

STANDARD ACHIEVEMENT TEST RESULTS FOR WCCA

Dear Parents:

The Academy uses the SAT, which is a norm-referenced test and is one way of assessing student achievement. The scores on norm-referenced tests like the SAT have meaning in reference to a norm group. The SAT norm group is a national cross-section of students to whom the test was initially given. Students who take the test in the years following the norm group have their scores compared to the norm group's scores. A norm-referenced test does not necessarily provide information about what a student learned during the school year. The classroom teacher is the best one to assess a student's progress in the school's curriculum. The norm-referenced test simply tells how a student is doing compared to the national norm group on the content covered by the norm-referenced test (not necessarily the same content covered by the school).

The chart below, based on the 2011 test scores at WCCA, is provided to help parents assess a child's class standing. For example, a sixth grade student scoring at the 70th percentile in **Complete Reading** is doing well above the **national average (the 50th percentile)**, but would be performing below the class average (the 83rd percentile) in our school. *PR* stands for percentile rank and *S* stands for stanine (both defined below). In the examples below, the first number is the percentile rank, and the second number is the stanine.

Grade	Complete Reading	Complete Math	Language	Science
K Natl PR-S	82-7	68-6	NA	69-6
1 Natl PR-S	66-6	70-6	68-6	76-6
2 Natl PR-S	79-7	85-7	80-7	79-7
3 Natl PR-S	80-6	86-7	79-7	84-7
4 Natl PR-S	60-6	59-5	61-6	65-6
5 Natl PR-S	89-8	92-8	87-7	84-7
6 Natl PR-S	83-7	89-8	84-7	87-7
7 Natl PR-S	77-7	74-6	83-7	85-7
8 Natl PR-S	78-7	83-7	84-7	87-7

National Percentile Rank (Natl PR)—The national Percentile Rank indicates the percent of students in the norm reference group who took the test and fell below our scores. For example, a class scoring at the 60th percentile does not mean a class answered 60 percent of the answers correct instead, a class scoring at the 60th percentile scored better than 60 percent of the students in the national norm reference group. **Percentile ranks range from 1 to 99, with 50 indicating the average performance at that grade level.**

National Stanine (S)—Stanine stands for “standard of nine.” Stanines are scored from a low of 1 to a high of 9, with **5 indicating average performance**. Stanines are one means of reporting the results from a normal (bell) curve. The student's score is placed on the normal curve. The curve is divided into nine sections. **The first three stanines (1-3) are considered to be below average, the next three are considered in the average range (4-6), and the top three (7-9) are considered above average.** Stanines are equal intervals where the difference between 2 and 4 represents about the same difference as between 5 and 7. A student who scored in the 1st stanine scored as well as the bottom 4 percent of the norm group students at that grade level, and a student scoring in the 9th stanine scored as well as the top 4 percent of the norm group students.