

School District of River Falls
Educational Program Committee Meeting

Monday, December 2, 2024 - 6:00 PM

District Office

852 E Division Street

River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

Educational Program Committee members: Alan Tuchtenhagen (Chair), Lindsey Curtis, & Monica LaVold

A quorum of the Board may be present for information-gathering purposes only.

Agendas can be viewed at <https://www.rfsd.k12.wi.us/district/school-board.cfm> or at
<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1447>

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 PM

2. MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

3. HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS

4. UPDATE ON RFPME ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD TRIP

2

Description: Kai Rodgers, River Falls Public Montessori Elementary School Principal, and Rainbow Barry, Katrina Hostetler, and Sara Smith, River Falls Public Montessori Upper Teachers, will give an update on the 6th grade trip to Eagle Bluff Environmental Center in Lanesboro, MN.

Recommended Action: No action, informational only.

5. UPDATE ON CELL PHONE PROCEDURES AND USAGE

8

Description: Kit Luedtke, River Falls High School Principal, Peggy Webb, Renaissance Charter Academy Principal, Brian Buck, Meyer Middle School Assistant Principal, and Kate Skappel, Elementary School Principal will give an update on cell phone procedures and usage in respective buildings or levels.

Recommended Action: No action, informational only.

6. REVIEW 2023-2024 DISTRICT REPORT CARD

30

Description: MaryBeth Elliott, Co-Director of Academic Services, will present the 2023-2024 district report card.

Recommended Action: No action, informational only.

7. PROPOSED/SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR AND FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MEETING AGENDA(S)

Description: As always, committee members will be given the opportunity to suggest items for future committee and/or Board meeting agendas.

Recommended Action: As needed.

8. SCHEDULE NEXT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Description: Upcoming committee meeting dates, times, and locations will be reviewed.

Recommended Action: Set the meeting schedule as follows:

Educational Program Committee meeting: Monday, January 6, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the District Office conference room, 852 E. Division Street.

9. ADJOURN



RFPME Eagle Bluff Trip

Nov. 13-15

Archery



Star Lab



Teambuilding: Bridge Across Lava



Teambuilding: Rope Swing and Birthdate Order on a Log



Teambuilding: Rope Maze and Wooden Skis



Root River Hike



Using your senses: Hug a Tree and Experience the World Like a Poet



Falconry Show

Light Pollution

Falcon facts

“Flick” the Kestrel



Survival Skills



Meal Time: Learning about Food Waste and Composting





Update on Cellphone Procedures and Usage

12.2.24



River Falls
HIGH SCHOOL

Current Practices / Reality:

- Following the current RFHS Technology Policy which prohibits the use of cell phones during instructional time.
- Incidents of behavior referrals for technology use during instruction time are fairly low.
 - **39 Total Referrals** - *(78 documented events in a student body of 1165 students)*
 - 32 students have 1 referral (2% of students) - (Requiring more than 1 reminder).
 - 6 students have 2 referrals (0.5% of students)
 - 1 student has more than 2-IEP related; used AirPods but needs corded earbuds (.08% of students)
 - **Most are cleared up through the phone call home and teacher/student conversation.**
- Students are following the policy fairly consistently.
- Students and teachers are reporting more face-to-face engagement in classes and outside of classes as well. (i.e. field trips, lunch room, etc.)





Expectations

Students

- Phones / other tech turned off and out of sight during all instructional time.
 - All blocks, for the full block.
 - WIN each Monday due to the ACP lessons being delivered.
 - WIN on other days if behind in classes / on projects / assessments.
- Allowed before and after school, during passing time, during breakfast break, and during lunch time.
- Exception: corded earbuds allowed if part of an IEP or 504 plan.

Teachers

- Post the policy.
- Remind students of expectations.
- Follow the steps if a student is using technology during instructional times.
 - **Warning.**
 - **Confiscation, Referral, Call Home.**
 - **Referral and Detention.**
 - **Phone in Office.**
- Communicate issues with administration if support is needed.¹¹

SUCCESSSES

CHALLENGES

Students:

- More engagement in the classroom
- Cell phone management education and practice
- Responsibility and ownership



Teachers:

- More engagement in the classroom
- Less instances of cell phone use than previous years
- More parental support with cell phone or technology management

Students:

- Learning to balance having the phone and not using it
- Outside interference (calls from boss, parent, social media connection)
- Breaking the habit of having the phone outside of school at their disposal

Teachers:

- Policy is not perfect, so some instances still happen.
- Enforcement is not 100% consistent, especially when there is a sub.
- Having more engagement in their planning so students do not gravitate towards their phone¹² instead.

Recommendations

Progressive steps moving forward:

1. WIN time without phones.
2. Less Wi-fi access should prevent some access even further.
3. Parent Education.



Obstacles we will have to move/adjust to continue to grow:

1. Variety of Devices (Watches/Phones/Computers).
2. Bluetooth.
3. How do we gain further student ownership?





Renaissance
CHARTER ACADEMY

RCA Policy - We will be tweaking this a bit next year

- 1st Offense: Students who are in possession of their phone(s) in class will be asked to take their phone to their locker. Staff will write up the phone violation in IC as Technology Violation - First Offense.
- 2nd Offense: Students who are in possession of their phone(s) in class for a 2nd violation, will be asked to take their phone to the office. The student will check their phone in the office at the beginning of the day for 5 days. Staff will write up the phone violation in IC as Technology - Second Offense.
- 3rd Offense: Students who are in possession of their phone for a 3rd violation will be asked to take their phone to the office. Students will be required to check their phone(s) at the beginning of the day when they arrive. This will be for the remainder of the term. Phone privileges will be returned at the beginning of each term.
- Students who continue to bring phones into the classroom after a 3rd violation will be subject to a 1 day in-school suspension.
- Students who receive more than 2 in-school suspensions regarding violations of the phone policy will meet with the parent/guardian, the school counselor, and the program coordinator to determine whether placement at the Renaissance Charter Academy will continue. Should the student choose to leave the program, they will be enrolled in a school of their choice at the beginning of the next available term.

Current Practices

Update on buildings current reality

Students can have their phone during:

- Breakfast break - 9:15 am - 9:30 am
- Passing Times
- Lunch

15 total violations

3 students who have had more than 1 violation

Students are not keeping their phones in their lockers, but they are not on them during class

Noticing that during lunch and passing period, students aren't always on their phones ~ even though they can be

Some are opting to play games

Talk to friend

Read

Coloring





Expectations

Students

- The expectation is that students are to keep their phones in their lockers
- May use their phones during breakfast, passing times and lunch

Teachers

- The expectation is that staff will not be on their phones during class.
 - Staff may be on their phones during their prep

Successes & Challenges

Successes		Challenges	
<p>Students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More engaged in lessons• Developing conversational skills• Annoyed when students try to be on their phones• Occupying their free time with other activities ie. Reading, playing games, etc• Students are aware of the rules. “Can I take out my phone and show you my goat?”	<p>Teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Having students participate in discussions• “Normalizing” talking amongst students while doing a lesson	<p>Students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not keeping phones in their lockers, but not on them in class• Checking their phones while going on a bathroom break• “Needing” music while working during free time	<p>Teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Filling time with quality instruction• Creating enrichment activities• “Seeing” a student who is “sneaking” time on their phone• When students are given a “free pass” to put away their phones, no one gets up to put them in their lockers.• Students are¹⁸ starting to bring iPads

Recommendations

Progressive steps moving forward

1. Given that other devices are popping up, be more aware of those violations and handle accordingly.

Obstacles we will have to move/adjust to continue to grow?:

1. Creating sustainable progressive discipline
 - a. Do we tie it to other privileges?
 - i. Work Based Learning - still participate but no early release?
 - ii. Early dismissals on Friday rescinded





Meyer
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Current Practices

Update on buildings current reality -

Phones are to be in student lockers from 7:45am-2:55pm. If we see or hear them in the halls or classrooms, we take them and follow the steps on the next slide. We do not police the three minute passing time and do allow students to check their phones if they are at the locker between classes. We allow this because parents do communicate with their children and it is not affecting instructional time. We do allow students to use their phone if they ask permission and have a valid reason to do so.

Violations/Data:

- This year we have 12 cell phone violations from 6 students.
- 6th Grade - 1 student with 2 violations
- 7th Grade - 1 student with 1 violation. 1 student with 2 violations.
- 8th Grade - 1 Student with 1 violation, 2 students with 2 violations, and 1 student with 4 infractions and she turns her phone in at 7:45 each day.





Expectations/Violations

Students - Phone must be in their locker from 7:45am-2:55pm

Consequences For Violation Of The Policy

- **First Offense** – a warning will be issued. Phone put back in locker. Document on the sheet.
- **Second Offense** – student's phone will be taken away until the end of the day. Phone to the office with documentation. Email or call home.
- **Third Offense** - student's phone will be taken away until the end of the day, and a parent/guardian will be required to pick up the phone from the office. Document on the sheet.
- **Fourth Offense** - Students will lose phone privileges. Phone gets turned into the office by 7:45 each day. Document on the sheet. Parent/Guardian will be required to pick up the phone from the office.
- Electronic Device Infraction Template:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mrfZy6rJKHZaMYLHdhs_7VZWJYUCxP6g2X9Jl8CJOX0/edit?usp=sharing

Recommendations

Progressive steps moving forward

1. Add smart watches or any smart device to our language in the handbooks.
2. We do not recommend changing anything else with our policy. Our policy works well and is supported by staff and parents.

Obstacles we will have to move/adjust to continue to grow?:

1. We will need to update our policy as new technology and devices come out.
2. We need to limit the wifi access for non-school devices.





Current Practices

- All cell phones must be in your school locker, cubby, or backpack during school hours from 8:30 am to 3:50 pm.
- No devices are allowed in the restrooms.
- Students are not allowed to take pictures or video of any kind, unless permitted by your teacher.
- Only school-issued electronic devices are allowed during school hours of 8:30 am to 3:50 pm.

Students may not use any two-way communication devices such as, cell phones, smart watches, or walkie-talkies while on school property during school hours without permission from a staff member. If a cell phone, smart watch, video game or other electronic device is used by a student during the day (including indoor recess), it will be turned into the office and need to be collected by the parents.





Expectations

Students

- No two-way communication devices between 8:30-3:50.

Teachers

- If a student violates the policy, teachers may take the device and turn it into the office till the end of the day.
- When this happens we notify parents (teacher or admin).

Successes & Challenges

Successes

Students:

- Not much cell phone use

Teachers:

- Parents are generally supportive

Challenges

Students:

- Want to connect with parents if they feel sick or forgot something

Teachers:

- Smart watches are hard to monitor



Recommendations

Progressive steps moving forward

1. More parent education and reminders of our policy (especially around smart watches)

Obstacles we will have to move/adjust to continue to grow?:

1. New devices
2. Mindset of families



Next Steps

1. Share Ed Programming feedback with administrators
2. Consider collecting stakeholder feedback
3. Monitor potential state legislation
4. Consider Procedural Updates/Revisions



WI DPI Report Card 23-24



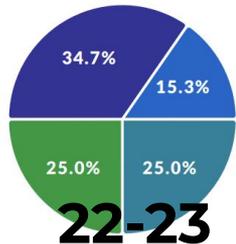
**River Falls School District
December 2024**

Wisconsin School Report Card 101

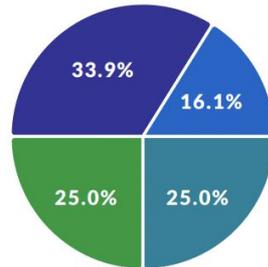
- ❖ Overall Score - determined by combining the weighted average of all priority area scores.

Accountability Rating Category	Accountability Score Range	
	Minimum	Maximum
Significantly Exceeds Expectations - ★★★★★	83	100
Exceeds Expectations - ★★★★☆	70	82.9
Meets Expectations - ★★★☆☆	58	69.9
Meets Few Expectations - ★★☆☆☆	48	57.9
Fails to Meet Expectations - ★☆☆☆☆	0	47.9

PRIORITY AREA WEIGHTS



PRIORITY AREA WEIGHTS



23-24

- ACHIEVEMENT
- GROWTH
- TARGET GROUP OUTCOMES
- ON-TRACK TO GRADUATION



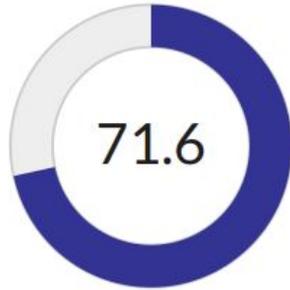
Wisconsin School Report Card 101

- ❖ Priority Area Scores
 - Achievement
 - Growth
 - Target Group Outcomes
 - On-Track to Graduation



ACHIEVEMENT

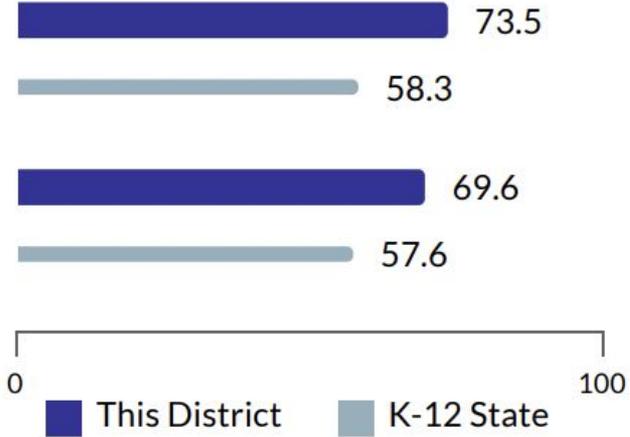
23-24



English Language Arts

Mathematics

Subject Area Scores



ACHIEVEMENT

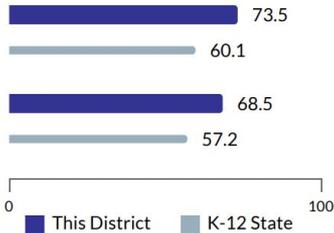
22-23



English Language Arts

Mathematics

Subject Area Scores



GROWTH

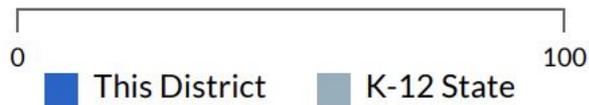


English Language Arts

Mathematics

23-24

Subject Area Scores



GROWTH



English Language Arts

Mathematics

Subject Area Scores



22-23



TARGET GROUP OUTCOMES



Achievement

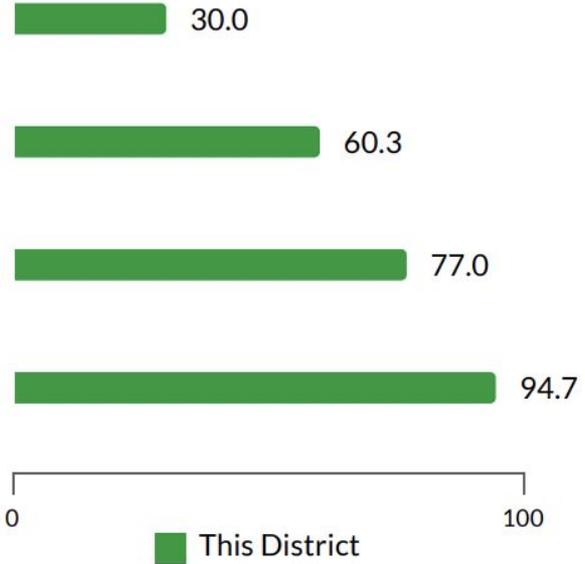
Growth

Chronic Absenteeism

Graduation

23-24

Group Scores



TARGET GROUP OUTCOMES



Achievement

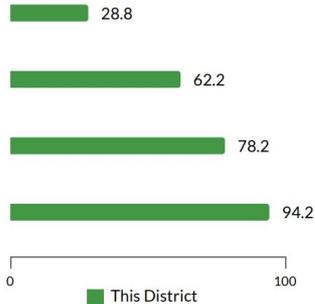
Growth

Chronic Absenteeism

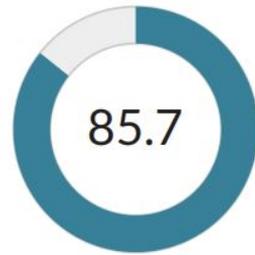
Graduation

22-23

Group Scores



ON-TRACK TO GRADUATION



Chronic Absenteeism

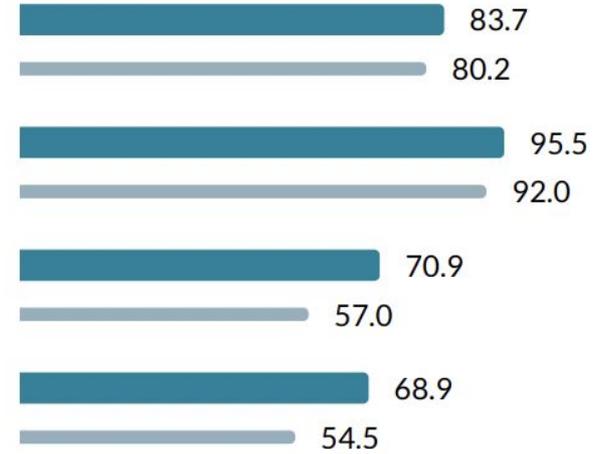
Graduation

3rd Grade English
Language Arts

8th Grade
Mathematics

23-24

Area Scores



ON-TRACK TO GRADUATION



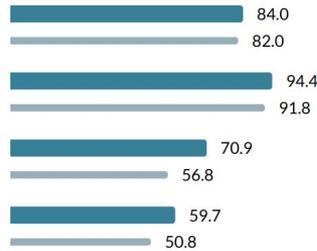
Chronic Absenteeism

Graduation

3rd Grade English
Language Arts

8th Grade
Mathematics

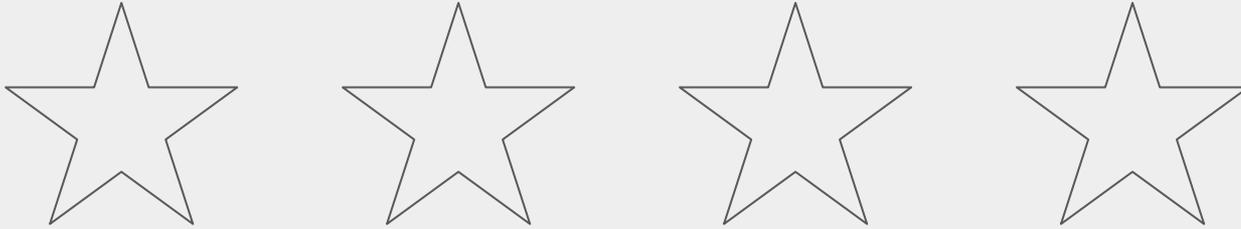
Area Scores



22-23



Overall District “Exceeds Expectations”



Achievement+Growth+Target Groups+On-Track Graduation

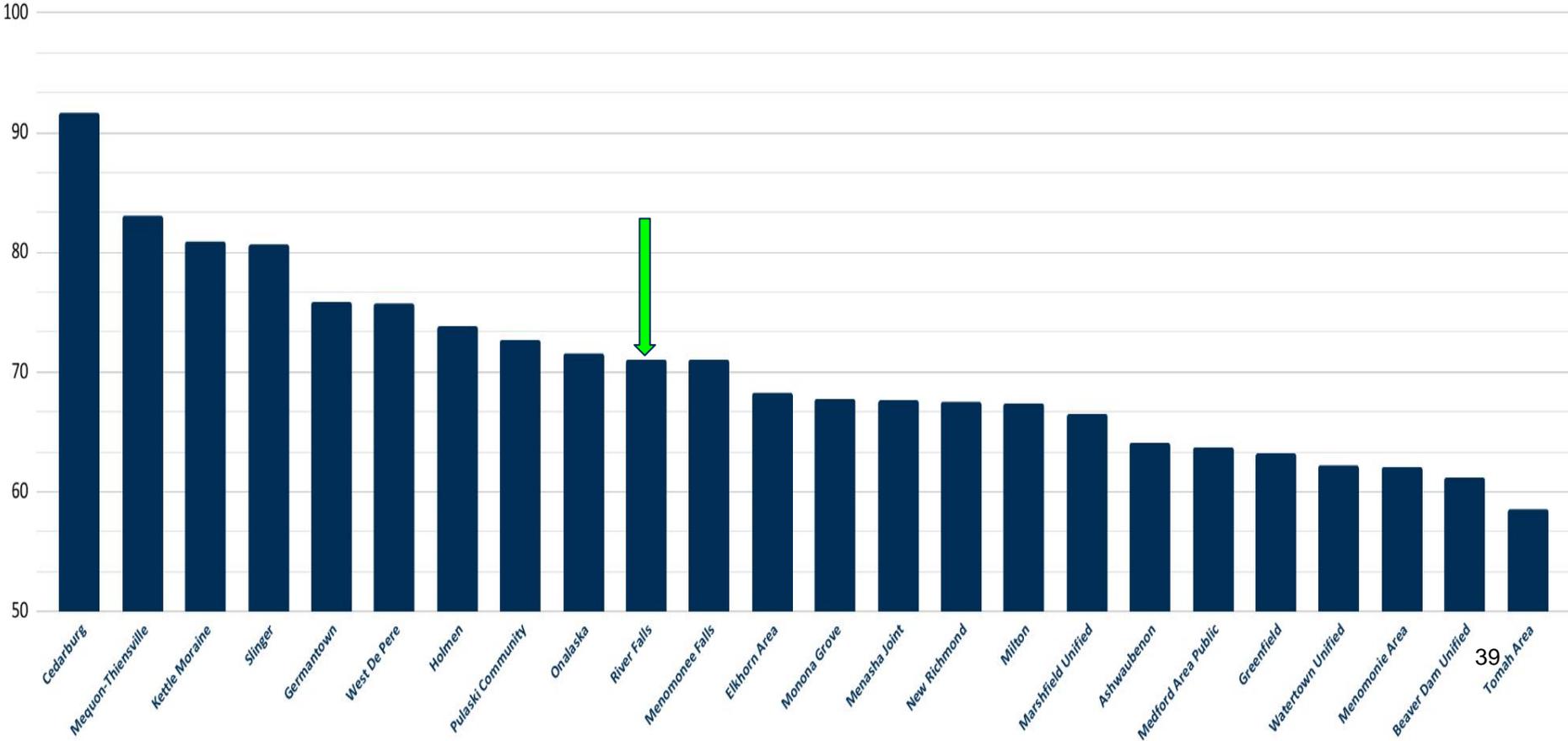


Goal 1: Hold High Expectation for Student Learning

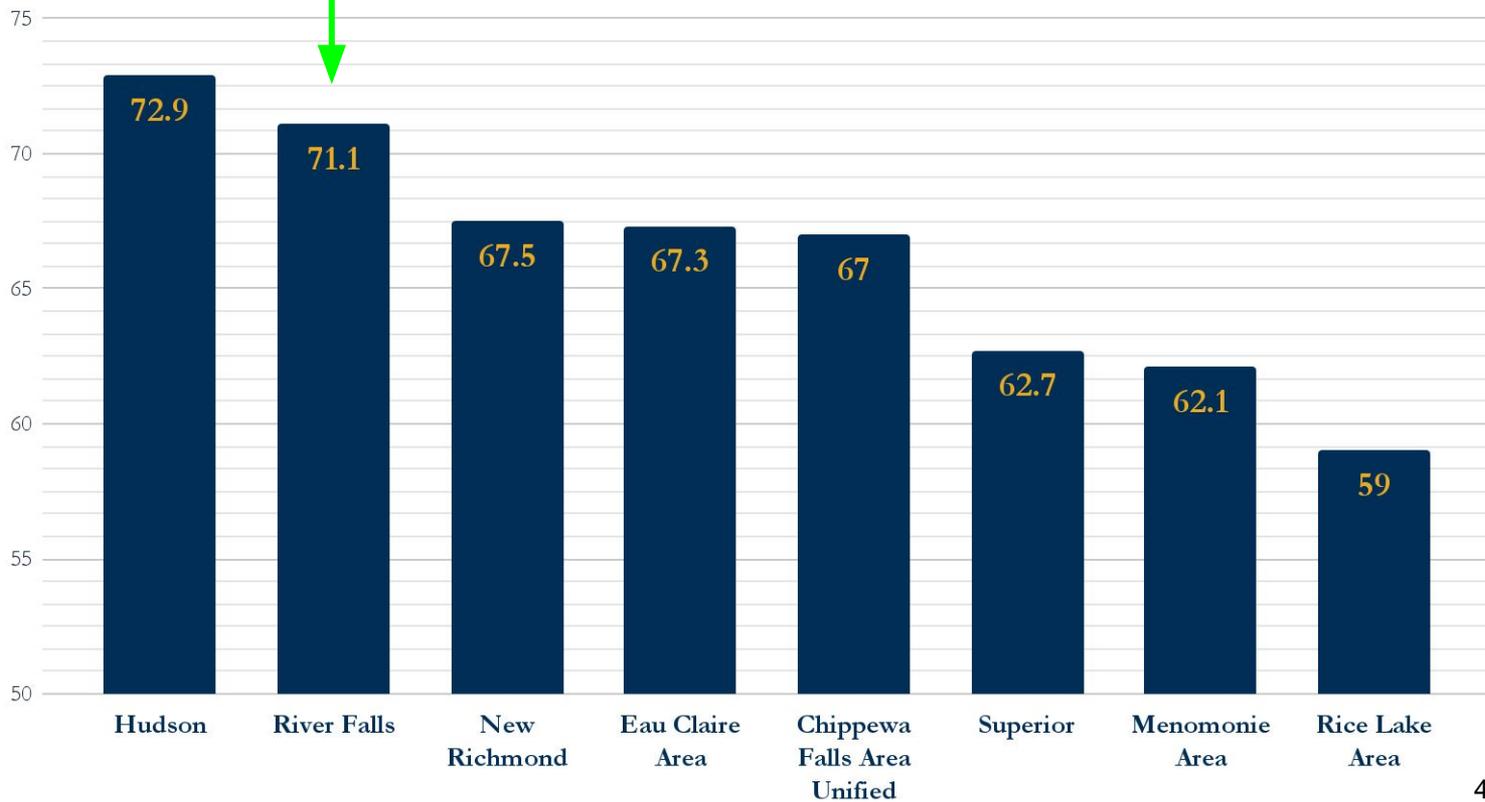
- ❖ 2nd highest report card score in Big Rivers Conference
- ❖ 10th highest report cards score out of 39 CESA 11 schools.
- ❖ ACT Composite 20.5 (21.0 last year) - college ready 55.6 (62.1 last year)
- ❖ Overall Accountability Score Top 32.3% of the state
- ❖ District Student Achievement Score Top 16.6% of the state
- ❖ As reported on the WI DPI Report Card.



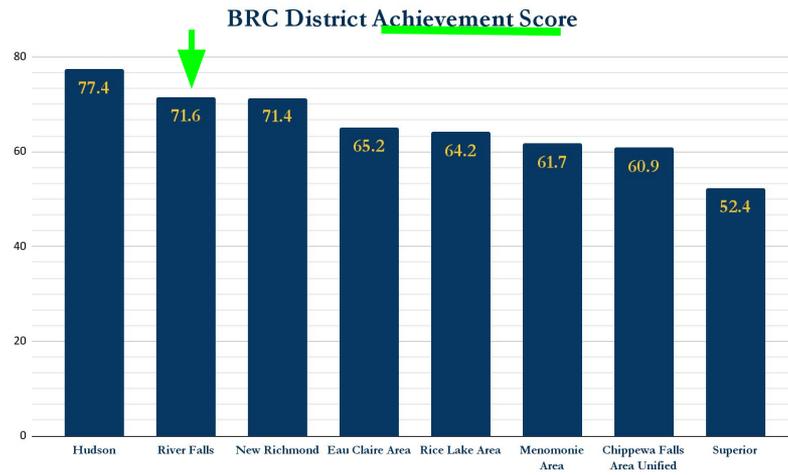
23-24 WI DPI Report Card Overall Accountability Scores (schools of similar size)



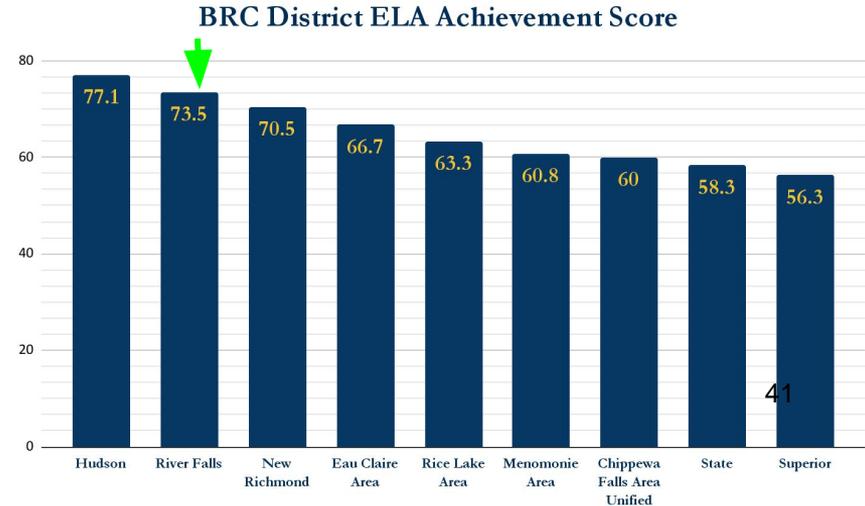
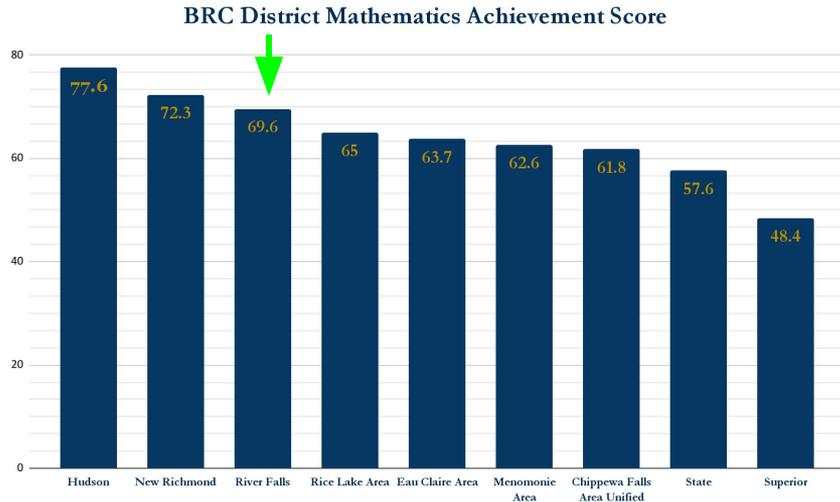
Big Rivers Conference Overall Accountability Scores



“Achievement” score was the same or higher than 83.4% of districts in the state.

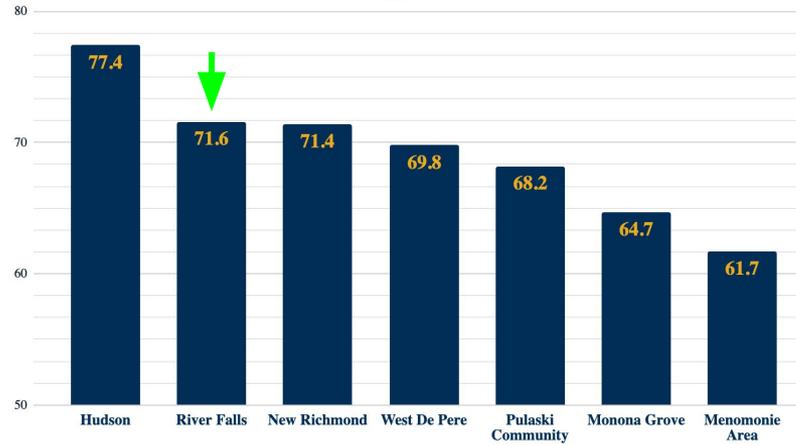


The School District of River Falls was the 2nd highest achievement score in the Big Rivers Conference



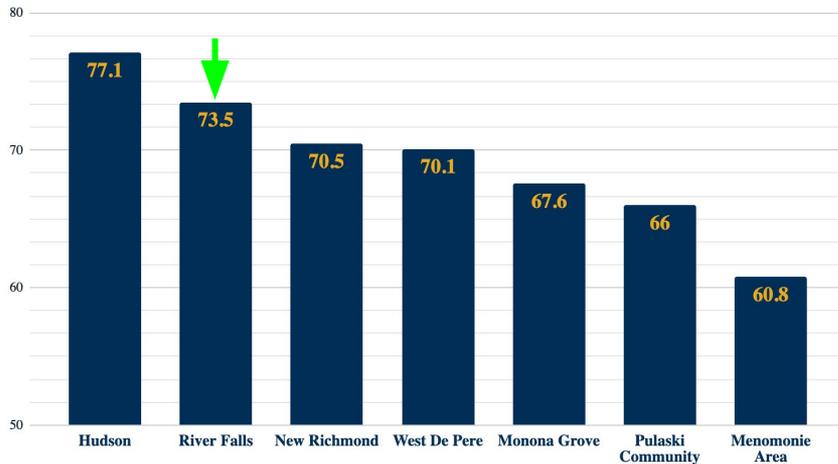
“Achievement” score was the same or higher than 83.4% of districts in the state.

23-24 Scorecard Achievement Scores Comparable Districts



The School District of River Falls was the 2nd highest achievement in comparable districts

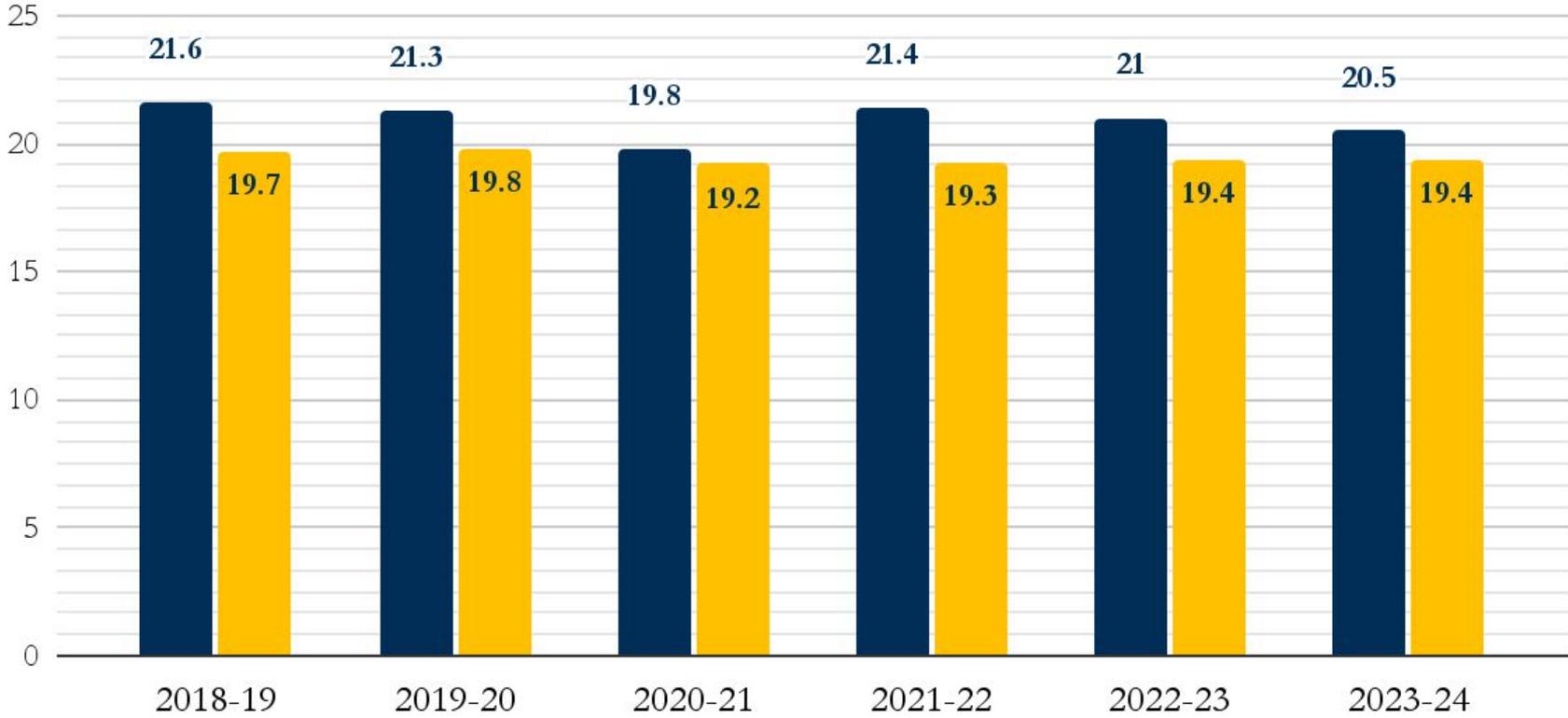
23-24 Scorecard ELA Achievement Scores Comparable Districts



23-24 Scorecard Math Achievement Scores Comparable Districts

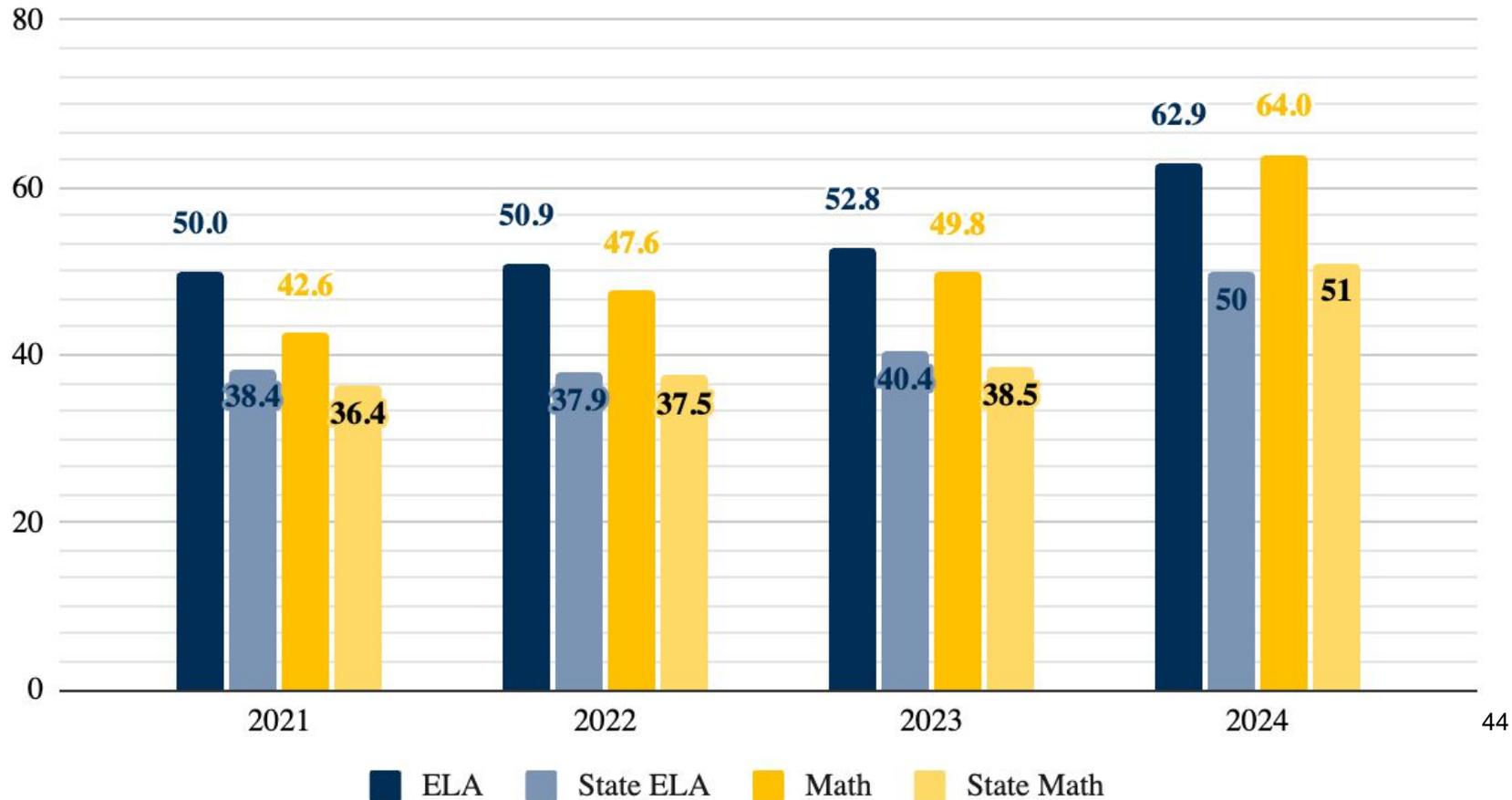


ACT Average Composite Score



District vs. State

Report Card ELA and Math Performance by Year

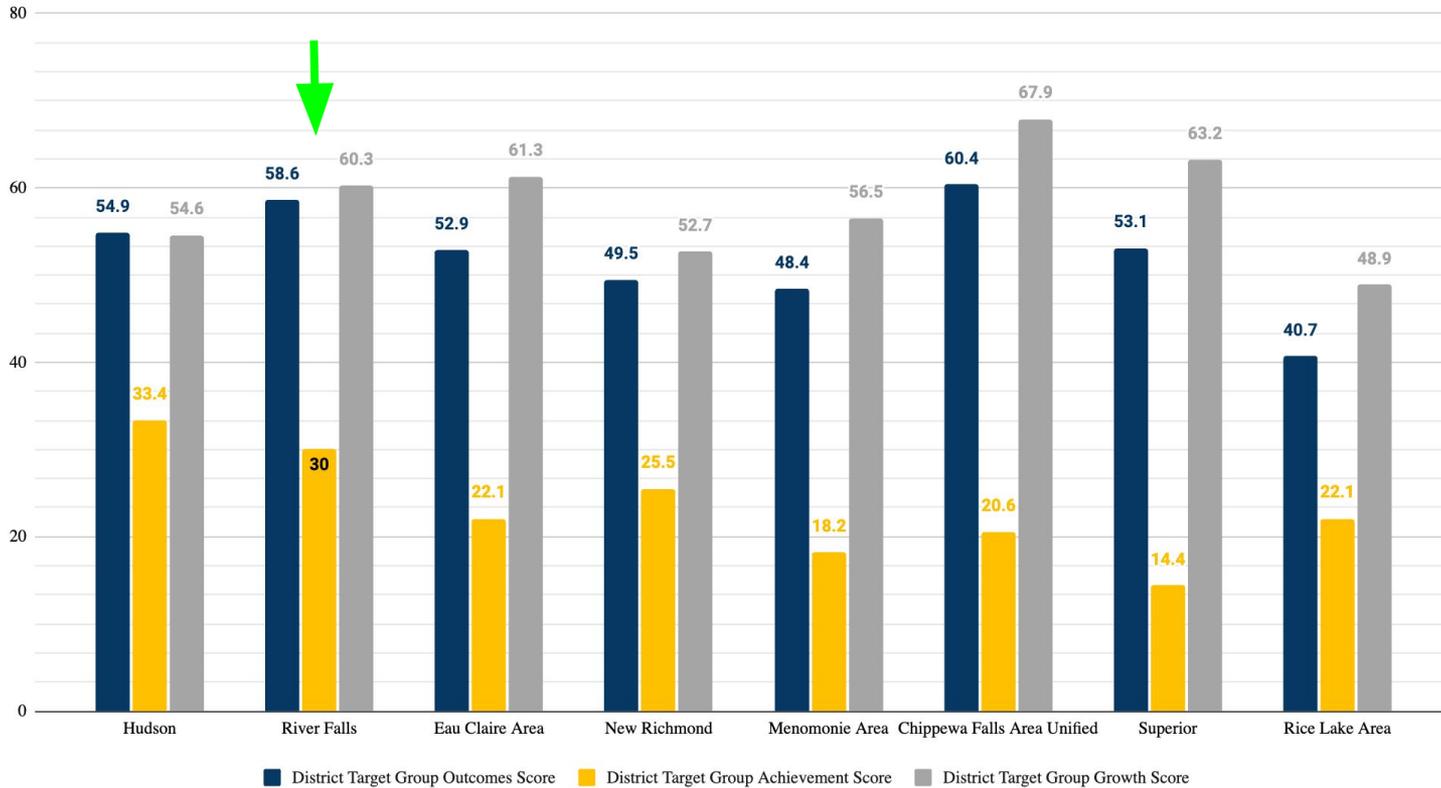


*Overall District ***“Target Groups”***
(Outcomes for lowest scoring, prior year test takers)

Same or Higher than **53%** of Districts in State



BRC District Target Group

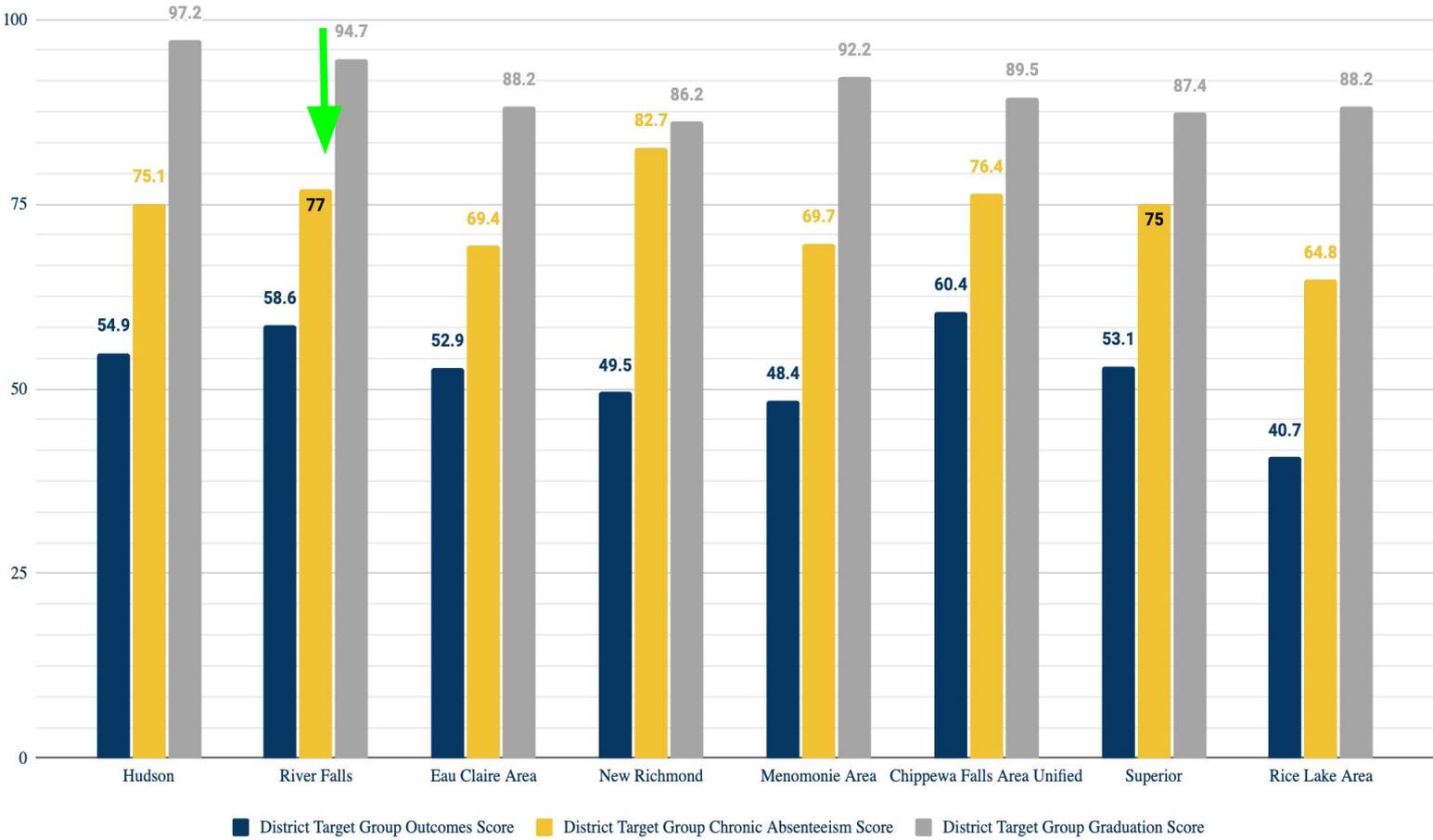


2nd Highest
TG
OUTCOMES
Score

2nd Highest TG
ACHIEVEMENT
Score

4th highest
TG
GROWTH
Score

BRC District Target Group

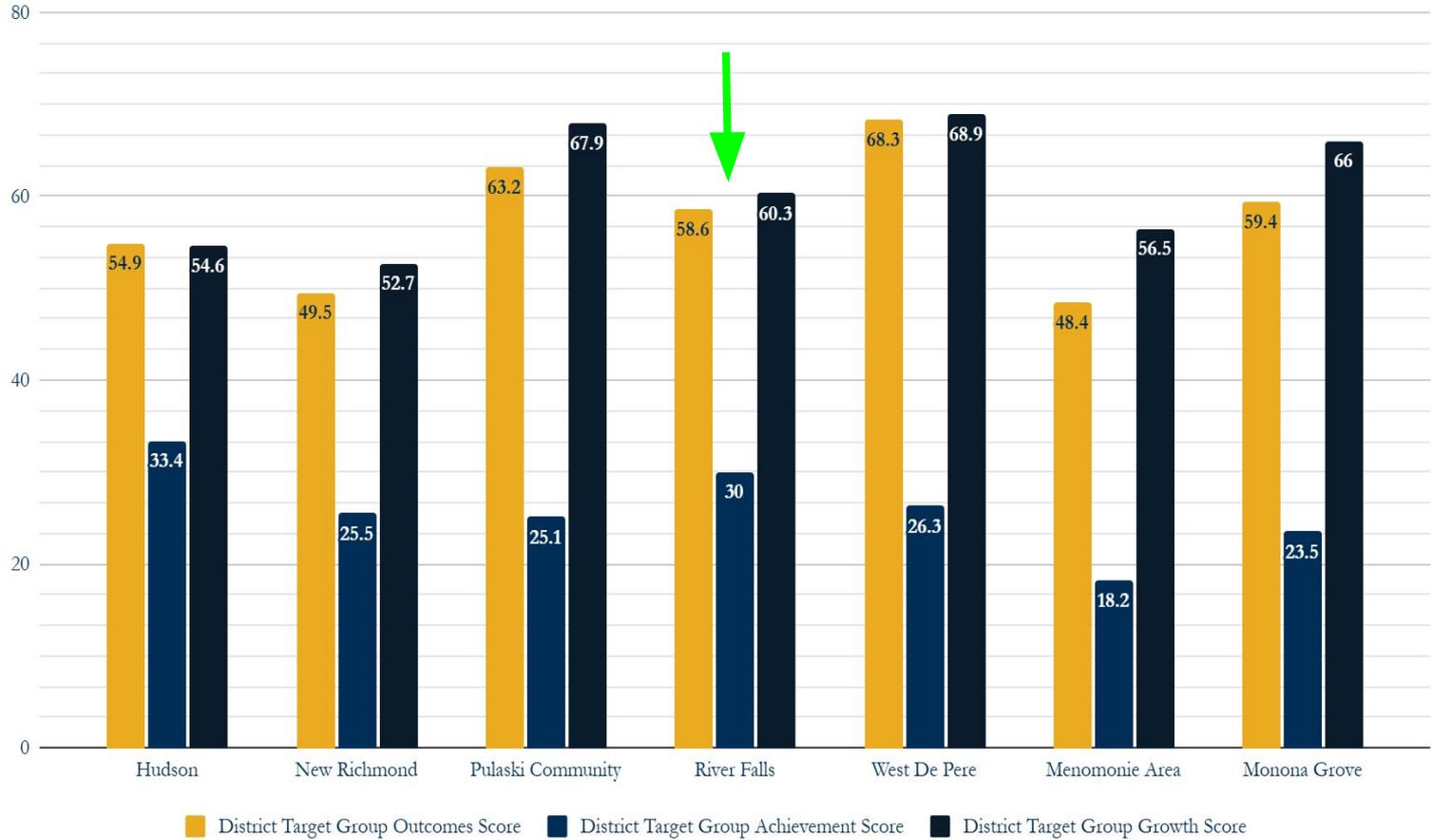


2nd Highest TG
OUTCOMES
Score

3rd Highest TG
CHRONIC
ABSENTEEISM
Score

2nd Highest
TG
GRADUATION
Score

Comparable Districts Target Groups

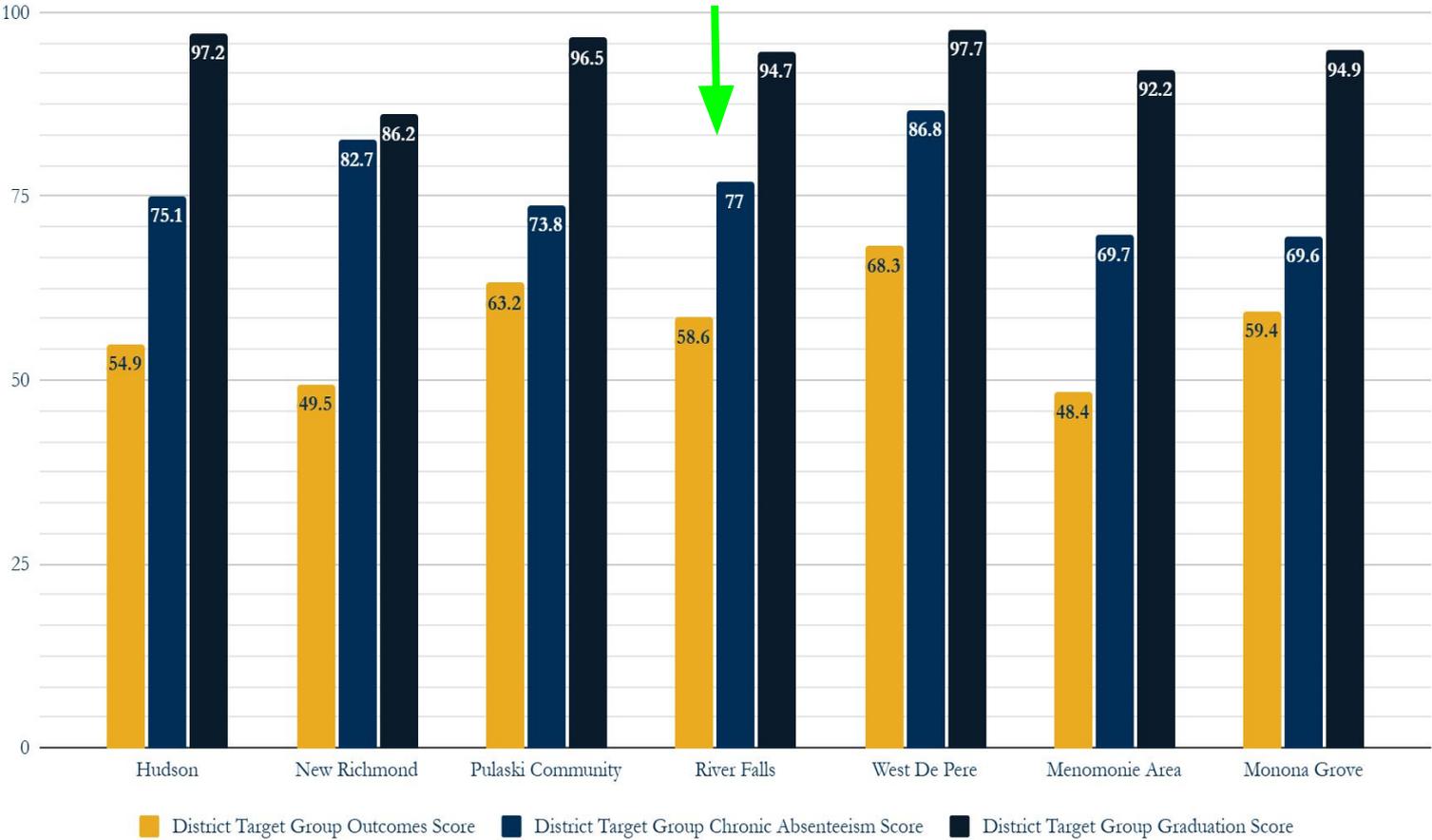


3rd Highest
TG
OUTCOMES
Score

2nd Highest
TG
ACHIEVEMENT
Score

4th Highest
TG GROWTH
Score

Comparable Districts Target Groups



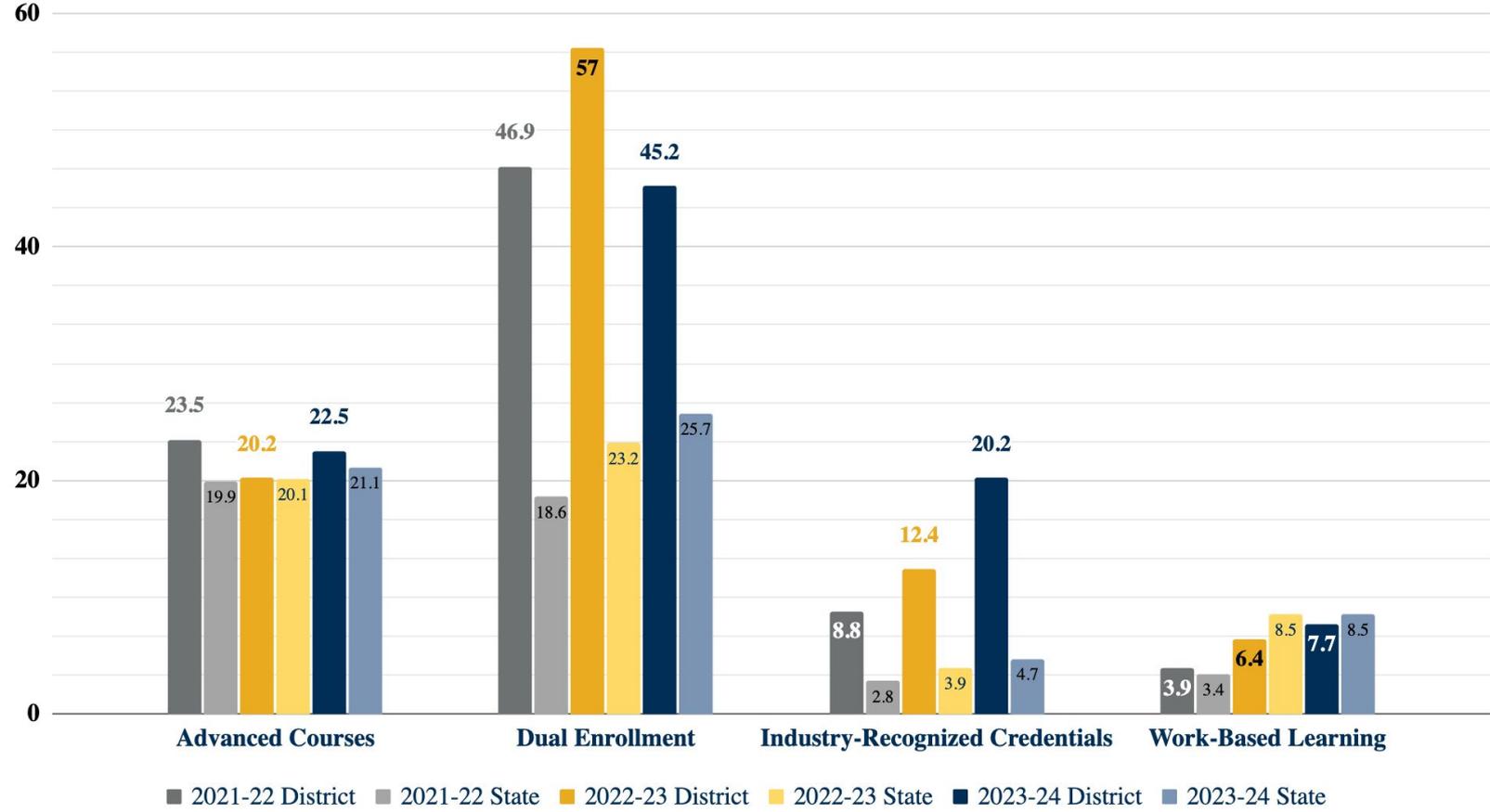
**3rd Highest TG
CHRONIC
ABSENTEEISM
Score**

**4th Highest
TG
GRADUATION
Score**

*Post Secondary Preparation



Percentage of Participation by Type of Postsecondary Preparation



Participation in the Arts

Rfalls

State

Art 39.7% -vs- 29.1%

Music 25.3% -vs- 19.2%

Theater 3.6% -vs- 2.2%





Report Card Response

**Guaranteed & Viable
Curriculum**

**Authentic Teacher
Collaboration**

**High Quality Teaching
and Learning**

Curriculum Review Cycle

- K-5 ELA Adoption
- Statewide Universal Screener
- Literacy Focused WIGs
- Proficiency Scales MMS

- Professional Learning
- PLC Meetings
- PLC Notebooks
- Focused Data Digs
- Data Protocols
- WIG - all levels

- Applying lead measures to improve literacy across the district
- 6 Elements of HQTL Professional Learning
- Feedback and Educator Effectiveness
- Leadership PLC