



Birches Elementary School (15-5500-027)

2019-2020

County: Gloucester

Principal: Ms. Jessica Rose

District: Washington Township School District

[School Website](#)

416 Westminster Blvd
Turnersville, NJ 08012-1625

856-232-1290



426
Total Students



KG-05
Grades Offered

Overview & Resources

The School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) commitment to providing parents, students, and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. We encourage you to use these reports to:

- **Learn more** about the school and the district
- **Start conversations** with school community members and ask questions
- **Engage** with school communities to identify where schools are doing well and where they can improve

Important Notes for 2019-2020: The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the way the NJDOE was able to measure school performance and student achievement for the 2019-2020 School Performance Reports. Some data is not available at all and other data, while available, may not look the same as it did in prior years. The NJDOE also recognizes that our existing data can't begin to measure the hard work and perseverance of the students, families, educators and community members during this difficult year. This past year has been unlike any other, and the NJDOE believes that it is critical to use the available data in the reports, along with other information collected directly within districts and communities, to start conversations, identify gaps in information, and begin to find ways to address the impacts of COVID-19 and ensure all students receive the support that they need.

The 2019-2020 School Performance Reports will not include the following data elements:

- Statewide assessment participation and performance (NJSLA, DLM, ACCESS for ELLs)
- Student growth Data
- Chronic absenteeism rates
- Progress toward English language proficiency
- ESSA Summative ratings or indicator scores
- Status in meeting annual targets or standards for ESSA indicators

A new "[Impact of COVID-19 on Data Availability](#)" resource summarizes which data is available, which data is not available, and which data may have been impacted. Notes are included throughout the School Performance Reports and the Reference Guide to explain where data is missing or impacted by COVID-19. Look for "Important Note for 2019-2020" sections.

School Performance Report Resources:

The NJDOE has several resource documents that can help you understand and use the School Performance Reports, which can also be found under the "Resource Documents" link at the top of the page:

- New [Impact of COVID-19 on Data Availability](#)
- One-page guides to help start conversations for [administrators](#), [educators](#), [elementary](#), and [middle and high school families](#)
- [Reference Guide](#) with details on all the data in these reports
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Understanding Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates](#)
- [Understanding Student Growth Percentiles](#)
- [Data Privacy Rules](#) (why you see *s and N's in the reports)

Let the NJDOE know how we can improve future reports by taking our [feedback survey](#). Contact reportcard@doe.nj.gov with any questions about the reports

Report Key:

- * Data is not displayed in order to protect student privacy
- ** Accountability calculations require 20 or more students
- N** No Data is available to display
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Overview & Resources

School Contact Information

This table contains contact information including principal name, address, phone number, email address, and social media information, if provided.

Type	Contact Information
County	Gloucester
District	Washington Township School District
Principal Name	Ms. Jessica Rose
Address	416 Westminster Blvd, Turnersville, NJ 08012-1625
Phone Number	856-232-1290
Email Address	jrose@wtps.org
Website	www.wtps.org/birches
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/BirchesPTO
Twitter	https://twitter.com/BirchesElem

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Demographics

Enrollment data reflects enrollment reported at the end of the school year and only includes students attending the school. Students that attend programs at other schools or outside of the district are not included in enrollment counts and percentages.

Enrollment Trends by Grade

This table shows the number of students enrolled by grade for the past three school years. Any students enrolled outside of the grades offered will be included in the total enrollment.

Grade	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
KG	5	2	4
1	85	79	68
2	87	87	78
3	87	80	95
4	102	89	86
5	85	99	95
Total	451	436	426

Enrollment Trends by Student Group

This table shows the percentage of students by student group for the past three school years. Note that 2019-20 is the first year that data was collected for non-binary/undesignated gender and, as a result, the 2019-20 data may not be a true representation of the student population. Additionally, to protect student privacy, gender percentages for 2019-20 are rounded to the nearest 0.5.

Student Group	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Female	47.5%	46.1%	45.5%
Male	52.5%	53.9%	54.5%
Non-Binary/Undesignated Gender			<1%
Economically Disadvantaged Students	19.5%	21.3%	20.4%
Students with Disabilities	19.5%	18.1%	17.8%
English Learners	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
Homeless Students	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Students in Foster Care	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
Military-Connected Students	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Migrant Students	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Enrollment by Racial and Ethnic Group

This table shows the percentage of students by racial and ethnic group for the past three school years.

Racial And Ethnic Group	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
White	77.2%	79.6%	81.5%
Hispanic	8.2%	8.3%	6.8%
Black or African American	6.0%	4.6%	4.7%
Asian	5.1%	4.6%	4.2%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Two Or More Races	3.3%	2.8%	2.8%

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Enrollment Trends by Full/Half Day PK and KG

This table shows number of students in full day and half day Pre-Kindergarten (PK) and Kindergarten (KG) for the past three school years.

Grade	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
KG - Half Day	0	0	0
KG - Full Day	5	2	4

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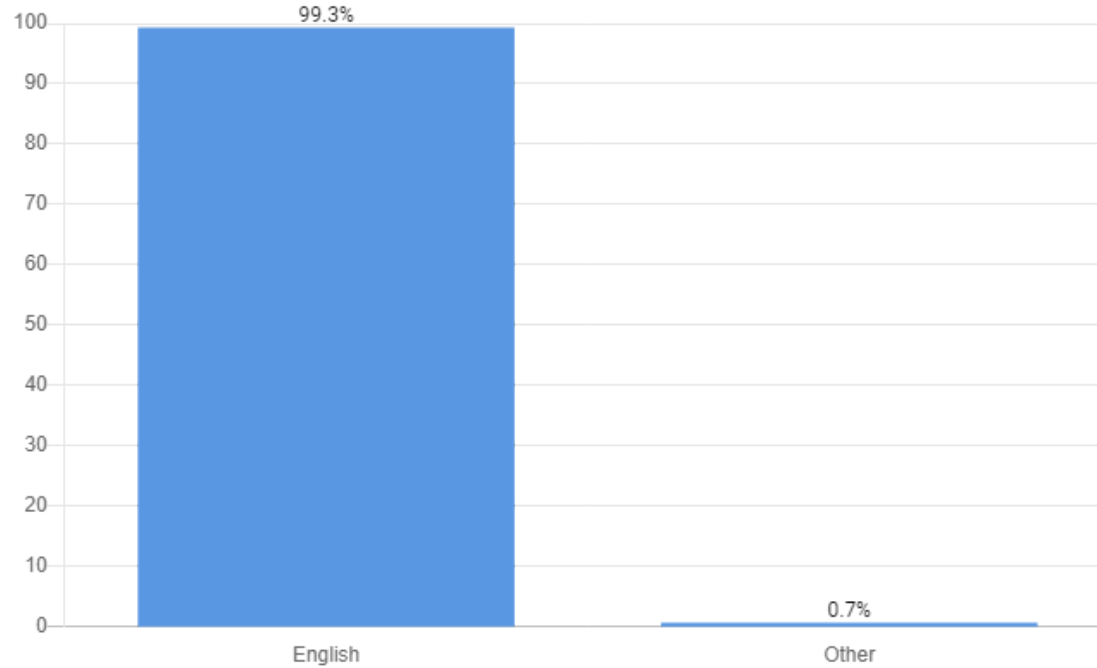
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Enrollment by Home Language

This chart shows the percentage of students by primary home language. Only the top 5 languages with at least 1% of students are shown, and students with other home languages are included in the Other Languages total. To see this data in a table, click the Table View option below the chart.





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Student Growth

Student growth is a measure of how much students are learning each year. Each student receives a Student Growth Percentile (SGP) for English Language Arts (ELA) in grades 4 through 8 and for Mathematics in grades 4 through 7 that explains their progress compared to students who had the same test scores in previous years.

A student's SGP falls between 1 and 99 and can be grouped into three levels:

Low Growth: Less than 35

Typical Growth: Between 35 and 65

High Growth: Greater than 65

If the student growth percentiles for all students in the school are ordered from smallest to largest, the median student growth percentile (mSGP) for the school is the percentile in the middle of that list. Watch a short [video about Student Growth Percentiles](#) that explains how they are calculated for students and how median Student Growth Percentiles (mSGP) are calculated for groups of students.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, student growth percentiles were not calculated and will not be reported for the 2019-20 school year. Tables showing 2019-20 median student growth percentiles and other measures of student growth will not be included in this report.

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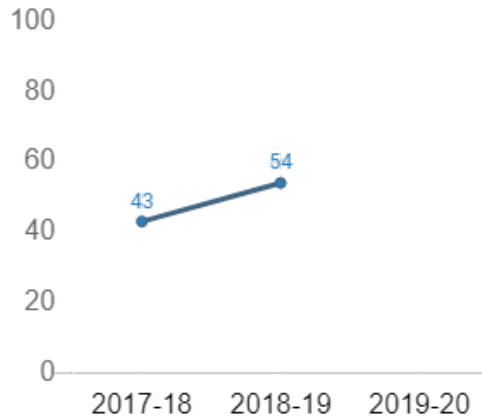
Student Growth

Student Growth Trends and Progress

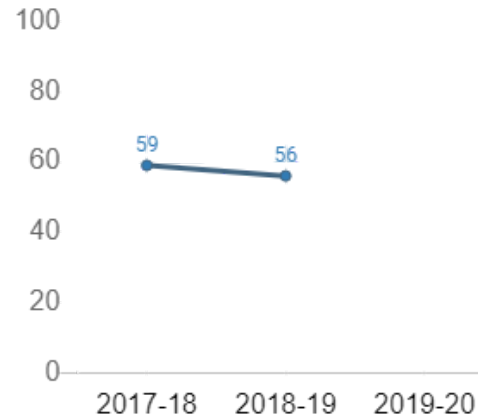
These graphs illustrate trends in student growth over the last three years. Student growth is measured by median student growth percentile. The table below tells us how student growth over the last three years compares to the state standard of 40-59.5 and to the statewide median.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, student growth percentile were not calculated and will not be reported for the 2019-20 school year.

ELA Median Student Growth Percentile



Math Median Student Growth Percentile



Performance Measure	2017-18 ELA	2018-19 ELA	2019-20 ELA	2017-18 Math	2018-19 Math	2019-20 Math
Median Student Growth Percentile	43	54		59	56	
Met Standard (40-59.5)?	Met Standard	Met Standard		Met Standard	Met Standard	
Statewide: Median Student Growth Percentile	50	50		50	50	

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Academic Achievement

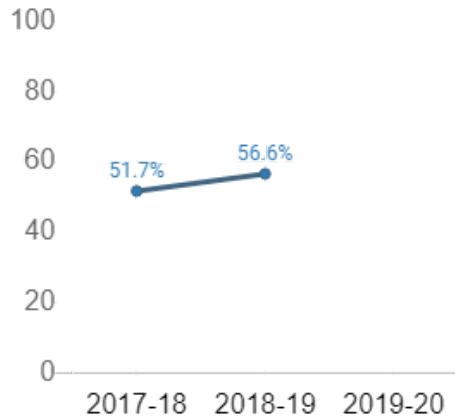
Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, statewide assessment results for the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA), Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM), and ACCESS for ELLs assessments and related accountability measures are not available and will not be reported for the 2019-20 school year. Tables showing 2019-20 statewide assessment results and related accountability measures will not be included in this report.

English Language Arts and Mathematics Performance Trends

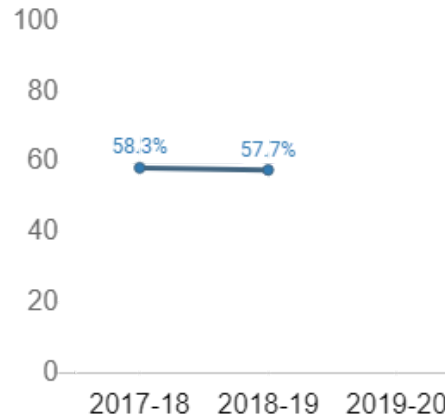
These graphs show trends in the Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability over the last three years. The data includes the results of students taking both the statewide assessment (NJSLA for 2018-19 and PARCC for 2017-18) and the DLM alternate assessment. The Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability measures the percentage of students that met or exceeded expectations on the assessments (NJSLA/PARCC or DLM) with an adjustment made if the participation rate is below 95% to ensure reporting on at least 95% of students. NJSLA/PARCC results include only students in grades 3 through 10. Students that were enrolled for less than half a school year are excluded from performance results. The table below provides participation rates, proficiency rates, annual targets and status in meeting the targets, and statewide proficiency rates.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, statewide assessment results are not available.

ELA Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability



Math Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability



Performance Measure	2017-18 ELA	2018-19 ELA	2019-20 ELA	2017-18 Math	2018-19 Math	2019-20 Math
Participation Rate	98.2%	99.3%		98.2%	99.3%	
Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability	51.7%	56.6%		58.3%	57.7%	
Annual Target	47.9%	49.7%		55.0%	56.4%	
Met Annual Target?	Met Target	Met Target		Met Target	Met Target	
Statewide Proficiency Rate for Federal Accountability	56.7%	57.9%		45.0%	44.5%	

† Target was met within a confidence interval.

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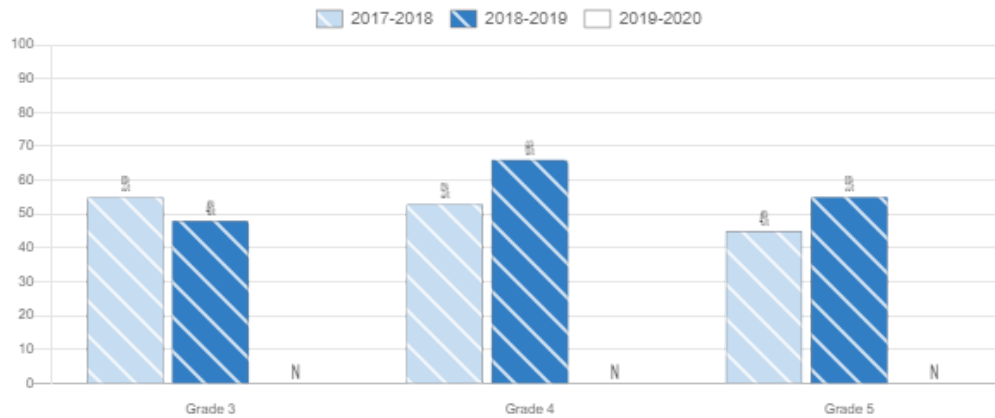
Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, statewide assessment results for the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA), Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM), and ACCESS for ELLs assessments and related accountability measures are not available and will not be reported for the 2019-20 school year. Tables showing 2019-20 statewide assessment results and related accountability measures will not be included in this report.

English Language Arts Assessment - Performance Trends

This graph shows the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations on each grade level exam on the statewide assessment for English Language Arts (ELA) for the past three years. 2018-19 data is from the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) and 2017-18 data is from the PARCC assessment.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, statewide assessment results are not available.

Percentage of Students Meeting/Exceeding Expectations



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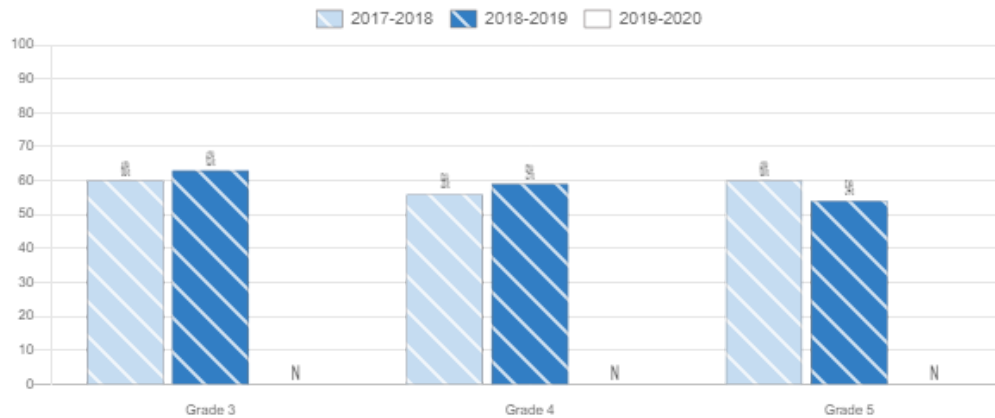
Mathematics Assessment – Performance Trends

This graph shows the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations on each grade level or end-of-course exam on the statewide assessment for Mathematics for the past three years. 2018-19 data is from the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) and 2017-18 data is from the PARCC assessment.

Note: 2018-19 results for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II do not include students in grade 11, but 2017-18 results do include students in grade 11. Therefore, trend data for these assessments may not be comparable.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, statewide assessment results are not available.

Percentage of Students Meeting/Exceeding Expectations



† Grade level results do not include students who took the Algebra I, Geometry, or Algebra II end of course tests.

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Academic Achievement

DLM Alternate Assessment - Participation

This table shows the number of students taking the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) alternate assessment, which tests academic progress in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics for students with different types of significant cognitive disabilities.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, DLM participation is not available for 2019-20.

English Language Progress to Proficiency

This table shows the percentage of English Learners who demonstrated the expected amount of growth on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Assessment for English Language proficiency. A student's expected growth is based on the student's initial year proficiency level and student growth expectations are increased by equal intervals each year so that the student meets the proficiency cut score of 4.5 within five years. The table shows the annual target for the percentage of students making expected growth and whether that target was met.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, English Language Progress to Proficiency is not available for 2019-20.

English Language Proficiency Test - Participation and Performance

This table shows, by years in district, the number of English learner students taking the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Assessment for English language proficiency and the percentage of students tested that received an overall score of 4.5 or above. Students must receive a score of 4.5 or higher to be considered for proficient status.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessment participation and performance are not available for 2019-20.

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Academic Achievement

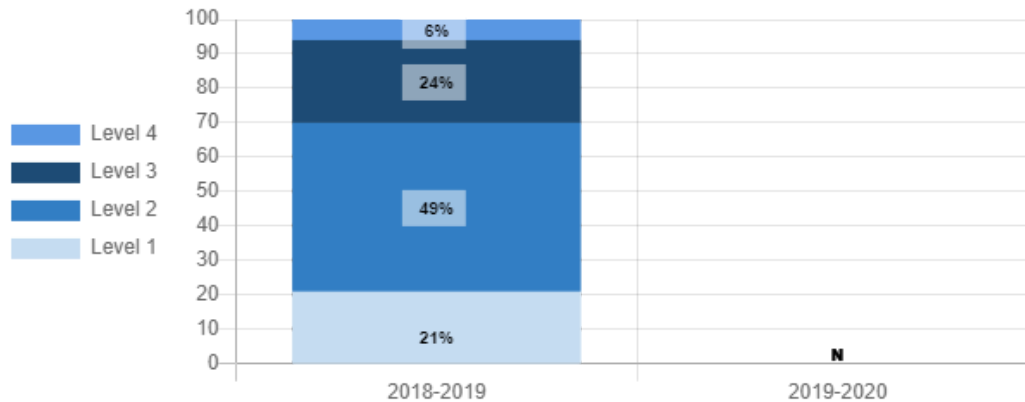
The New Jersey Student Learning Assessment for Science (NJSLA-S) measures student proficiency with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science. All students in grades 5, 8, and 11 will take the NJSLA-Science assessment. Students receive a score of Level 1, 2, 3, or 4 where levels 3 and 4 represent proficiency. Visit the [NJSLA-Science website](#) for more information about NJSLA-S. These results do not include students that took the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Science assessment, visit the [assessment reports page](#) for DLM results.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, statewide assessment results are not available for 2019-20. Tables showing 2019-20 NJSLA Science assessment results will not be included in this report.

NJSLA Science Assessment: Grade 5 Summary

This table shows how students performed on the NJSLA Science assessment. Students scoring at Level 3 or 4 are considered proficient.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to the cancellation of statewide assessments and a federal waiver as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, statewide assessment results for NJSLA Science are not available for 2019-20.





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Climate and Environment

Student absences provide important information about a school's culture and climate. Research shows that absences impact a student's ability to succeed in school. The New Jersey Department of Education used input from New Jersey communities to select chronic absenteeism as its measure of school quality and student success for the ESSA accountability plan. **Chronic absenteeism** is defined as being absent for 10% or more of the days enrolled during the school year. A student who is not present for any reason, whether excused, unexcused, or for disciplinary action, is considered absent unless permitted by state statute or regulations. Students with fewer than 45 days in membership are excluded from attendance calculations.

Important Note for 2019-20: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NJDOE received a federal waiver which removed the requirement to report on chronic absenteeism and related accountability measures for the 2019-20 school year. As a result, NJDOE will not report on chronic absenteeism and other attendance data for 2019-20. Tables showing 2019-20 attendance data will be hidden in this report.

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Climate and Environment

The New Jersey Department of Education migrated to a new reporting system, the Student Safety Data System (SSDS), starting in 2017-18, which includes improved definitions, new reporting fields, and updated guidance for reporting incidents. Comparing current data to data from 2016-17 and earlier could lead to inaccurate conclusions in many reporting categories. In addition to the 2018-19 data below, NJDOE is required, under ESSA, to report on the most recent, publicly-available Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) data, which can be found on the [NJDOE School Performance webpage](#). Please note that prior to school year 2017-2018, the CRDC and the State collection system, EVVRS, did not collect the same data elements. In an effort to better align the State system with the CRDC, the new Student Safety Data System (SSDS) collects all the required CRDC data elements. NJDOE is in the process of developing a reporting function for the SSDS which will allow LEAs to use the same data for both submissions.

Important note for 2019-20: Due to school closures as a result of [Executive Order 107](#), discipline data for the 2019-20 school year may not be comparable to prior or future school years and NJDOE recommends caution in making comparisons.

Violence, Vandalism, HIB, and Substance Offenses

This table shows the number of incidents reported by type. A single incident may be counted under multiple incident types. The total unique incidents row provides an unduplicated count of incidents. The last row shows the rate of incidents for every 100 students enrolled.

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Violence	0
Weapons	0
Vandalism	0
Substances	0
Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB)	0
Total Unique Incidents	0
Incidents Per 100 Students Enrolled	0.00

Police Notifications

This table shows, by incident type, the number of cases where an incident led to police notification.

Incident Type	Incidents Reported to Police
Violence	0
Weapons	0
Vandalism	0
Substances	0
Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB)	0
Other Incidents Leading to Removal	0

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Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Investigations

This table shows, by the nature of the incident, the number of alleged and confirmed Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) investigations. The nature of an incident is based on the protected categories listed below, and the nature of a single HIB investigation may include multiple categories. All confirmed incidents must have an identified nature.

HIB Nature (Protected Category)	HIB Alleged	HIB Confirmed	Total HIB Investigations
Race	0	0	0
Religion	0	0	0
Ancestry	0	0	0
Gender	0	0	0
Sexual Orientation	0	0	0
Disability	0	0	0
Other	1	0	1
No Identified Nature	0		0

Student Disciplinary Removals

The first table shows, by removal type, the number and percentage of students who received disciplinary removals during the school year. Removal types include students receiving one or more in-school suspensions, one or more out-of-school suspensions, one or more suspension of any type, removal to another school or other educational program, expulsion with no further educational services, or arrest. The second table shows the total number of days missed due to out-of-school suspension for all students during the school year.

Removal Type	Number of Students	Percent of Students	School Days Missed due to Out-of-School Suspensions
In-School Suspensions	0	0.0%	0
Out-of-School Suspensions	0	0.0%	
Any Suspension	0	0.0%	
Removal to other education program	0	0.0%	
Expulsion	0	0.0%	
Arrest	0	0.0%	

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Climate and Environment

School Day

This table shows the start and end times and length of school day for a typical student at this school. Instructional time is the amount of time that a typical student was engaged in instructional activities under the supervision of a certified teacher. Full time students attend this school for more than half of the school day and shared-time students attend the school for half of the school day or less.

Important note for 2019-20: The start and end times in this table may reflect standard hours for in-person instruction. These hours may have been adjusted due to remote or hybrid instruction schedules.

Category	School
Typical Start Time	9:20 AM
Typical End Time	3:45 PM
Length of School Day	6 Hrs. 25 Mins.
Full Time - Instructional Time	5 Hrs. 40 Mins.
Shared Time - Instructional Time	N

Device Ratios

This table typically includes information collected from the NJTRAx database. The NJDOE established the NJTRAx Digital Learning Readiness database to gauge the technology readiness of New Jersey schools and districts for online testing as well as to provide a tool to assist schools in determining readiness for digital learning. For more information about NJTRAx, visit [the New Jersey Digital Learning and Assessment Portal](#).

Important Note for 2019-2020: [Executive Order 107](#) required all schools to close and cease in-person instruction, and schools switched to remote instruction. As a result, the number of devices available in each school was not consistent throughout the 2019-2020 school year as districts worked to meet the technological needs of their students. Therefore, the device ratio is not included in the 2019-2020 School Performance Reports because a single device ratio would not give a full picture of the availability of devices and the changing nature of this information during the 2019-2020 school year. Instead, the NJDOE is sharing links to other school and district technology information collected during the 2020-2021 school year:

[School and District Technology Information](#): data collected through NJ SMART in November 2020, which includes student device type and student device owner

[The NJDOE Digital Divide page](#): includes weekly updated state summaries on student device and connectivity needs

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Staff

Staff data reflects teachers and administrators reported by districts at the beginning of the school year.

Key terms for staff data:
Teachers: All classroom teachers

Administrators: Principals, assistant principals, supervisors, coordinators, directors, and other central-office administrators, as well as superintendents and other district-level administrators

Experience: Experience is based on information submitted by districts on all their staff members. For purposes of this report, the ESSA Educator Equity and federal reporting requirements, NJDOE has defined teachers as "inexperienced" if they have fewer than four years of prior experience in a given district. The tables below report on "experienced" teachers and administrators for federal reporting purposes.

Out-of-Field: A teacher is labeled "out-of-field" if they are potentially teaching outside their area of certification. This could occur if the teacher cannot be found in the NJDOE's certification system, if their job code does not match their certification, or if the teacher has an expired certificate.

Teachers – Experience

This table shows information about the experience of teachers assigned to this school and across the state. No teachers in New Jersey are teaching under emergency or provisional credentials as defined the United States Department of Education. The number of out-of-field teachers is the number of teachers who are potentially teaching outside of their area of certification.

Category	Teachers in School	Teachers in State
Total Number of teachers	49	119,170
Average years experience in public schools	14.5	12.3
Average years experience in district	13.5	11.0
Percentage of Teachers with 4 or more years experience in the district	75.5%	75.8%
Number of out-of-field teachers	1	2,276

Administrators – Experience (District Level)

This table shows information about the experience of administrators assigned to this district and across the state.

Category	Admin. in District	Admin. in State
Total Number of administrators	47	9,574
Average years experience in public schools	19.7	16.2
Average years experience in district	16.1	12.3
Percentage of Administrators with 4 or more years experience in the district	87.2%	77.9%

Student and Staff Ratios

This table shows ratios of students and staff members in the school and district. Ratios for librarians, nurses, counselors, and child study team members are only reported at the district level because many staff in these jobs are assigned only to the district and not to individual schools.

Ratio	School Ratio	District Ratio
Students to Teachers	9:1	11:1
Students to Administrators	142:1	154:1
Teachers to Administrators	16:1	14:1
Students to Librarians/Media Specialists		659:1
Students to Nurses		604:1
Students to Counselors		279:1
Students to Child Study Team Members		290:1

Report Key:

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** Accountability calculations require 20 or more students

N No Data is available to display

† This indicates a table specific note, see note below table

Staff

Staff data reflects teachers and administrators reported by districts at the beginning of the school year.

Key terms for staff data:

Teachers: All classroom teachers

Administrators: Principals, assistant principals, supervisors, coordinators, directors, and other central-office administrators, as well as superintendents and other district-level administrators

Experience: Experience is based on information submitted by districts on all their staff members. For purposes of this report, the ESSA Educator Equity and federal reporting requirements, NJDOE has defined teachers as "inexperienced" if they have fewer than four years of prior experience in a given district. The tables below report on "experienced" teachers and administrators for federal reporting purposes.

Out-of-Field: A teacher is labeled "out-of-field" if they are potentially teaching outside their area of certification. This could occur if the teacher cannot be found in the NJDOE's certification system, if their job code does not match their certification, or if the teacher has an expired certificate.

Teachers and Administrators – Demographics

This table compares the percentage of students, teachers, and administrators by gender and by racial and ethnic group. Note that 2019-20 is the first year that data was collected for non-binary/undesignated gender and, as a result, the 2019-20 data may not be a true representation of the student or staff population. Additionally, to protect student privacy, gender percentages for 2019-20 are rounded to the nearest 0.5.

Category	Students in School	Teachers in School	Administrators in School	Students in State	Teachers in State	Administrators in State
Female	45.5%	96.0%	100.0%	48.5%	77.0%	55.5%
Male	54.5%	4.0%	0.0%	51.5%	23.0%	44.5%
Non-Binary/Undesignated Gender	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
White	81.5%	98.0%	100.0%	41.4%	83.2%	77.0%
Hispanic	6.8%	0.0%	0.0%	30.5%	7.6%	7.4%
Black or African American	4.7%	0.0%	0.0%	15.1%	6.6%	14.1%
Asian	4.2%	2.0%	0.0%	10.2%	2.1%	1.2%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Two or More Races	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%	0.2%	0.2%

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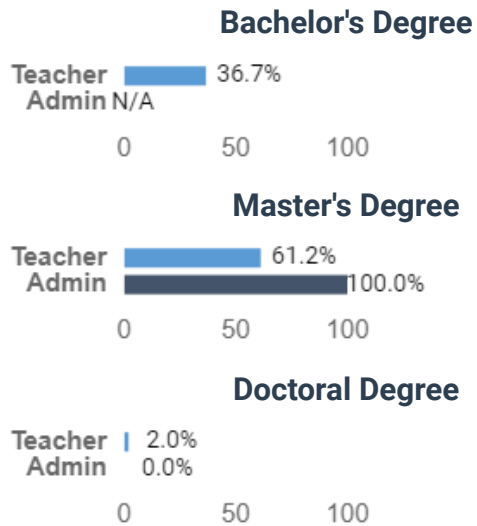
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Teachers and Administrators - Level of Education

This chart shows the highest level of education attained by teachers and administrators. The Bachelor's category may include other degrees/certificates such as a Specialist's degree. Administrators are required to have a Master's degree or higher.



Teachers and Administrators - One-Year Retention (District Level)

This table shows the percentage of teachers and administrators assigned to this district in 2018-19 that were still assigned to this district in 2019-20. Staff who were not retained may have changed districts or no longer work for the state (including retirements).

Job Type	District	State
2018-19 Teachers: Same district 2019-20	89.3%	90.7%
2018-19 Administrators: Same district 2019-20	95.7%	87.8%

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Per-Pupil Expenditures

Per-Pupil Expenditures by Source

The link below produces a table summarizing the most recently available expenses for regular and special education students taught at schools in the district. The amounts shown include expenditures for instruction, support services, administration, operations and maintenance, and extra-curricular activities.

For more information regarding this table please refer to the guidance for school level reporting, which is available on the [NJDOE webpage ESSA School Level Reporting Information](#). More in-depth information about district and charter school spending can be found in the [User Friendly Budget](#) and the [Comprehensive Annual Financial Report \(CAFR\) and Auditor Management Reports \(AMRs\)](#).

Please be aware that the total district expenditures represented in these reports are taken from audited district financial data, but the subsequent allocation of these resources to specific schools is not audited or otherwise verified by the New Jersey Department of Education. If you have specific questions about the assignment (or lack of assignment) of school-level amounts, please contact the district for additional information.

[Link to District Summary of 2019-20 School-Level Per Pupil Expenditures by Source](#)

An option to [download all school-level summaries by district](#) in one spreadsheet is also available. However, because districts have flexibility in how certain costs are allocated to individual schools, school-level costs should not be compared between schools in different districts.

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Accountability

New Jersey's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Accountability System

New Jersey's school accountability system identifies schools that are in need of comprehensive and targeted support as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Based on New Jersey's [approved ESSA state plan](#), NJDOE will identify schools in the following four federal categories every three years:

- **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI): Overall Low Performing:**
 - Schools with a summative score in the bottom 5% of Title I schools.
- **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI): Low Graduation Rate:**
 - High schools with a four-year graduation rate of 67% or less
- **Additional Targeted Support and Improvement: Low Performing Student Group (ATSI):**
 - Schools with one or more student group with a summative score that would be in the bottom 5% of Title I schools
- **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI): Chronically Low Performing:**
 - Title I schools identified as Additional Targeted Support and Improvement; Low Performing Student Group (ATSI) that are identified for three or more consecutive years, i.e. ATSI schools that do not meet exit criteria.
 - The NJDOE has not yet identified schools in this category as no ATSI schools have been in status for three or more years.

Annually, NJDOE will identify schools in the following federal category:

- **Targeted Support and Improvement: Consistently Underperforming Student Group (TSI):**
 - Schools with one or more students group that missed annual targets or standards for all indicators for two years in a row

For purposes of ESSA accountability, only schools and student groups with data for 20 or more students are included in calculations.

For more information about New Jersey's accountability system, how indicator and summative scores were calculated, how federal accountability status is determined, and [statewide progress toward long-term goals](#), see these [accountability resources](#).

Important Note for 2019-2020: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, New Jersey received a [waiver from the United States Department of Education \(USED\)](#) in March 2020 to waive statewide assessment, accountability, and reporting requirements in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the 2019-2020 school year. This removes the requirement to:

- Calculate indicator scores and summative scores for the 2019-2020 school year;
- Measure progress toward long-term goals and measures of interim progress for accountability indicators for the 2019-2020 school year; and
- Identify schools for comprehensive and targeted support and improvement during the 2020-2021 school year (based on 2019-2020 data).

As a result of the March 2020 waiver, any school that was identified for comprehensive or targeted support and improvement during the 2019-2020 school year for support during the 2020-2021 school year will retain the same status for the 2021-2022 school year and continue to receive support and interventions from the NJDOE.

For the categories that are identified every three years, the last identification occurred in the 2018-2019 school year (based on 2017-2018 data) and the next identification was scheduled for the 2021-2022 school year (based on 2020-2021 data). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated federal waivers, New Jersey has submitted a proposed addendum to New Jersey's consolidated state plan to delay the next identification until the 2022-2023 school year (based on 2021-2022 data) and also delay the exit of all currently identified schools to align with the next identification.

For the annual identification of schools for Targeted Support and Improvement: Consistently Underperforming Student Group, no schools will be identified during the 2020-2021 school year as a result of the March 2020 waiver. New Jersey has submitted a request to USED to waive the next identification in the 2021-2022 school year due to the lack of two consecutive years of data.

Because these requests to adjust exit dates are dependent on approval by USED, exit dates are not included in the 2019-2020 reports. Updated exit dates will be shared directly with districts when they are finalized. Check the [accountability resources](#) page for current information.

The 2019-2020 Accountability Indicator Scores and Summative Ratings and Accountability Summary by Student Group tables will not be included in the report for 2019-2020 as these tables include indicator scores, summative scores, and progress toward long-term goals and those measures were waived under the March 2020 waiver.

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Accountability

ESSA Accountability Status

The table below provides the school's federal school status for the 2021-22 school year, the category (or reason) for identification, the year the school is eligible to exit status, and, if applicable, the student groups identified for support. For additional information, the [NJDOE ESSA Accountability webpage](#) includes a [list of all schools requiring comprehensive or targeted support and improvement](#) with the amount of School Improvement Aid (SIA) funds received and information on [exit criteria](#) for identified schools.

Status for 2021-22 School Year	Not in Status
Category of Identification	n/a
Year Eligible to Exit Status	n/a
Student Group Status: White	
Student Group Status: Hispanic	
Student Group Status: Black or African American	
Student Group Status: Asian, Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian	
Student Group Status: American Indian or Alaska Native	
Student Group Status: Two or More Races	
Student Group Status: Economically Disadvantaged Students	
Student Group Status: Students with Disabilities	
Student Group Status: English Learners	

† This flag is used if a school is identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement, but one or more student groups met criteria for Targeted Support and Improvement.

ESSA Accountability Progress

The table below shows performance on each of New Jersey's ESSA accountability indicators for the last three years. ELA and Math Proficiency represent the percentage of students that met or exceeded expectations on statewide assessments (NJSLA/PARCC or DLM). ELA and Math Growth represent the median student growth percentile. Four- and five-year graduation rates represent the adjusted cohort graduation rates. Progress toward English Language Proficiency, which was first available in 2017-18, shows the percentage of English Learners that demonstrated the expected amount of growth on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Assessment for English Language proficiency. Chronic absenteeism represents the percentage of students that were absent for 10% or more of the days enrolled during the school year.

ESSA Accountability Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
ELA Proficiency	51.7%	56.6%	
Math Proficiency	58.3%	57.7%	
ELA Growth	43	54	
Math Growth	59	56	
4-Year Graduation Rate†	N	N	N
5-Year Graduation Rate†	N	N	N
Progress toward English Language Proficiency	N	*	
Chronic Absenteeism	4.8%	5.9%	

† This table shows the most recent graduation rate for reference, but accountability calculations for a given year use the prior year's graduation rate.

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Narrative

This section allows schools and districts to share highlights, achievements, and other important information about programs, activities, and services that are offered in their own words. If there are questions about the information provided in the narrative section, please contact the school or district directly.



Highlights:

- The school has earned New Jersey Future Ready School Silver Status and has implemented a 1:1 learning environment for all students.
- A robust tiered system of supports includes a variety of interventions and programs to meet the the unique learning needs of our students.
- Character education, mindfulness, and social emotional learning are implemented to support a positive school culture and climate.



Mission, Vision, Theme:

The mission of the Washington Township Public Schools is to provide a safe, positive, and progressive environment that provides opportunity for all students to attain the knowledge and skills specified in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all grade levels, as to ensure their full participation in an ever-changing world as responsible, self-directed, and civic-minded citizens.

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Awards, Recognition, Accomplishments:

Birches School is dedicated to the mission of excellence through equity, engagement, and environment. Our students are exposed to rich curricula, a variety of clubs, character education and social emotional learning programs, enrichment and remediation programs, and student recognition programs. Our school has partnered with many community resources to offer a myriad of learning experiences.



Courses, Curriculum, Instruction:

A comprehensive balanced literacy approach provides students with opportunities to engage in variety of authentic reading and writing activities while learning foundational skills in a systematic approach. In addition to an inquiry-based approach to science and social studies, an observable connection exists with literacy integrated throughout the curriculum. Mathematics instruction fosters critical thinking and problem-solving skills while students work in small guided groups or partnerships.

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Clubs and Activities:

Students may elect to engage in the following clubs: Drama Club, STEM Club, Strategic Games Club, Future Acts, Newspaper Club, and the Environmental "Green" Club. The majority of these clubs are available to students in grades two through five. In addition, students in fifth grade may be selected to serve as a School Safety. School safeties support arrival and dismissal procedures, as well as, the orderly operations of special events.



Before and After School Programs:

Intensive before and after school tutoring programs provide diagnostic-prescriptive instruction for identified students. Tutoring programs provide academic and/or behavior supports.

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Staff and Professional Learning:

The staff at Birches School engages in district-level and site-based, job-embedded professional development opportunities. These high-quality workshops develop theoretical understanding, provide demonstrations and/or modeling, and include opportunities for collaboration. Analysis of student data guides the content of these programs. In addition, the sharing of instructional strategies adds to the innovation of these professional development experiences.



Student Supports and Services:

Student supports range from academic to social/emotional. SACs and school counselors, nursing services, board certified behavior analysts and clinical associates, and character programs support the social emotional learner. A variety of academic supports are provided through our intervention/enrichment programs. All teachers analyze data during scheduled data meetings, and our Intervention and Referral Team meets regularly to examine student data in order to make decisions regarding the supports and services for individual students.

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Student Health and Wellness:

Birches School has a Wellness Committee that recognizes the link between student health and learning. The school is committed to providing a learning environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, health education, and regular physical activity for all students. Breakfast is offered and served daily in each classroom to promote proper nutrition, improve concentration, and increase student performance in the classroom.



Parent and Community Involvement:

Our school offers parent involvement in a variety of formats. Our PTO is an active organization along with our district Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG). Parent involvement nights such as Parents as Partners and Stepping Up to the Next Grade offer informative sessions about curriculum, instruction, and social and emotional supports. Parents are active on school-based committees, and they are also involved in school events and special programs.

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Climate Surveys:

Is a Climate Survey Used: Yes; Who is surveyed: Students, Parents, Administrators, Teachers. Our School Climate Survey is collected annually from our staff and parents. Results are shared in a variety of manners, including faculty and community meetings, school safety teams, state reporting, and community newsletters. Our results are collated and utilized to create individualized character, culture, and climate programs to continue to increase the positivity and productivity of our school.



Facilities:

The original building at Birches School was built in 1968. An addition that connects both sides of the original structure was added in 1995. The entire building boasts a media center, computer lab, art and music rooms, and a full gym. Classrooms and small group instructions rooms are available throughout the fully air-conditioned building.

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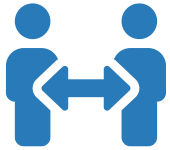
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Learning During COVID-19:

At the elementary level, a new grading policy was adopted ahead of schedule to respond to the challenges of remote learning. Therefore, our K-2 standards based grading approach was expanded to students in grades 3-5. In addition, our assessments and reading inventories were revised to address students learning remotely while providing more meaningful formative assessment data. Remote Education Facilitators were established to provide ongoing live instruction for fully remote and off cohort students while our intervention specialists served as remote coaches to support students in the first several weeks with connecting regularly. All PreK-2 students were provided with iPads, and all kindergarten students received new iPads as part of our new replenishment cycle.

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Other Information:

Technology applications continue to be infused into every aspect of the curriculum. This allows technology to open doors for students to access a world of knowledge that exists beyond the doors of our school. The computerized classroom assessment program, STAR Enterprise Reading and Math, is used by all students in all grade levels. The program is used for screening, benchmarking, and progress monitoring. STAR allows teachers to spend less time on assessment and more time on instruction. The Accelerated Reader Program challenges students to read engaging books and then test their comprehension ability through on-line quizzes. First in Math, a robust, online math supplemental program, provides students with opportunities to practice math facts and problem solving skills in a fun and engaging format. Fast ForWord, a computerized program, accelerates learning by developing cognitive skills, memory, attention, processing, and sequencing through a series of activities. All of our classrooms are equipped with computers, document cameras, Red Cat amplification systems, LCD projectors, and/ or short throw projectors. Our school enables parent access to grades and attendance using the data management system, PowerSchool. The school website and staff web pages provide parents with detailed information regarding daily events and curriculum information.