

FULTON
SCIENCE ACADEMY
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
MIDDLE SCHOOL

CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL PROPOSAL
Executive summary

Submitted By
Ful ton Science Academy Inc.

1675 Hembree Road Alpharetta, GA 30004

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Performance Overview

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

The School has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) at 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006 school years with in all areas.

School Year	Test Participation	Academic Performance	Second Indicator	Final AYP Status
2002-2003	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2003-2004	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2004-2005	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2005-2006	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 1: Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Status

Academic Achievements

- 58 students were awarded the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places at the *State Level* in 15 different occasions in science, technology and language related competitions such as Georgia Technology and Engineering Fair, Science Fair, or Spelling Bee.
- 262 students were awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in different competitions across the Fulton County School District and Metro Atlanta Regional Area. This number is comparable to the number of School System awardees in the same competitions.
- In the 2005-06 school year FSA was the State Champion in the number of awards received in the Georgia Technology and Engineering Fair among all of the middle schools participated in the competition. Given the size of FSA as being very small compared to most other schools the degree of achievement is striking.
- FSA won the 3rd place in Science Olympiad in the past three year in a row being second only to National Science Olympiad winners.
- FSA students who took high school math courses Algebra I and Geometry passed the challenging End of Course Tests administered by the State at remarkable rates.

School Year	Algebra I	Geometry
2002-2003	Not administered	Not administered
2003-2004	98 %	100 %
2004-2005	92 %	100 %
2005-2006	100 %	100 %

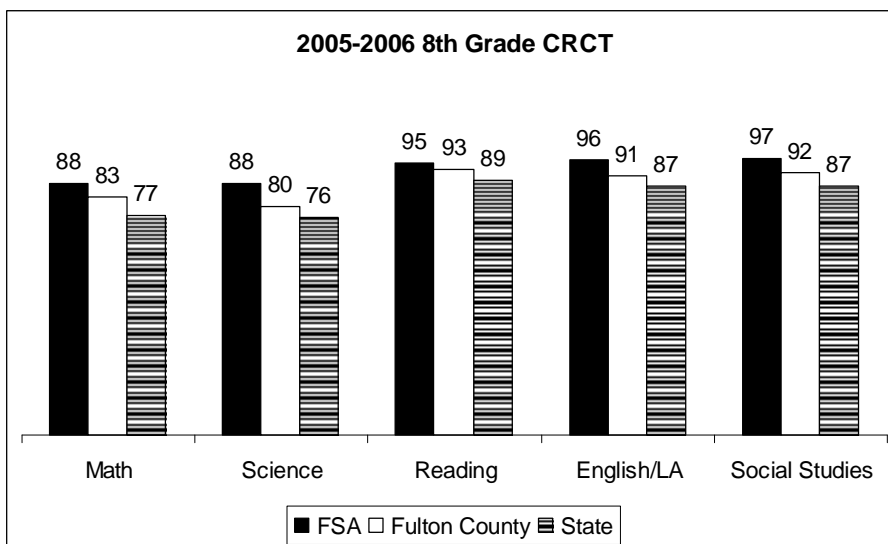
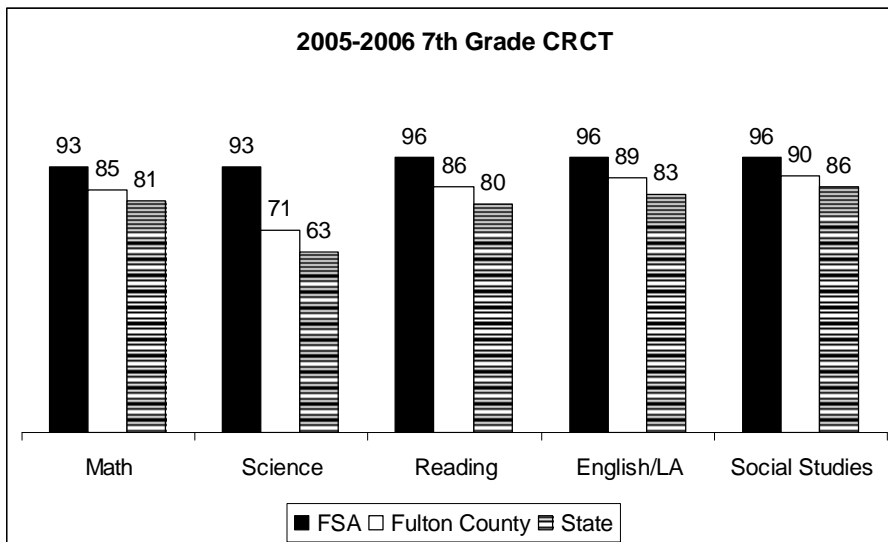
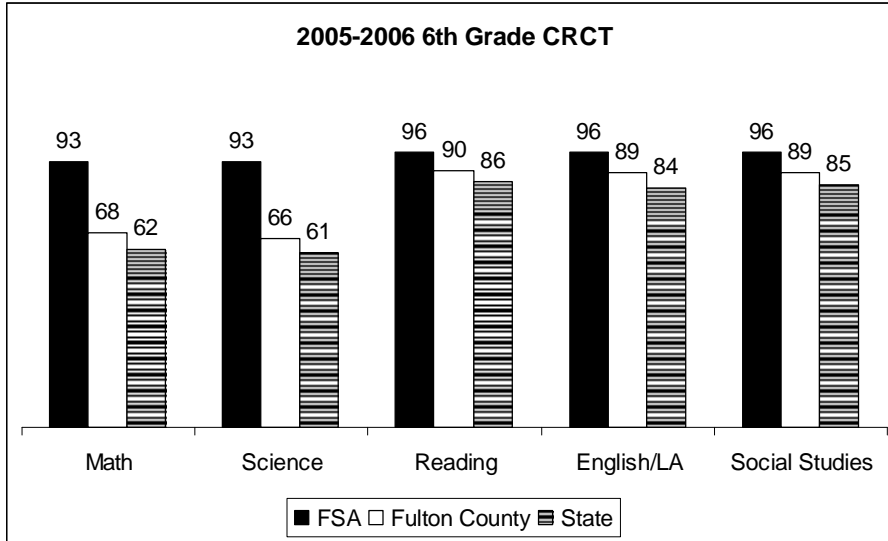
Table 2: End Of Course Test (EOCT) Results

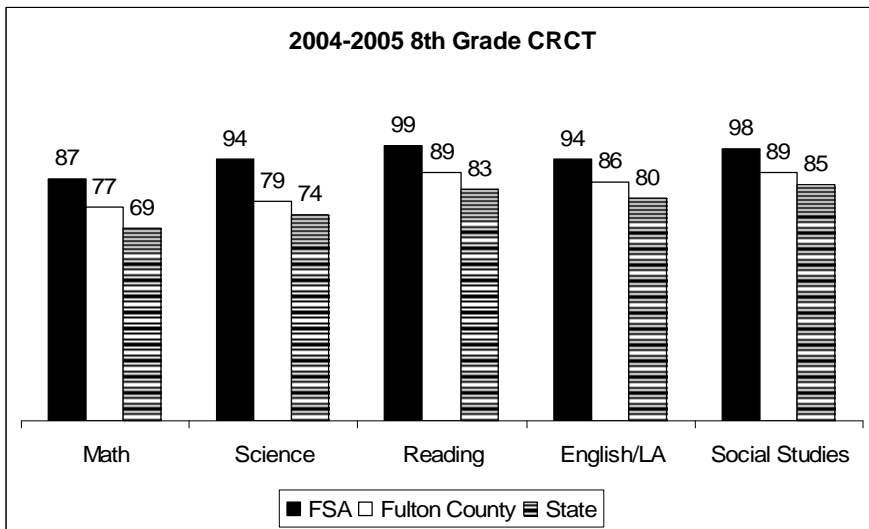
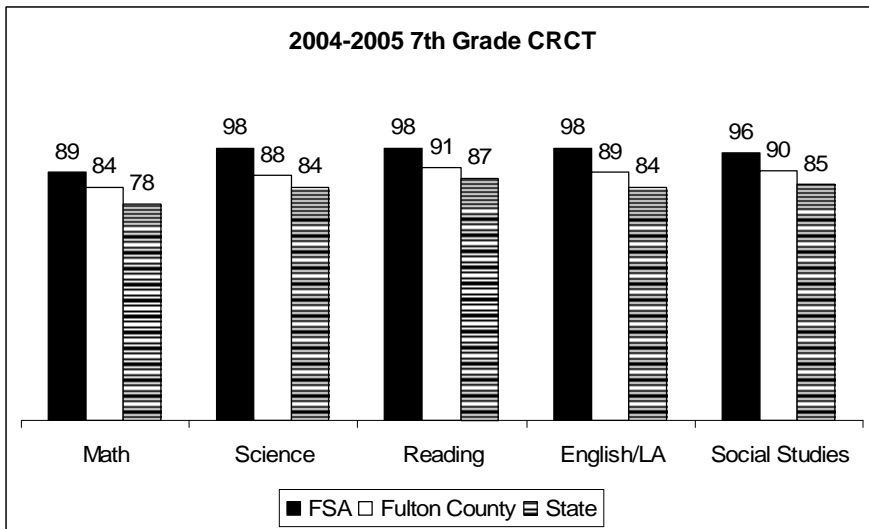
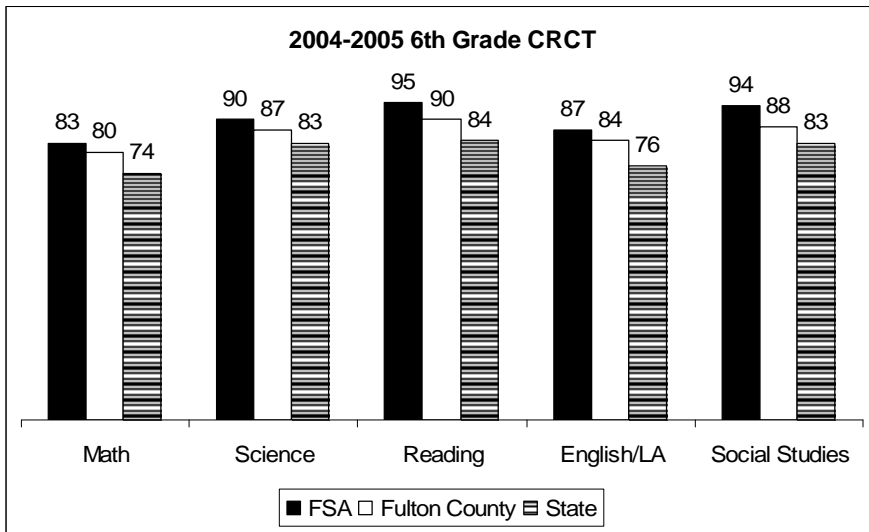
- FSA students did excellently well in Criterion Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) in the Social Studies area. The CRCT results for Math and Science are separately discussed in the Performance Goals section below. The CRCT results for Reading and Language Arts are part of the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

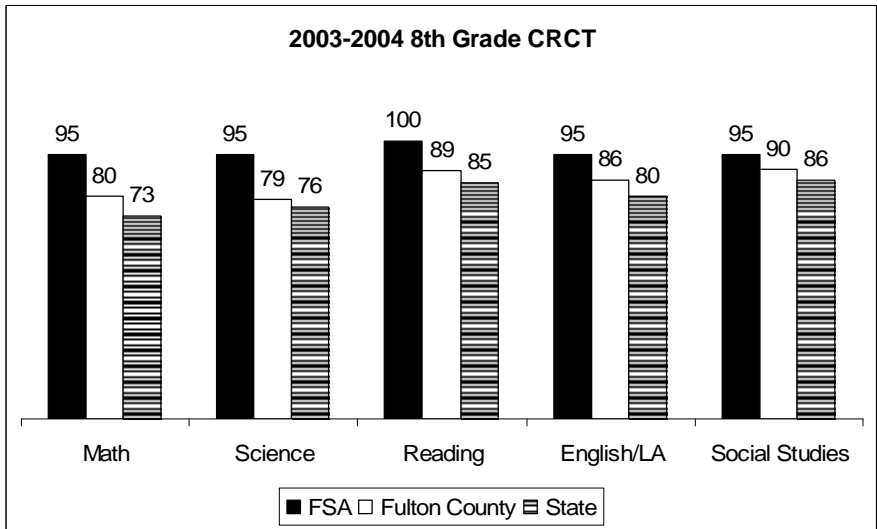
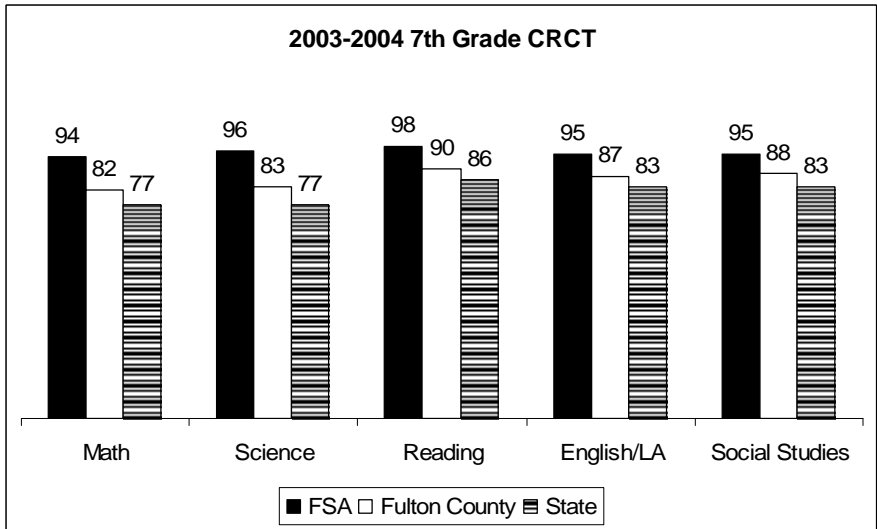
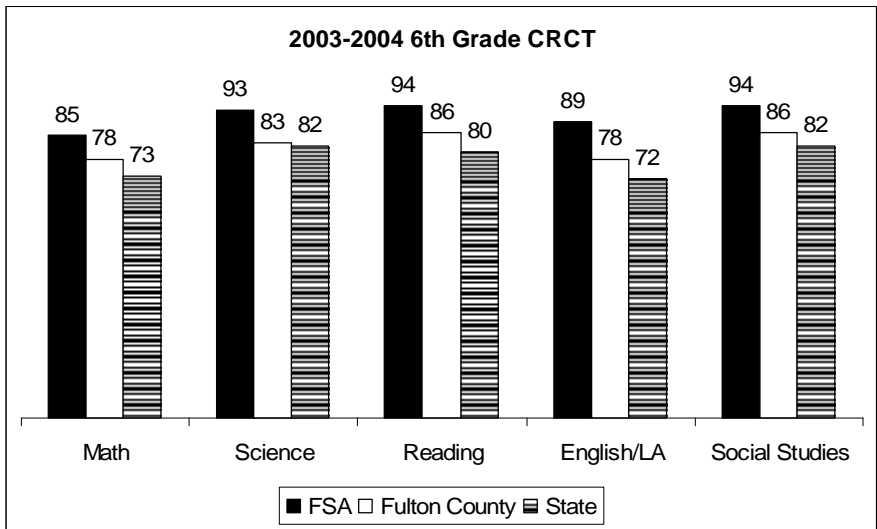
process and included in the AYP section above. Here we just note that all of the results are as good as the Social Studies area.

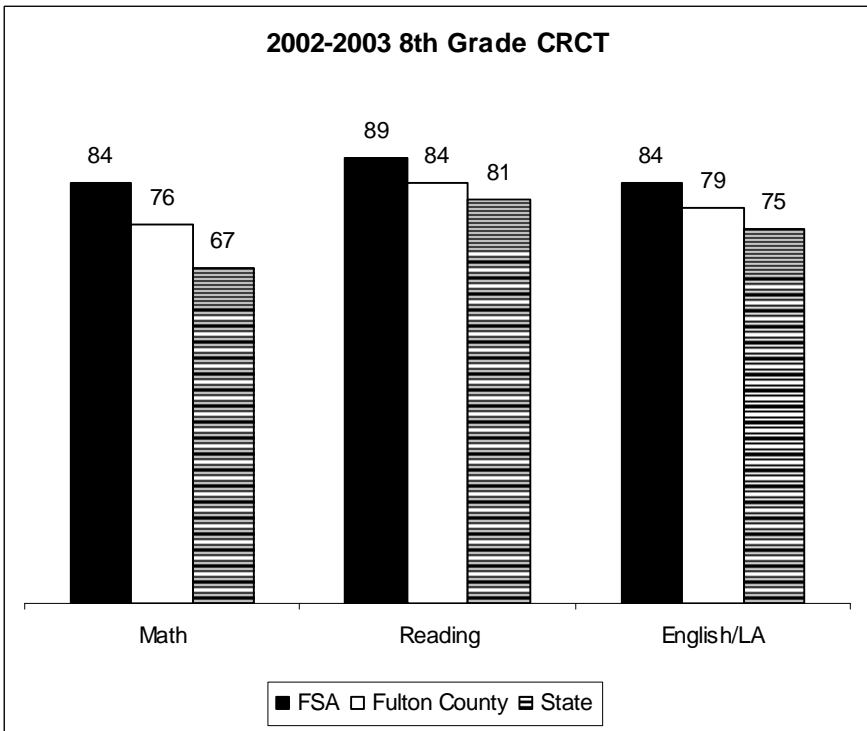
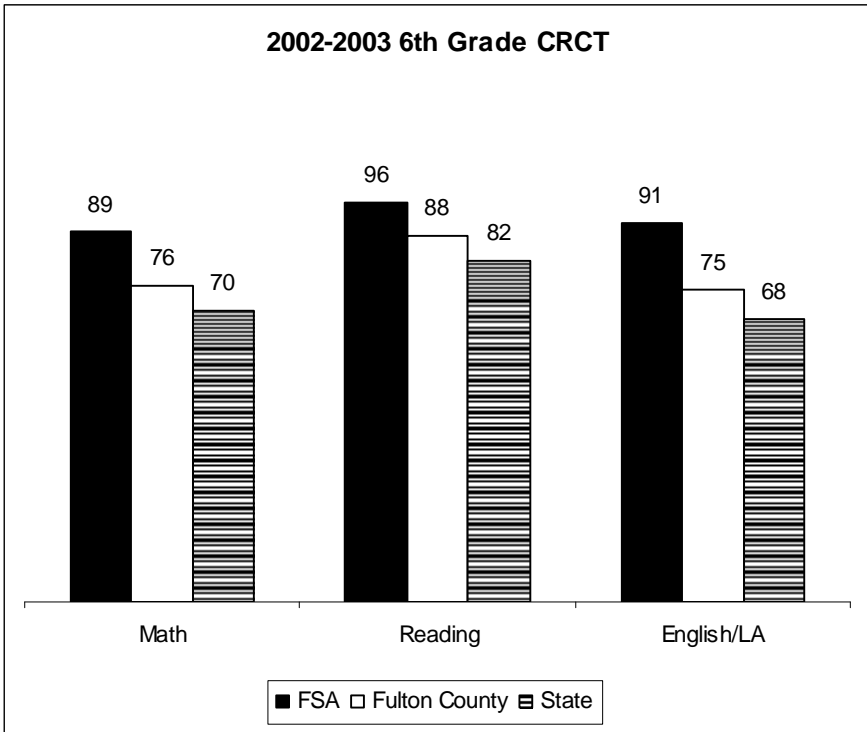
School Year	% of Students who met or exceeded the standards at Social Studies CRCT
2003	Not administered
2004	96 %
2005	96 %
2006	97 %

Table 2: Social Studies Criterion Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) Results









Accreditation

The School is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) in 2004-2005 school year.

Fiscal Stability

All fiscal years in which the school was in operation ended in black.

Parental Satisfaction and Support

The Charter School has been ranked top by parents and students as indicated by the letters and emails attached in the charter renewal petition. Many indicators show that parents choose FSA for their students mainly for the following features.

- Strength of the academic program.
- Safety and discipline program.
- Professional care of the faculty and the administration.
- Small size of the school and classes.

Performance Goals

Following are the goals from the initial charter.

- The percentage of FSA Middle School students who score 2 or 3 on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) in the content area of Mathematics will be higher than that of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test is administered.
- The percentage of FSA Middle School students who score 2 or 3 on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) in the content area of Science will be higher than that of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test is administered.
- Average score of students of FSA Middle School who are administered the Stanford-9 Test in the content area of Mathematics will be higher than the average score of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test administered.
- Average score of students of FSA Middle School who are administered the Stanford-9 Test in the content area of Science will be higher than the average score of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test administered.
- Average PSAT math score of students coming from FSA Middle School who will be administered the test in the ninth grade will be higher than that of a matched pair group of students in the District.
- Percentage of total students participating at regional or national science competitions, science fairs and alike at the end of the first three year period will be higher than that of a similar group of students in the District.

The following evaluation is performed by the Fulton County Program Evaluation staff and presented to the Fulton County Board of Education in regards to the school performance goals. Some of the components of the evaluation are included as addition to the School Performance Goals that are described in the FSA Charter.

2002-03	The 6th grade CRCT reading, math, and English/ LA scores of students attending FSA were significantly higher than those of similar students attending other FCSS schools. The 8th grade CRCT scores were not significantly different. Evaluations will continue according to charter school policy.
2003-04	The science CRCT scores of students attending FSA were significantly higher than those of similar students attending other FCSS schools in grades 6, 7, and 8. The reading and social studies CRCT scores were also significantly higher, on average, among FSA students in grade 7 and 8. There was no significant difference between the math CRCT scores of FSA students and the comparison group. FSA demonstrated higher student and teacher attrition rates than the selected comparison schools. Evaluations will continue according to charter school policy. FCSS staff should continue to meet with charter school staff to share findings from evaluation.
2004-05	The mean scale score of 8 th grade FSA students was significantly higher than the comparison group on the CRCT in Science and Social Studies. However, 6 th grade FSA students scored significantly lower than comparison students on the Mathematics CRCT. No significant differences were found on the ITBS between 8th grade FSA students and a comparison group. PSAT scores for 9th graders who previously attended FSA as 8th graders did not differ from a comparison group of students not previously attending FSA. Student stability rates were lower for FSA than for selected comparison schools. Teachers and staff at FSA provided higher average satisfaction ratings than those at comparison schools on all survey items. Evaluations will continue according to charter school policy. Evaluation staff will continue to work with the school to share findings and review the evaluation process.
2005-06	The mean scale score of all FSA students was significantly higher than the comparison group on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) in Science. Additionally, 6th and 7th grade FSA students outperformed the comparison group in Social Studies. An analysis of the percentage of students performing at Levels 2 or 3 on the CRCT indicated that a significantly higher percentage of 6th grade FSA students than comparison students met or exceeded the standards in Mathematics and Science. No significant differences were found for 7th and 8th grade students. Preliminary Scholastic Achievement Test (PSAT) scores were also examined for 9th grade students in 2005-06 who previously attended FSA in 2004-05 as 8th graders. No significant differences were found between FSA students and the comparison group on the Mathematics, Verbal, or Writing subtests.

Table 3: Evaluation of the Performance Goals

Performance Goal: The percentage of FSA Middle School students who score 2 or 3 on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) in the content area of Science will be higher than that of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test is administered.					
6th Grade		7th Grade		8th Grade	
<i>Status</i>					
2002-03	No data available	2002-03	No data available.	2002-03	No significant difference.
2003-04	Significantly higher	2003-04	Significantly higher	2003-04	Significantly higher
2004-05	No data available	2004-05	No data available.	2004-05	Significantly higher
2005-06	Significantly higher	2005-06	Significantly higher	2005-06	Significantly higher

Performance Goal: The percentage of FSA Middle School students who score 2 or 3 on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) in the content area of Mathematics will be higher than that of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test is administered.					
6th Grade		7th Grade		8th Grade	
<i>Status</i>					
2002-03	Significantly higher.	2002-03	No data available.	2002-03	No significant difference.
2003-04	No significant difference.	2003-04	No significant difference	2003-04	No significant difference
2004-05	Significantly lower	2004-05	No data available.	2004-05	No data available
2005-06	Significantly higher	2005-06	No significant difference	2005-06	No significant difference

Performance Goal: Average score of students of FSA Middle School who are administered the Stanford-9 Test in the content area of Mathematics will be higher than the average score of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test administered. (Only ITBS data available where indicated)					
8th Grade					
<i>Status</i>					
2002-03	No data available.				
2003-04	No data available.				
2004-05	No significant difference				
2005-06	No data available.				

Performance Goal: Average score of students of FSA Middle School who are administered the Stanford-9 Test in the content area of Science will be higher than the average score of a match pair group of students in the District every year the test administered. (Only ITBS data available where indicated)					
8th Grade					
<i>Status</i>					
2002-03	No data available.				
2003-04	No data available.				
2004-05	No significant difference				
2005-06	No data available.				

Performance Goal:	
Average PSAT math score of students coming from FSA Middle School who will be administered the test in the ninth grade will be higher than that of a matched pair group of students in the District.	
8th Grade	
<i>Status</i>	
2002-03	No data available.
2003-04	No data available.
2004-05	No significant difference
2005-06	No significant difference

Performance Goal:	
Percentage of total students participating at regional or national science competitions, science fairs and alike at the end of the first three year period will be higher than that of a similar group of students in the District.	
Total Students	
<i>Status</i>	
2002-03	No data available.
2003-04	No data available.
2004-05	No data available.
2005-06	No data available.

Proposed Change

Board Composition

The Charter School Governing Board will consist of seven members. Five members of the Governing Board are the Board of Directors of Fulton Science Academy, Inc. After the commencement of this charter an election will be held in the third week of September to form the Governing Board by adding two parent members to the five members of the Board of Directors. Candidates may self-nominate themselves for the positions. In the elections full-time employees and parents (one vote per student) will cast votes. Candidates who receive highest number of the valid votes will be the Governing Board members for a one year term.

PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Fulton County Schools Parent Perception Survey 2003

Demographic Information FULTON SCIENCE ACADEMY

	TOTAL -----
NUMBER OF PARENTS RESPONDING	63 100.0%
CHILD'S GENDER	62 100.0%
Female	21 33.9%
Male	41 66.1%
CHILD'S ETHNICITY	61 100.0%
Black, Non-Hispanic	18 29.5%
Hispanic	2 3.3%
White, Non-Hispanic	39 63.9%
Other	2 3.3%

Fulton County Schools
Parent Perception Survey 2003

Demographic Information
FULTON SCIENCE ACADEMY

	TOTAL	-----
GRADE	61	
	100.0%	
6th	32	
	52.5%	
7th	17	
	27.9%	
8th	12	
	19.7%	
YEARS ATTENDING THIS SCHOOL	62	
	100.0%	
1	62	
	100.0%	

Fulton County Schools
Parent Perception Survey 2003

Survey Questions
FULTON SCIENCE ACADEMY

	TOTAL	STR AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STR DISAG	DONT KNOW	MEAN
SAFE AND SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
School personnel do what they need to do to ensure that students are safe at this school..	62 100.0%	19 30.6%	29 46.8%	9 14.5%	2 3.2%	3 4.8%	3.10
Sexual harassment is not a problem at this school.	61 100.0%	18 29.5%	29 47.5%	5 8.2%	2 3.3%	7 11.5%	3.17
Smoking, alcohol, and other drug abuse are not problems at this school.	61 100.0%	22 36.1%	26 42.6%	-	1 1.6%	12 19.7%	3.41
Students accept and respect each other.	63 100.0%	15 23.8%	33 52.4%	7 11.1%	5 7.9%	3 4.8%	2.97
School personnel encourage good student behavior.	63 100.0%	26 41.3%	29 46.0%	3 4.8%	3 4.8%	2 3.2%	3.28
School personnel treat students in a fair and consistent manner.	62 100.0%	19 30.6%	25 40.3%	11 17.7%	5 8.1%	2 3.2%	2.97
School personnel are sensitive to the needs of students, including those with special needs.	63 100.0%	12 19.0%	30 47.6%	9 14.3%	4 6.3%	8 12.7%	2.91
School personnel have high expectations for my son/daughter.	63 100.0%	23 36.5%	24 38.1%	7 11.1%	4 6.3%	5 7.9%	3.14
School personnel are concerned about my son/daughter as an individual.	61 100.0%	17 27.9%	26 42.6%	12 19.7%	4 6.6%	2 3.3%	2.95
SCHOOL COMMUNICATION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Communication between home and school is timely and appropriate.	63 100.0%	28 44.4%	25 39.7%	8 12.7%	2 3.2%	-	3.25
Parents and students help to make decisions at this school.	63 100.0%	25 39.7%	25 39.7%	4 6.3%	8 12.7%	1 1.6%	3.08
Parents and community members feel welcome in this school.	63 100.0%	27 42.9%	28 44.4%	3 4.8%	4 6.3%	1 1.6%	3.26
Parents, community members, and business partners are actively involved in this school.	63 100.0%	21 33.3%	32 50.8%	6 9.5%	2 3.2%	2 3.2%	3.18
Students are recognized for success at this school.	63 100.0%	34 54.0%	23 36.5%	4 6.3%	1 1.6%	1 1.6%	3.45
The community is proud of this school.	63 100.0%	16 25.4%	22 34.9%	6 9.5%	1 1.6%	18 28.6%	3.18

Fulton County Schools
Parent Perception Survey 2003

Survey Questions
FULTON SCIENCE ACADEMY

	TOTAL	STR	AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STR	DISAG	DONT	KNOW	MEAN
SCHOOL OPERATIONS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
The school building is a comfortable place to learn.	63 100.0%	21 33.3%	33 52.4%	6 9.5%	2 3.2%	1 1.6%				3.18
I am satisfied with this school's cleanliness.	63 100.0%	19 30.2%	34 54.0%	7 11.1%	2 3.2%	1 1.6%				3.13
I am satisfied with bus transportation at this school.	63 100.0%	4 6.3%	16 25.4%	17 27.0%	20 31.7%	6 9.5%				2.07
I am satisfied with this school's food services.	63 100.0%	5 7.9%	16 25.4%	21 33.3%	16 25.4%	5 7.9%				2.17
QUALITY OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
This school offers a challenging, high quality educational program for my child.	63 100.0%	21 33.3%	29 46.0%	7 11.1%	4 6.3%	2 3.2%				3.10
This school is preparing my child for the future.	61 100.0%	20 32.8%	25 41.0%	9 14.8%	5 8.2%	2 3.3%				3.02
My child is given the appropriate amount of homework to help him/her succeed in his/her studies.	62 100.0%	18 29.0%	25 40.3%	10 16.1%	5 8.1%	4 6.5%				2.97
Technology is used with instruction in many of my child's classes.	63 100.0%	23 36.5%	26 41.3%	5 7.9%	2 3.2%	7 11.1%				3.25
This school is doing a good job in Language Arts.	63 100.0%	21 33.3%	29 46.0%	10 15.9%	3 4.8%	-				3.08
This school is doing a good job in Math.	63 100.0%	25 39.7%	25 39.7%	9 14.3%	3 4.8%	1 1.6%				3.16
This school is doing a good job in Science.	63 100.0%	28 44.4%	28 44.4%	4 6.3%	2 3.2%	1 1.6%				3.32
This school is doing a good job in Social Studies.	63 100.0%	16 25.4%	37 58.7%	8 12.7%	2 3.2%	-				3.06
This school is doing a good job in Fine Arts.	63 100.0%	14 22.2%	23 36.5%	15 23.8%	5 7.9%	6 9.5%				2.81
This school is doing a good job in Physical Education.	62 100.0%	10 16.1%	27 43.5%	8 12.9%	6 9.7%	11 17.7%				2.80
This school is doing a good job in Health Education.	61 100.0%	10 16.4%	31 50.8%	5 8.2%	2 3.3%	13 21.3%				3.02
This school is doing a good job in Foreign Languages.	60 100.0%	18 30.0%	21 35.0%	9 15.0%	5 8.3%	7 11.7%				2.98
This school is doing a good job in Career Technology Education.	61 100.0%	11 18.0%	16 26.2%	7 11.5%	3 4.9%	24 39.3%				2.95

Fulton County Schools
Parent Perception Survey 2003

How would you rate your overall experience at this school?
FULTON SCIENCE ACADEMY

	TOTAL

10 - Very Good	13 20.6%
9 -	5 7.9%
8 -	17 27.0%
7 -	13 20.6%
6 -	2 3.2%
5 -	1 1.6%
4 -	2 3.2%
3 -	2 3.2%
2 -	6 9.5%
1 - Very Bad	2 3.2%
MEAN	7.10
STANDARD DEVIATION	2.64