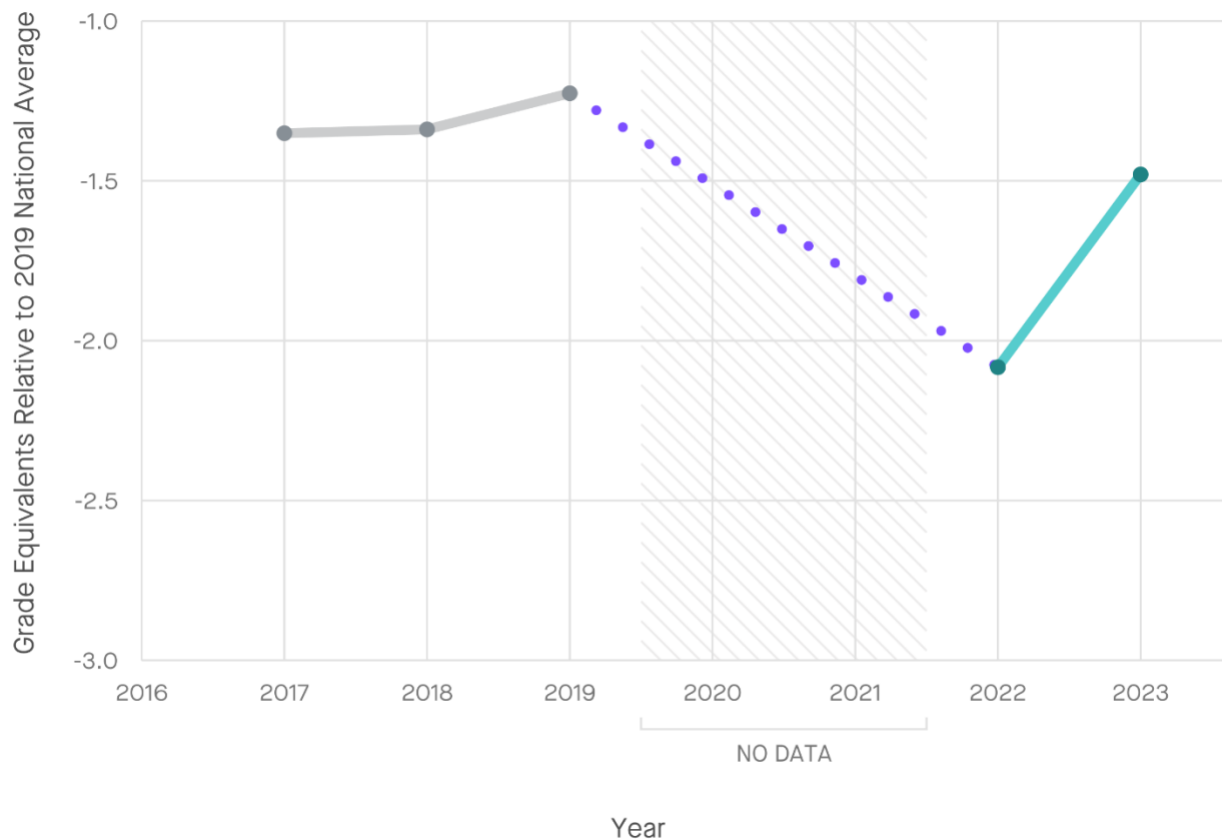


Metro Nashville Public Schools, Tennessee

Math Performance, Grades 3-8, 2016-2023



Lessons from Superintendent Adrienne Battle

Focus on Tier 1 Instruction

"Adopting high-quality curriculum materials has been a big area of focus." – Superintendent Battle

- Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) emphasized delivering a high-quality, daily curriculum in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, aiming to provide all students, regardless of their backgrounds, with a comprehensive and enriching education.
- The district integrated an evidence-based curriculum and conducted regular classroom observations to ensure its effective and efficient implementation across all classrooms.
- MNPS maintained high teaching standards by continuously monitoring and refining instructional methods to enhance educational quality.
- During the pandemic, the district adopted a non-negotiable curriculum to ensure college and career readiness, addressing the need for consistency in education and reducing the feasibility of supporting multiple curricula.

- Teachers were held accountable for strictly adhering to the designated curriculum, which was crucial in standardizing teaching methods and quality of instruction and curriculum implementation.
- The district adopted 'Wit & Wisdom' as the curriculum for English Language Arts (ELA) and implemented 'STEM Scopes' for mathematics. At the high school level, 'My Perspectives' serves as the ELA curriculum, while 'Open Up' is utilized for mathematics.

Principal Leadership

"We have been focused on developing a framework and guidance for excellence and effectiveness in school leadership." – Superintendent Battle

- The district focused on empowering school leaders by developing their capabilities. This effort involved the implementation of a Leadership Framework and Playbook, offering guidance for enhancing instructional quality and student outcomes. Part of this framework emphasized the importance of school leaders maintaining a constant presence and visibility within schools.
- Chief Academic Officers collaborated with school leaders to strengthen their academic leadership and observation skills.

Wraparound Support

"Our vision was that we would use our recovery funding to remove all barriers for outstanding instruction, making our schools a safer, more reliable, and predictable place for learning." – Superintendent Battle

- The district prioritized removing barriers to learning, providing wraparound supports to allow schools to focus on instruction. This holistic approach aimed to create a conducive learning environment by addressing students' diverse needs.
- The district invested in student well-being with services like advocacy centers, counseling, social work, nursing, and physical health services, alongside offering no-cost meals to all students.
- The Navigator program was introduced to connect each student with a caring adult for regular check-ins, focusing on their emotional and social development and ensuring individual attention.
- Enrichment opportunities were expanded through weekend and summer learning camps, providing engaging experiences outside the classroom to foster students' intellectual growth and personal interests.

Strategic Planning and Signature Initiatives

"We were able to leverage the additional resources from the crisis to adopt a full-curriculum implementation that includes support and training for teachers to implement with fidelity." – Superintendent Battle

"Streamlining platforms and intervention programs allows for greater district support for teachers and equity for students across all our schools." – Superintendent Battle

- Use of ESSER Funding
 - Total ESSER funds received: \$423 million.
 - \$9 million on tutoring in FY24.
 - \$24 million per year directly to schools.
 - Funding for additional professional development days and curriculum support.
 - Funded by ESSER, the district launched a significant tutoring initiative, involving over 7,000 students. This program aimed to align with Tier 1 instruction and was designed with various delivery models to cater to different student needs.
- The district's strategic planning emphasized specific outcomes in key areas: ELA, math, absenteeism, social-emotional learning indicators, and post-high school transitions.

Community Engagement and Family University

"Bringing the community into the schools." – Superintendent Battle

- The district placed a strong emphasis on strengthening and empowering school leaders, alongside educating parents on key educational issues and increasing involvement of the community in schools.
- There was an increased focus on family and community engagement, particularly with diverse populations.
- Initiatives like the Family University were launched to enhance community involvement. These efforts aimed to bridge the gap between schools and communities, providing education for parents on crucial issues and fostering greater engagement.
- Nashville expanded its community support model, Community Achieves, which involved designated staff collaborating with community partners to integrate them into the school environment.