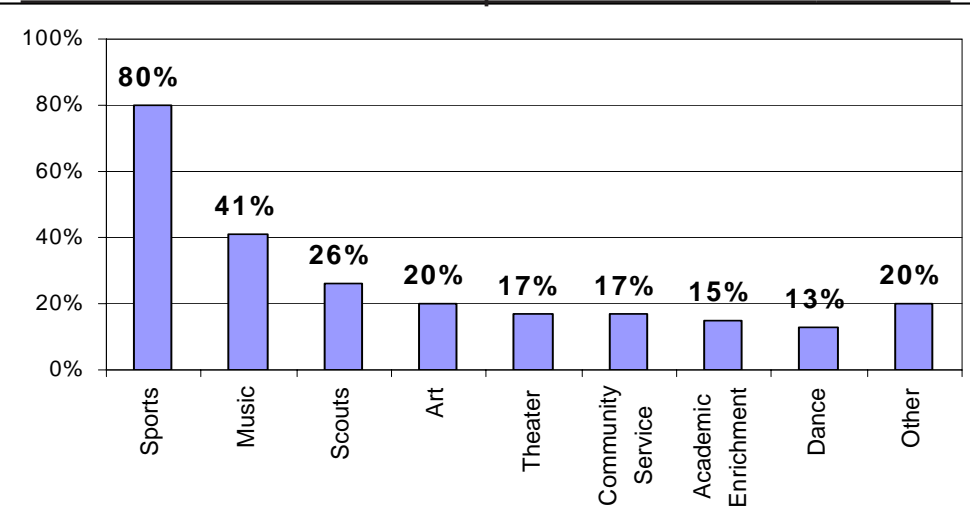
## Student Survey continued from page 1

8.) 96% of North Hampton School students in grades 3-8 have an adult available to help them with their homework at least sometimes.

9.) 71% of North Hampton School students in grades 3-8 like or very much like North Hampton School. 23% are neutral and only 6% do not like or don't like the school at all. Not surprisingly, neutrality increases with age and plateaus in the middle school years at about 30%. (See pie chart on page one.)

10.) The majority of North Hampton School students, 71%, think they will go to college. 25% say maybe or do not know. Only 4% believe they will not attend college.

## 96% Percent of Students Participate in Extracurricular Activities



## Writing Achievement at NHS Continues to Improve

Fall 2001	Ideas	Organization	Voice	Word Choice	Fluency	Conventions
Percent 3 & Up	51%	40%	40%	41%	40%	37%

Spring 2002	Ideas	Organization	Voice	Word Choice	Fluency	Conventions
K	18	12	4	7	8	1
1	42	40	32	39	40	37
2	46	45	45	46	44	46
3	19	18	22	27	22	25
4	26	20	26	32	25	25
5	37	36	38	40	38	41
6	42	29	37	30	39	32
7	51	44	54	46	47	47
8	50	45	50	50	42	44
Total 3 & Up	331	289	308	317	305	298
Total Students	510	510	510	510	510	510
Percent	65%	57%	60%	62%	60%	58%

Spring 2003	Ideas	Organization	Voice	Word Choice	Fluency	Conventions
K	24	28	13	18	18	13
1	39	37	31	36	33	30
2	48	49	42	47	48	49
3	11	10	13	8	12	11
4	21	18	30	26	20	23
5	38	35	43	43	41	39
6	38	33	36	37	36	34
7	41	40	43	39	37	34
8	46	43	52	49	49	30
Total 3 & Up	306	293	303	303	294	263
Total Students	452	452	452	452	452	452
Percent	68%	65%	67%	67%	65%	58%

## How do North Hampton Students Perform on a National Standardized Test?

The seventh grade took the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills in the spring of 2003. The scores on this test are reflected in stanines, which range from 1 (lowest) to 9 (highest). Stanines 4, 5, and 6 are considered to be average or on grade level. In the 7th grade 89% of the students scored on or above grade level on the total reading score, as compared to 77% nationally.

Percentage	Year
89%	2003
72%	2002
65%	2001
66%	2000
65%	1999
63%	1998

## Do All Our Students Go to Winnacunnet High School?

The majority of NHS students do go to WHS. However, every year some students choose to apply to private high schools. The acceptance rate and decision to attend varies from year to year.

### 6 Year History:

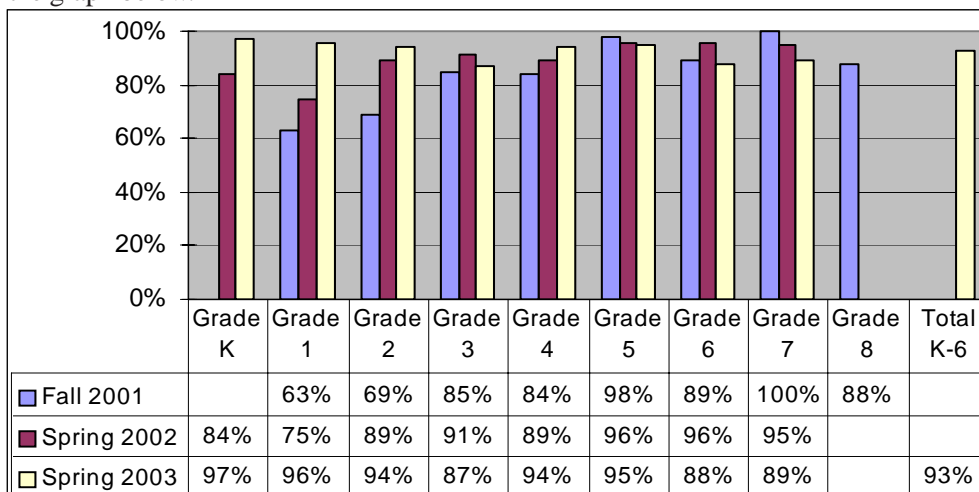
1998	.....	7 students (17% of the class)
1999	....	8 students (15%)
2000	....	9 students (18%)
2001	....	4 students (8%)
2002	....	12 students (15%)
2003	....	11 students (17%)

### NHS students are currently attending:

- Berwick Academy,
- Brooks School,
- Governor Dummer Academy,
- Holderness Academy,
- Loomis Chaffee School
- Phillips Andover Academy,
- Phillips Exeter Academy,
- St. John's School,
- St. Thomas Aquinas.

## Reading Achievement at NHS

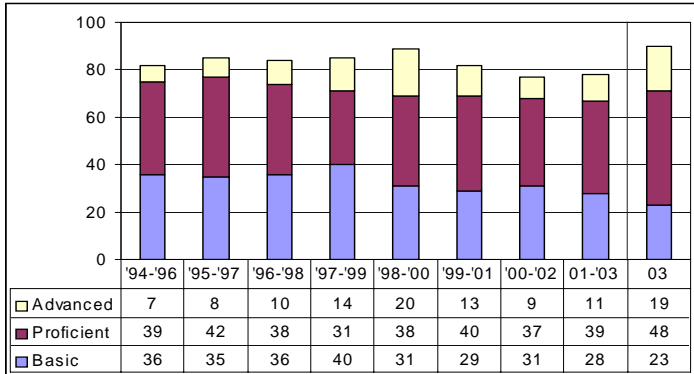
In the spring of 2003 students in grades K-6 were individually assessed in reading. Kindergarten students were assessed in letter knowledge and reading level. The Developmental Reading Assessment was used to assess reading levels in grades Kindergarten through four. The fifth and sixth grades used the Basic Reading Inventory. The compiled results of these tests indicate that 93% of our students in grades K-6 were reading on or above grade level at the end of the school year. The results are reflected in the graph below.



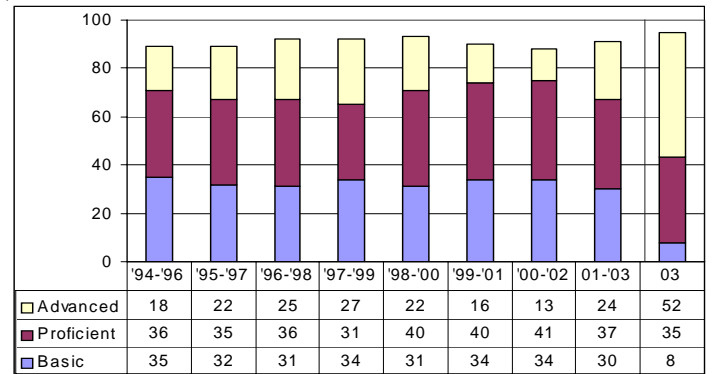
# Percentage of Students Achieving New Hampshire Department of Education Goal of Basic and Above

## Third Grade NHEIAPS - Rolling 3 Year Average + 2003

### 3rd Grade NHEIAP Language Arts Results

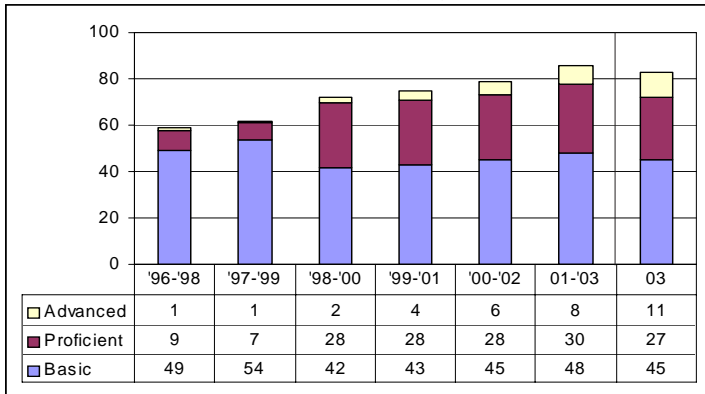


### 3rd Grade NHEIAP Mathematics Results

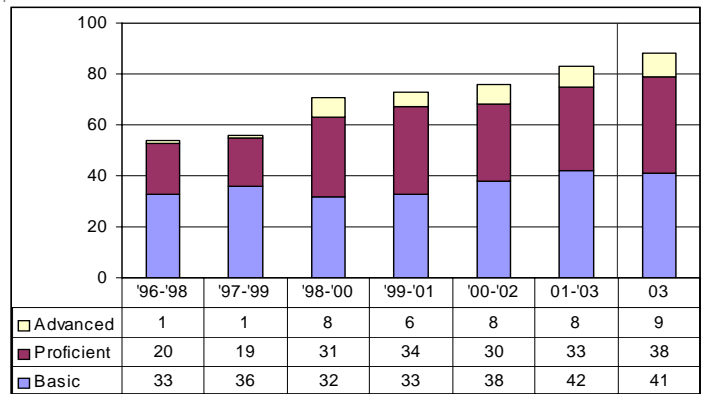


## Sixth Grade NHEIAPS - Rolling 3 Year Average + 2003

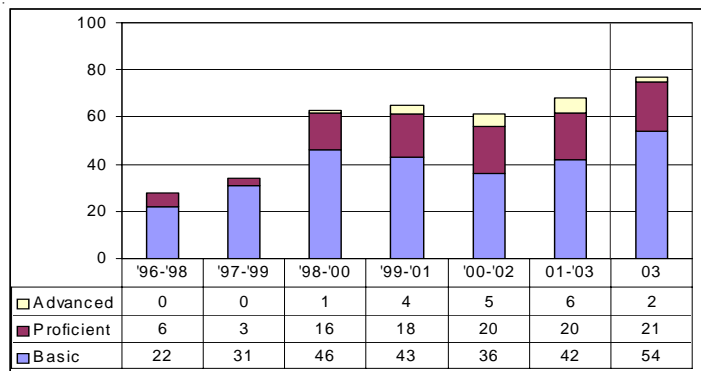
### 6th Grade NHEIAP Language Arts Results



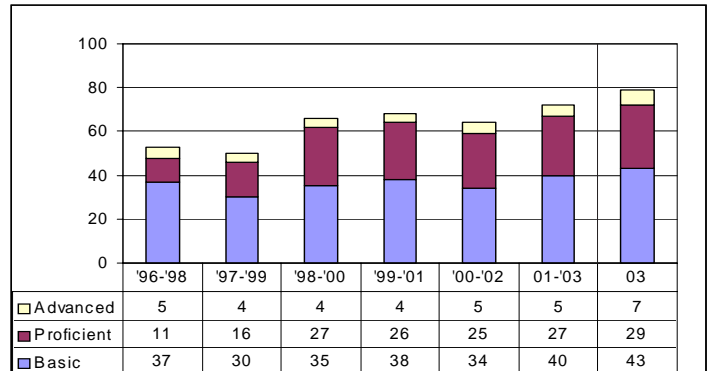
### 6th Grade NHEIAP Mathematics Results



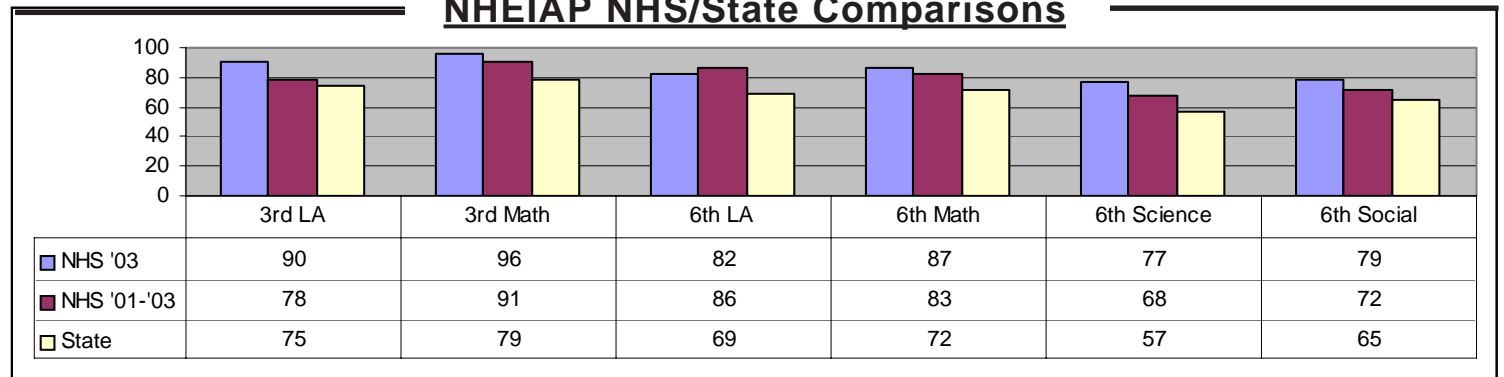
### 6th Grade NHEIAP Science Results



### 6th Grade NHEIAP Social Studies Results



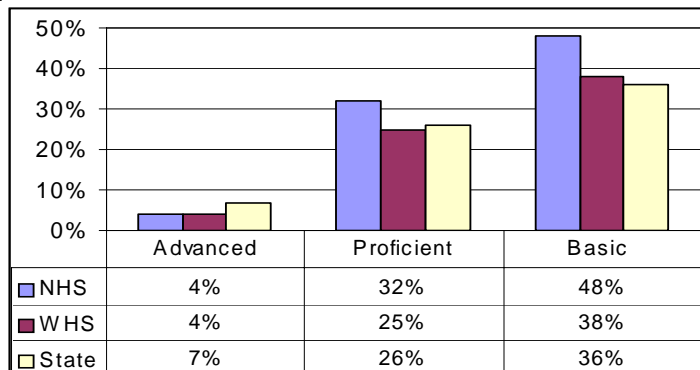
## NHEIAP NHS/State Comparisons



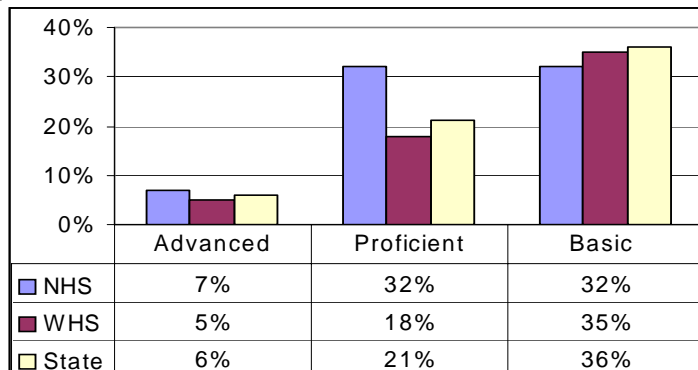
# Percentage of Students Achieving New Hampshire Department of Education Goal of Basic and Above

## Tenth Grade NHEIAPS - 3 Year Weighted Average Data 2001-2003

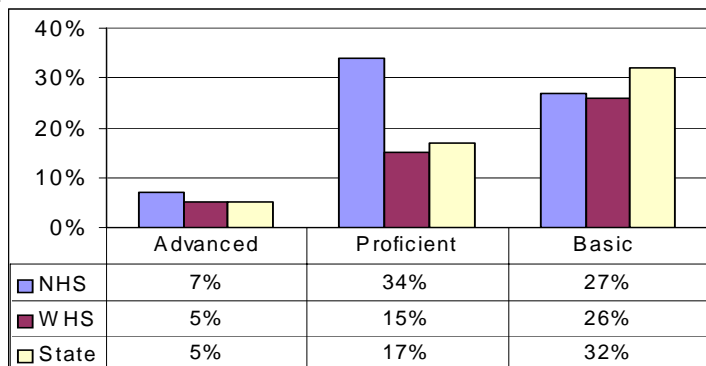
English



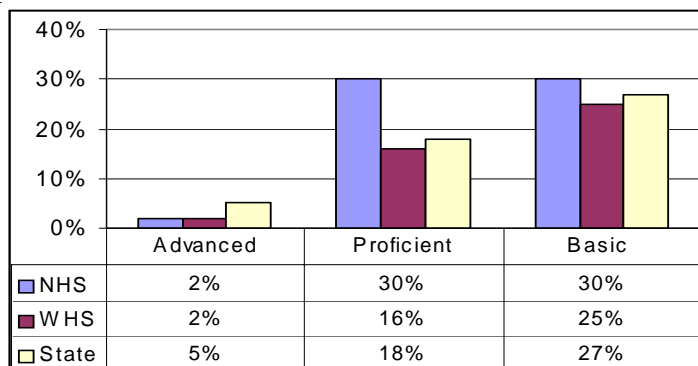
Math



Science



Social Studies



## NHEIAPS

### Purpose of Testing

The NHEIAP spring test administered to students in grades 3, 6 and 10 is cumulative in nature, assessing content knowledge and skills learned through the grades up through the year of assessment. Each curriculum section of the NHEIAP intends to assess if students are meeting the proficiency standards of the NH K-12 Curriculum Frameworks.

The proficiency levels of Advanced, Proficient, Basic and Novice are provided to assist schools with a global picture of the achievement level of their student body. For clarification, under the "No Child Left Behind" law, the Federal Government's use of the word "proficient" encompasses the New Hampshire levels of Basic through Advanced (Basic, Proficient, Advanced).

### NHS Performance

In evaluating the success of a school, many factors should be considered. Test results alone cannot be used to compare one school to another. Due to the size of North Hampton School, the state recommends examining results by 3 year averages. This helps smooth fluctuations due to small sample size. North Hampton School has exceeded state results every year "and the sixth grade results, in particular, as a culmination of six years of instruction, show steady gains whereas the state's sixth grade results have remained flat."

### NHS Direction from Results

The New Hampshire State Department of Education has chosen North Hampton School, and two other schools in the state, to be nominated for the Federal DOE Blue Ribbon Schools Program. This application will be completed in February 2004 and acceptance will be determined by the fall.

Teachers at NHS continue to analyze and use the results of the NHEIAP to strengthen teaching and learning in the classroom each year.



# Eighth Grade Algebra Program

This is the first year that Honors Algebra is no longer being offered at the high school for SAU 21 eighth grade students. North Hampton School is offering this class now to any NHS student who wishes to attempt the rigorous course, rather than selecting students by a placement test as was done by the high school.

In the 2003-04 school year there are twenty-one eighth grade students taking Algebra 1. This represents 36% of the class. The class meets three mornings a week (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday) from 7:40 - 8:40.

In order to receive high school credit, students are expected to attend class, complete nightly homework assignments, and pass both the midterm and final exam. The same textbook is being used throughout the SAU. At the end of the year students who successfully complete the course requirements will be able to take either Honors Geometry or Geometry A in their freshman year. If a student does not meet the requirements of Algebra 1 in eighth grade, then he/she may retake Algebra 1 freshman year.

In addition to Algebra 1, students are a part of the regular math class during the school day. This brings them to a total of eight hours of math a week. We feel very strongly that students be a part of the integrated math class because of the cross over into other disciplines such as science and social studies done by the eighth grade team. In addition, research supports integrating all branches of mathematics (algebra geometry, statistics, number theory, probability) for greater understanding.

## How Do NHS Students Perform at Private Schools?

### NHS 2003 Graduates (60)

- WHS ..... 49
- Phillips Exeter Academy ..... 3
- Berwick Academy ..... 1
- Portsmouth Christian ..... 1
- St. Thomas Aquinas ..... 5
- Loomis Chaffee ..... 1

### Percent of NHS 2003 Graduates on Honor Roll

Of the 60 graduates:

- 1 private school did not provide info
- 1 student moved

### 58 Students accounted for:

- 65% NHS students at WHS are on honor roll
- 77% NHS students in private school are on honor roll
- **67% of all NHS 2003 Graduates are on honor roll**

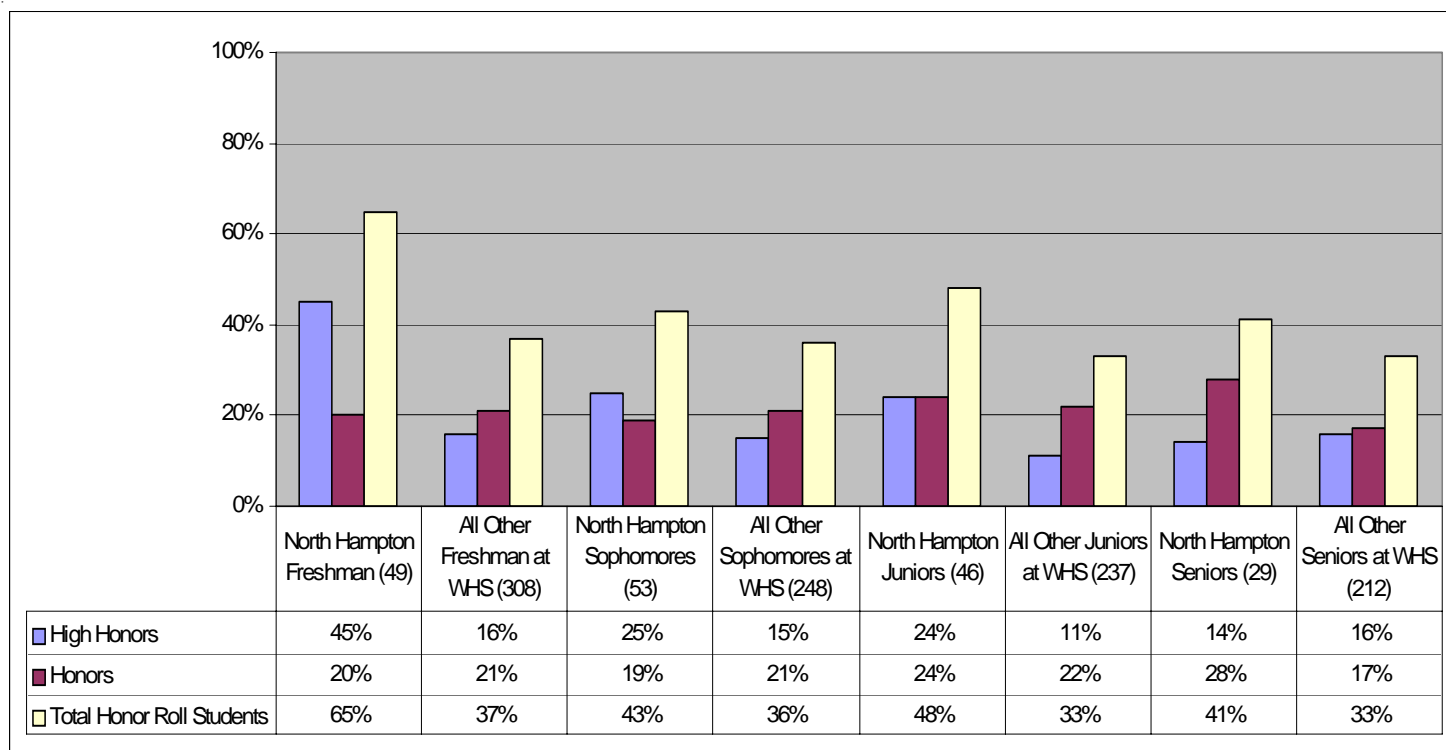


## NHS Data for Freshmen Entering WHS Fall of 2003

- Total number of Freshmen entering WHS ..... 353
- Total number of NHS students entering WHS ..... 49
- Percent of NHS Freshmen Fall of 2003 ..... 14.7%
- Total number of freshman in special education at WHS ..... 66
- Total number of NHS freshmen in special education at WHS ..... 3
- Total number of NHS students entering private schools ..... 11
- Total number of NHS Graduates in June 2003 ..... 60

<u>WHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>NHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% 9th Grade</u>	<u>%NHS</u>
WHS Honors English .....	51	NHS Honors English .....	9	14.4%	17.3%
WHS A Level English .....	147	NHS A Level English .....	29	41.6%	55.7%
WHS B Level English .....	117	NHS B Level English .....	13	33.1%	25%
WHS C Level English .....	38	NHS C Level English .....	1	10.7%	1.9%
WHS Honors Social Studies ...	68	NHS Honors Social Studies ....	19	19.3%	36.5%
WHS A Level Social Studies	181	NHS A Level Social Studies ...	27	51.3%	51.9%
WHS B Level Social Studies ...	94	NHS B Level Social Studies .....	6	26.6%	11.5%
WHS B Level Social Studies ...	10	NHS B Level Social Studies .....	0	2.8%	0%
WHS Honors Science .....	62	NHS Honors Science .....	15	17.6%	28.8%
WHS A Level Science .....	152	NHS A Level Science .....	28	43.1%	53.8%
WHS B Level Science .....	128	NHS B Level Science .....	9	36.2%	17.3%
WHS C Level Science .....	11	NHS C Level Science .....	0	3.1%	0%
WHS Honors Math .....	35	NHS Honors Math .....	11	9.9%	21.2%
WHS A Level Math .....	106	NHS A Level Math .....	20	30%	38.5%
WHS B Level Math .....	163	NHS B Level Math .....	29	46.1%	36.5%
WHS C Level Math .....	59	NHS C Level Math .....	2	16.7%	3.8%

## How Do North Hampton Students Compare to Other Students in WHS ?



**High Honors:** GPA 3.5 or higher, no C's, and taking at least four classes

**Honors:** GPA 3.0 or higher, may have one C, and taking at least four classes

## What Do NHS Students Choose to Do After Winnacunnet High School?

	NHS Class of 1997 / WHS Class of 2001	NHS Class of 1998 / WHS Class of 2002	NHS Class of 1999 / WHS Class of 2003
• Graduated eighth grade	45 students	42 students	52 students
• Entered private schools	4 students	7 students	7 students*
• Later transferred/moved away	4 students	8 students	7 students
• Transferred to WHS from private	0	0	2 students
• In final cohort group.	37 students	27 students	40 students**
<b>After 4 years in high school:</b>			
• Withdrew from school	3 students	1 student	1 student (GED)
• 5th year	1 student	1 student	1 student
• Accepted @ 4 year colleges	24 students (65%)	16 students (59%)	29 students (72.5%)
• Accepted @ 2 year colleges or technical school	3 students (8%)	4 students (14%)	4 students (10%)
• Entered military	2 students (5%)	0	1 student
• Entered work force	3 students (8%)	3 students (14%)	2 students
• Other (travel, Americorp, etc.)	0	2 students	2 students
• Unaccounted for	1 student	0	0

\* Of the 7 students who attended private high schools, 100% went on to 4 year colleges bringing NHS total at 4 year colleges to 90%

\*\* 5 out of the top 10 students in WHS class of 2003 were NHS graduates. They will be attending: Tufts University, Northeastern University, College of the Holy Cross, Trinity College, and Johns Hopkins University.