

K-12 Reading/Literacy Department

Dr. Susan Rozen, Reading/Literacy Director Linda Volpicelli, K – 5 ELA Coordinator

October 2008



Mission

- Empower the classroom teacher
 - Increase awareness of the reading levels of all their students
 - Not just the ones who present with problems
 - Provide training and support on linking assessment to intervention
 - Relate interventions to the content area curriculum
- Make assessments accessible, longitudinal, and integrated with the MCAS to inform instruction

Reading problems identified and remediated early on have a cumulative beneficial effect



Steps (2005-2008)

- Spring 2005: Disaggregated data by subgroups
- 2005 2006: Determined Assessments
- 2006 2007: Taught Reading Skills/Strategies in the Content Areas
- 2007 2008: Provided Professional
 Development in Linking Assessments to
 Instruction & MCAS Open Response; Developed Approach for Missed At-Risk Populations;
 Expanded Reading in Content Area
- Next: Finalize Roll-out K-12, Writing



New and Recent Activities

- Provide Data and Data Analysis to Principals,
 Administrators, and Teachers
- Provide Guidance in How to Use Data to Inform Instruction at all Levels
- Work with English Program Director, JGMS & Lane Coordinators and Administrators to target SPED/ELA MCAS students for AYP
- Develop a successful new Student Owned Strategy Course (6th Grade Reading Class)



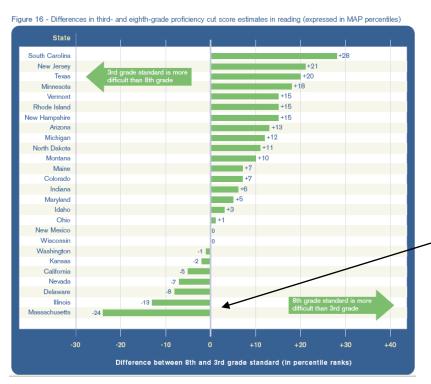
Assessments

- GRADE & Dibels & MCAS
- Purpose:
 - Inform classroom instruction
 - Identify students in need of specialized instruction
 - Provide comparisons amongst tests
 - Provides clearer profile of students
 - Substantiates validity of the assessment process
 - Improve MCAS scores



Why don't we rely just on MCAS?

- Not nationally normed
- Inconsistent among grade levels



For example, at Grade 3 in 2006, Massachusetts
Reading standards were harder than 8th grade standards by 24 percentile points – the greatest gap of any of the measured States

(2006 Fordham Institute Report)

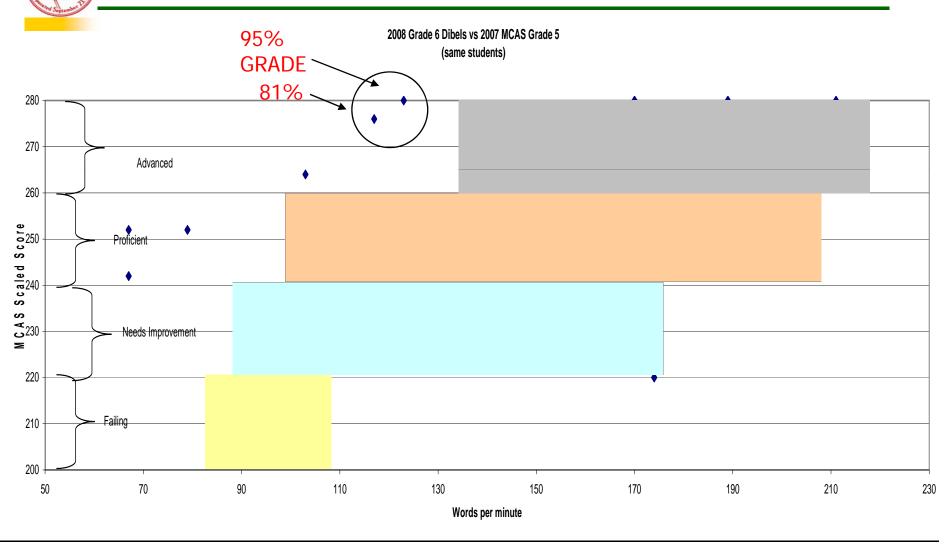


Why do we use DIBELS?

- Measures Oral Reading Fluency and Retell Fluency
 - Fluency is a key component of reading ability
- Especially important in early grades
- Enhances data from MCAS and GRADE
- Confirms nuanced issues with individual students

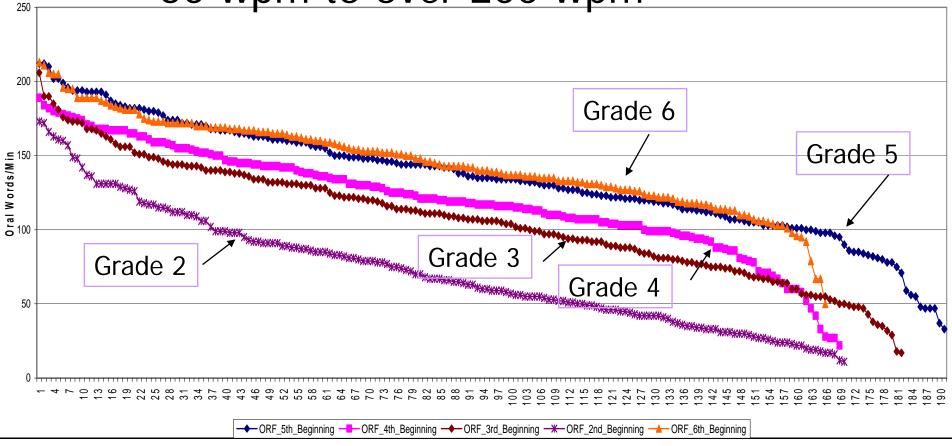
(Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills)

2008 Grade 6 Dibels vs 2007 MCAS Grade 5 (same students)



DIBELS Population

 Wide disparity of skill levels from under 50 wpm to over 200 wpm

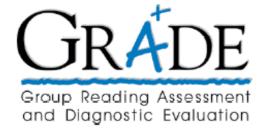




Why do we use the GRADE?

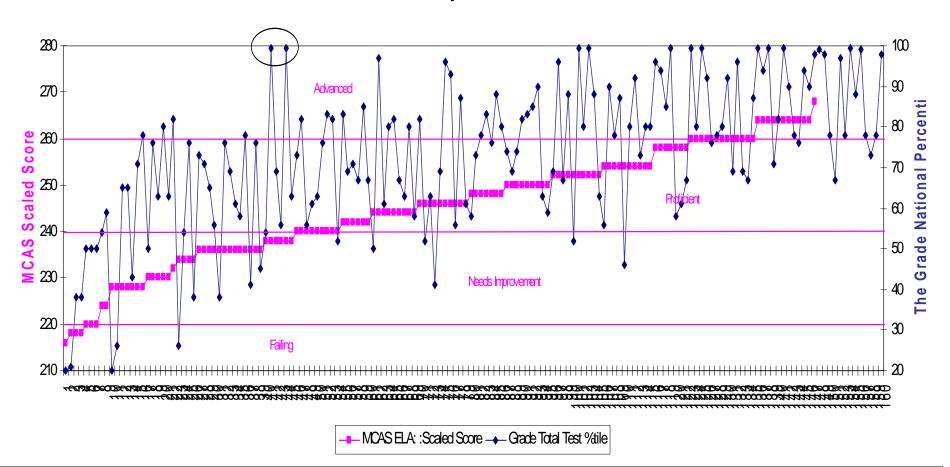
- Identify those students who have a disparity between performance and ability.
- Easy to administer reading comprehension and vocabulary test
 - Standardized and Normed on national scale
 - Flexible with respect to out-of-level students
 - It can also be used to chart progress and monitor growth.
- Scoring is done in-house using Scantron





Identify students that need individualized intervention

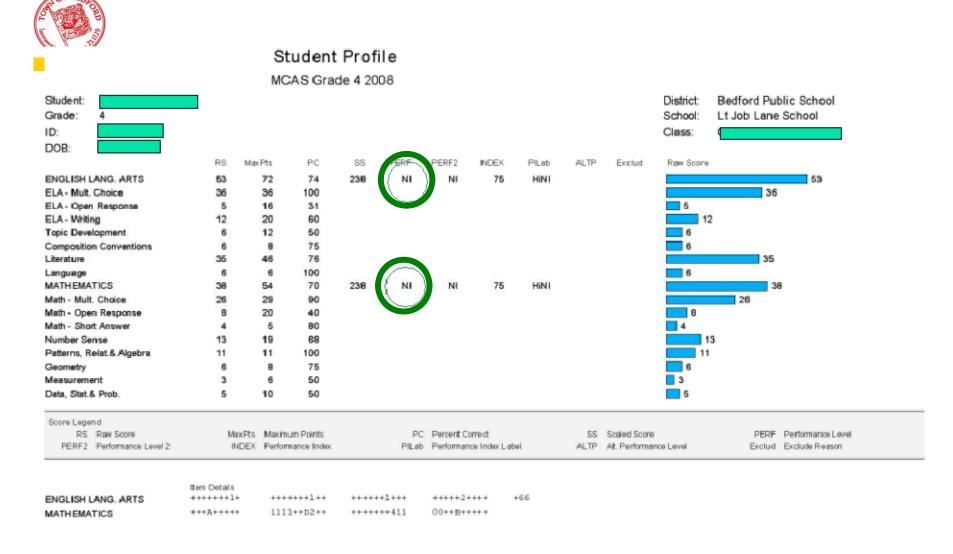
May 2008 MCAS ELA Grade 4 vs Sept 2008 Grade 5 The Grade by Student



Q: Based on the GRADE and on the DIBELS in Sept 2008, this is an exceptional student. How did this student perform on the earlier MCAS in the Spring of 2008?

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A: Needs Improvement in MCAS ELA and Math



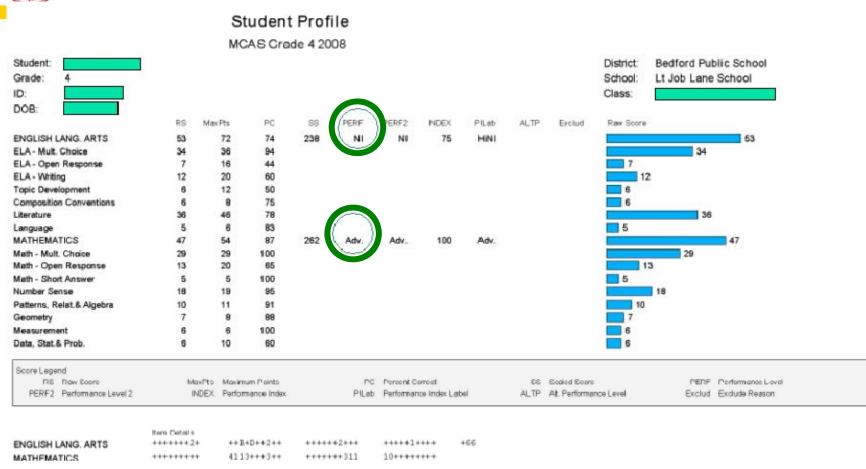
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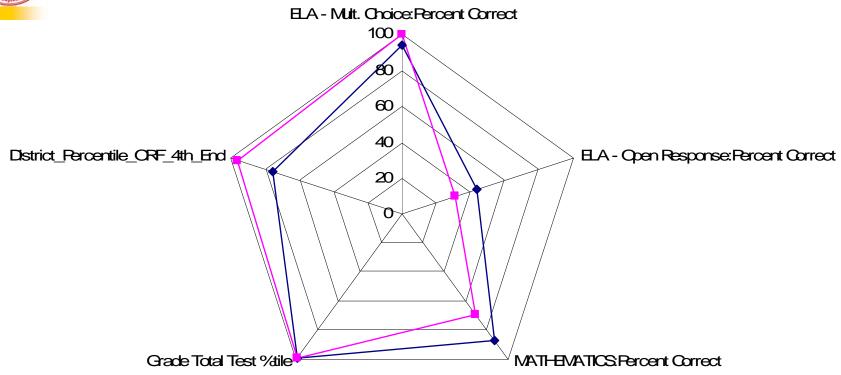


A: Needs Improvement in MCAS ELA





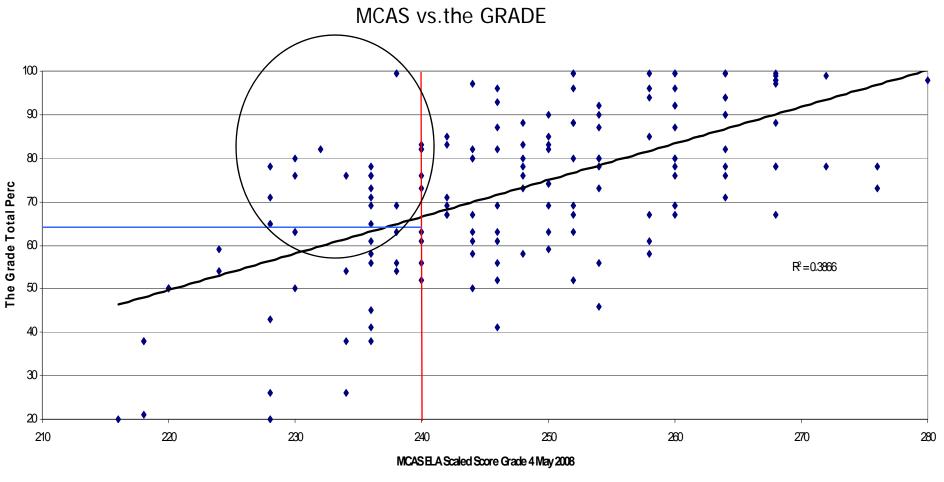
Unbalanced results from these NI students



Students sometimes present as "problems" who adversely affect our AYP and the classroom progress. Identification of their hidden strengths combined with disorder-specific remediation can help improve their otherwise non-optimal future performance trajectories.



Target Students-5th Grade



How Assessments Informs Instruction @JGMS and BHS

High School

- 9th Grade English Teachers use pre/post test data to monitor student growth
- New Reading Classes designed to target areas of need:
 - The Art of Reading
 - Reading Strategies for Comprehension and Test-taking
- Stress on writing, sentence level comprehension, grammar

JGMS

- SOS 6th Grade Reading
 - Focus on strategies for reading expository and narrative text; skill based.

Professional Development @ BHS & JGMS

- MCAS/Open Response Strategies (BHS)
- Components of Reading (Word Recognition, Fluency, Comprehension, Vocabulary),
- Use of assessments to inform instruction
- Reading in the Content Area
 - CRISS, Key-Three Routine, Specific Strategy Use
- Teach Vocabulary Skills in Math and Science
- Train High School Teachers as Content Area "Coaches"

How Assessment Informs Instruction @ Davis & Lane

Davis

- Double-dipping groups guided by DIBELS, running records, and teacher observations.
- Small groups for 20 –30 minutes 2X week
- Create common language

Lane

- Flexible groupings within the classroom
- Pullout groups for phonics/word study/comprehension 2 X 25 per week

■ K-5

 Review writing assessments, rubrics, and discuss best writing practice

Lane School Grade 5 Student Sample Summary

Last name	First name	Grad e	Teache r	NI, W	Spelling	Completion	Comprehens	Vocabulary	comprehsns	Fall >= 104	Fall retell	Winter >=115	Winter retell	124	Spring retell	Comments	Rdg,S PED, ELL
Smith	John	5	Zavalick	NI						37	34					English not first language	LLL
		5	DeR/Cohen		4	1	3	7	4	38	27					new to Bedford	SPED
		5	Zavalick	W						40	15						LLL
		5	DeR/Cohen	Z	12	3	4	4	5	61	32						SPED
		5	DeR/Cohen	Z	25	5	2	4	3	67	30						SPED
																Very detailed retells	
																except for 3rd story;	
																confused reading	
		5	Dick	W	12	4	5	4	9	72	58					passage-skipped lines	SPED
		5	Oien	Ρ	43	5	6	6	5	74	39					Slow, laborious reader	Rdg
		5	Zavalick	Z	36	4	5	5	5	79	52					Stutters when nervous	SPED
		5	Lerra	W	71	3	3	5	2	81	16					Struggles with vocab, chop	Rdg
		5	McGrath	NI	49	5	5	7	7	82	41					slow - pauses	SPED
		5	DeRo/Coh	Z	14	4	6	6	7	82	69						SPED
		5	DeR/Cohen	Z	19	5	6	7	4	84	52						SPED
		5	DeR/Cohen	Ρ	71	5	4	6	2	87	37					new to Bedford	SPED
		5	DeRocco	Z	43	4	3	6	4	88	27					reads choppy/ retell mixed	info
																New, slow, deliberate, no	
																errors, minimal words but	
																has main idea, repeats	
		5	Lerra		72	7	6	6	5	90	22					for comp	

Bedford Public Schools

Dr. Susan Rozen/ Linda Volpicelli

October 2008

Professional Development @ Davis & Lane

Davis Workshop Days

- Brought in Speakers for Assessment and Instruction
- Lane School Workshop days
 - 2006 Five components of reading
 - 2007 Fluency
 - 2008 Using Data to inform Instruction
- After School Professional Development
 - Lane
 - Don't you get it?
 - Teaching Reading Grade 3-5
 - Davis
 - Book Talks

What Next

- Expand Reading in Content Areas, K- 12 (Key Three Routine/CRISS)
 - Expand to Lane
- Continue to provide data to Principals and Administrators
- Focus on JGMS as next area for assessments to guide instruction
- Continue and expand use of GRADE/Dibels/MCAS to guide instruction
- Work with SPED/English to help achieve AYP for specialized populations
- Work with English Department to improve MCAS scores of at-risk students at JGMS to reach AYP
- Continue to work with Principals in efforts to pre and post test students to guide instruction



What Next: K - 5

- Writing
 - Writing Committee, K- 5
 - Review and revise writing prompts and rubric
 - Writing/Reading Integration
- Assessment reporting forms for each student to ensure that all students' needs are being met
- Using assessments to inform instruction
 - Monthly progress monitoring
 - Flexible groupings
 - Increase the use of leveled text in grades 4 and 5
 - Increase independent reading



Supplemental Materials



Susan Rozen: K-12 Reading/Literacy Director Linda Volpicelli: K-5 ELA Coordinator

- Bedford High School
 - Susan Rozen
 - Katie Cardinal
 - Ellen Ratichek (Wilson Tutor)
- John Glenn Middle School
 - Rachel Fawson
 - Robin Talkowski
 - Alison Breaux

Total FTE:10.8

- Lt. Job Lane School
 - Linda Volpicelli
 - Susan Breslin
- Lt. Eleazer Davis School
 - Rebecca Wetzel
 - Andrea Salipante
 - Jennifer Sinapius
- Grade 6 Reading
 - Melissa Michaud
 - Sarah Healy



New Reading Teachers

- Alison Breaux
 - B.S. Bridgewater State College; M.Ed. Framingham State College; Study Abroad, Oxford University
- Sarah Healy
 - BA Boston College; M.Ed. Lesley University
- Rebecca Wetzel
 - BA, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, MA, Columbia University
- Rachel Fawson
 - BA Boston College, Enrolled Simmons College, MA in Reading
- Jennifer Sinapius
 - BA Rivier College in Nashua New Hampshire
 - Enrolled MS, Salem State College
- Michele Michaud
 - BS in Elementary Education, University of Maine
 - Enrolled: MS in Language and Literacy, Wheelock College



- Assess, analyze, and remediate students district-wide
- Conduct professional development sessions
 - MCAS/Open Response Strategies
 - Teach the Components of Reading (Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Comprehension, Vocabulary),
 - Administer and analyze Assessment and Data to inform instruction, CRISS, Key –Three Routine,
 - Teach Reading in the Content Area,
 - Teach Vocabulary Skills in Math and Science
- Conduct comprehensive assessments of students for parents, guidance, special education, and classroom teachers
 - Provide input for IEP decisions and work closely with the special education department
 - Conduct Professional Development for specialists and teachers
 - Co-teach in classrooms



Our Additional Rolls

- Alison Breaux
 - Dibels Coordinator
- Susan Breslan
 - Dibels Coordinator
 - Workshop Day Presenter
- Susan Rozen
 - Key Three Trainer
 - MCAS Presenter
 - Coordinator of District Data for GRADE, Dibels
- Andrea Salipante
 - Dibels Coordinator
 - Assistant Principal
 - Senior Tutor Coordinator

Robin Talkowski

- Dibels District Coordinator
- CRISS Trainer
- New Teacher Course Facilitator
- Linda Volpicelli
 - K-5 Writing Committee Coordinator
 - Workshop Day Presenter
 - Professional Development Committee
- Rebecca Weitzel
 - Senior Tutor Coordinator
 - Mentor for 2008 2009



- **Educational levels**
 - 9 Masters, 2 Doctorates
- Certifications
 - Wilson, Program Levels I & II, CRISS, Project Read, Psychometrics, Reading Recovery, Reading, Special Needs
 - Teacher-Trainers: Project CRISS, Thinking Maps: A Language for Learning, Dibels, Key-Three Routine

Trainings

- Kurzweil, Lesley University Literacy Coach, Mel Levine "Schools Attuned", Linda Mood Bell Visualization and Verbalization, Teacher Reading Academies, MEET, Mela-O, Differentiated Instruction, Backwards Design, Supervision, Teachers as Scholars, Guided Reading, Writer's Workshop, Read Naturally, Dibels,
- Professional Development
 - DOE: Assessment Development Committee Grade 3 MCAS, Evaluation of University certification programs; College teaching; authorships, consulting to Universities and DOE, Content Institutes, Panel Presenter, Conference Presenters: NELMS, DOE Networking Meetings



Secondary Reading Grant

- A *Reading Next* grant ~\$60k
 - JGMS and High School
- Establish Reading Leadership team consisting of Reading Specialists, Special Education teachers, Classroom teachers, Department Chairs.
- Four years: 2005 2008

Reading Leadership Team (High School)

- Susan Rozen (Grant Coordinator)
- Lisa Morrison (Science)
- Heather Kurzman (Science)
- Mina Rosecan (History)
- Christine Kirkpatrick (History)
- Jake Sullivan (History)
- Christine Larrimore (Math)

- Nicole d'Entremont (Reading)
- Lauren O'Keefe (Reading)
- Justin Jordan (English)
- Kristen Tocci (English)
- Dan Niven (English)
- Deb Savarino (Special Education)
- Beth Billouin (Health)

Reading Leadership Team (JGMS)

- Robin Talkowski (JGMS Grant Coordinator)
- Rachel Fawson (Reading)
- Alison Breaux (Reading)
- Beth Gurney (Special Education)
- Nadine Coletta (Science)

- Joseph Casey (Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator)
- Charlie Puopolo, (Science)
- Brendan Desilets, (English)



DIBELS Assessment

- K 2
 - Letter Sounds
 - Accuracy in Oral Reading Fluency
- **3-5**
 - Automaticity
 - Word & Sentence Level
- **6-8**
 - Reading Rate and Flexibility



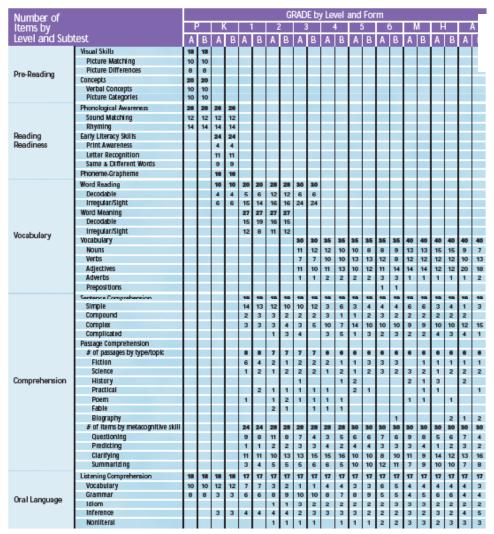
GRADE Assessment

- Davis, Grade 2
 - Baseline
- Lane Grades 3, 4, 5
 - Pre and Post testing
- JGMS, Grades 6, 7, 8
 - Leveling
 - Reading Classes, Pre and Post Testing
- HS, Grades 9
 - Pre and Post testing

LEVELS P-A

GRADE Scope & Sequence

Confidently assess core reading skills and measure AYP. Learn more about each subtest on the following pages.





Sentence Comprehension

Understanding context, vocabulary knowledge, and part of speech.

Passage Comprehension

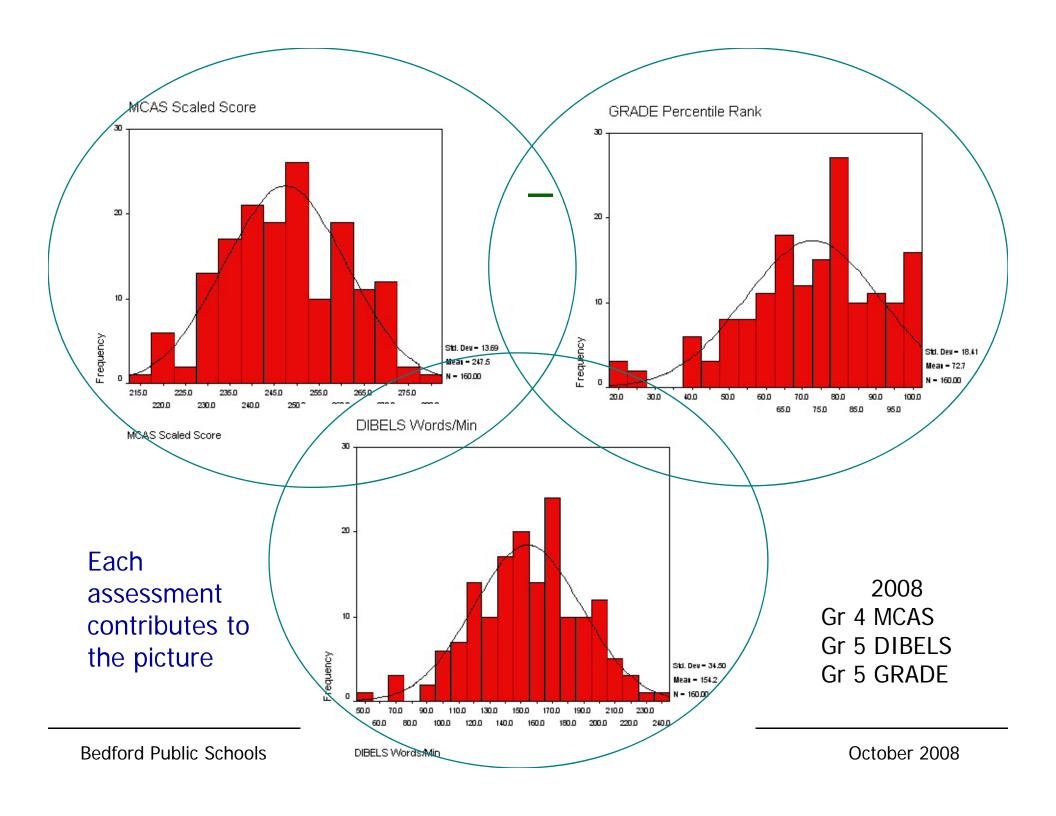
Comprehension skills using a variety of passage types
Comprehension items focus on the student using four different metacognitive strategies for comprehending text: questioning, clarifying, summarizing, and predicting.

Vocabulary

Vocabulary knowledge without benefit of context

Listening

Idioms, inferencing, etc.





Accomplishments

- Teaching Reading in Content Areas
 - K 12
- Linking Assessments to Instruction:
 - GRADE, Dibels, MCAS
- Using Assessments to Identify Students
- Professional Development on Linking Assessments & Reading in Content Areas



- MCAS/Open Response Teacher Training
- Writing: Davis/Lane/HS
- Curriculum changes: SOS & High School, Davis Reading Instruction