

**College Readiness Letter for:
PORT ARTHUR IND SCHOOL DIST**

SUPERINTENDENT
PORT ARTHUR IND SCHOOL DIST
PO BOX 1388
PORT ARTHUR, TX 77641

Beasley

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Code: 448138

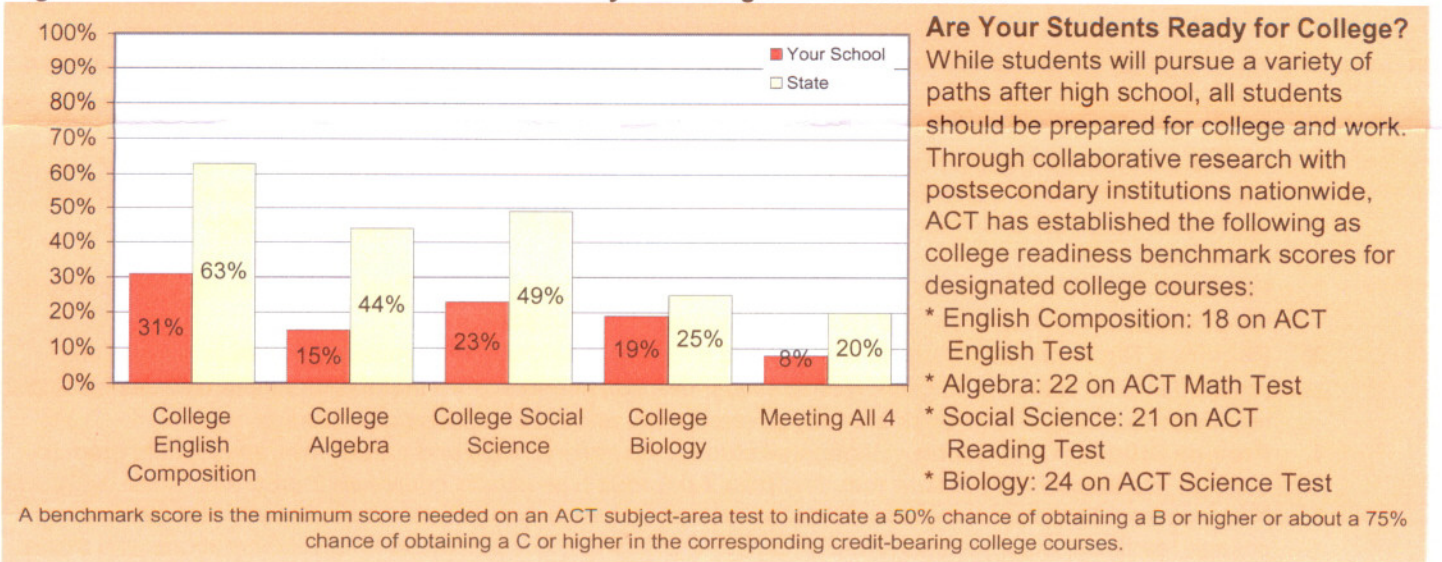
This report reflects the achievement of your graduates on the ACT over time and an indication of the extent to which they are prepared for college-level work. The ACT consists of curriculum-based tests of educational development in English, mathematics, reading, and science designed to measure the skills needed for success in first year college coursework. Table 1 shows the five-year trend of your schools' ACT-tested graduates. From this table you can determine:

- Changes in the number and percentage of participants
- Score changes in subject areas and the ACT composite
- How your graduates compare with state averages

Table 1: Five Year Trends - Average ACT Scores

Grad Year	Total Tested		English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
	Local	State	Local	State	Local	State	Local	State	Local	State	Local	State
2004	38	71,696	15.9	19.4	16.9	20.3	18.2	20.5	18.0	20.2	17.4	20.2
2005	44	72,294	14.7	19.3	16.8	20.3	15.7	20.3	16.9	20.2	16.1	20.2
2006	41	73,524	17.0	19.4	17.1	20.6	18.1	20.5	17.6	20.3	17.6	20.3
2007	54	76,542	15.8	19.5	16.7	20.8	17.1	20.6	16.8	20.4	16.6	20.5
2008	26	79,050	14.9	19.8	17.3	21.2	16.7	20.9	17.1	20.5	16.7	20.7

Figure 1. Percent of ACT-Tested Students Ready for College-Level Coursework



A High School College Readiness Letter has been sent to the Principal of each high school with 10 or more ACT-tested graduates.

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ACT Research has shown that it is the rigor of coursework - rather than simply the number of core courses - that has the greatest impact on ACT performance and college readiness. Figures 2 and 3 report the value added by increasingly rigorous coursework in math and science respectively.

Figure 2. Average ACT Math Scores by Course Sequence

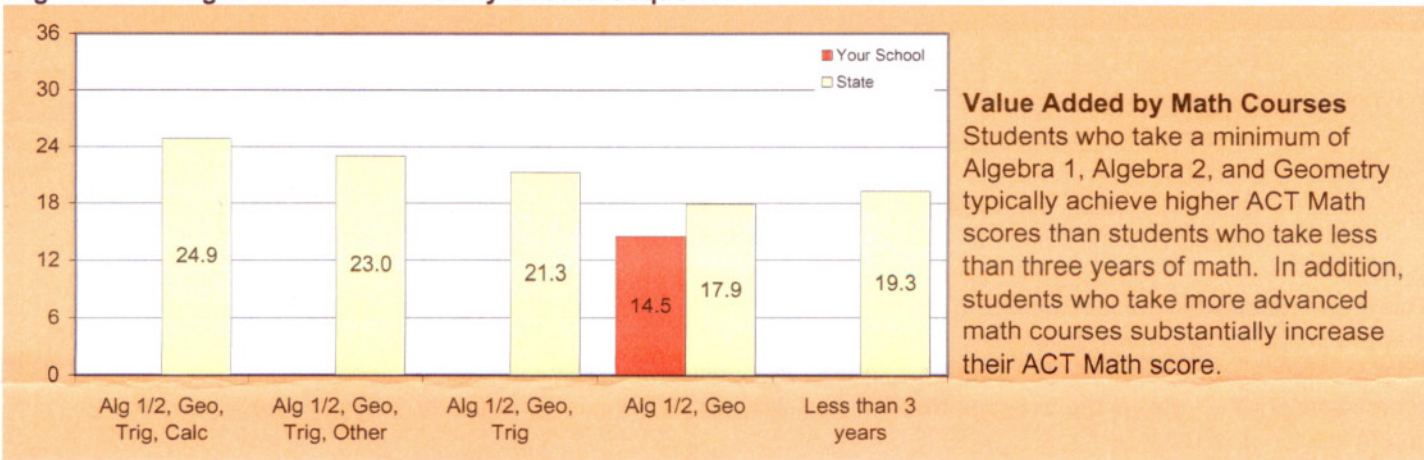
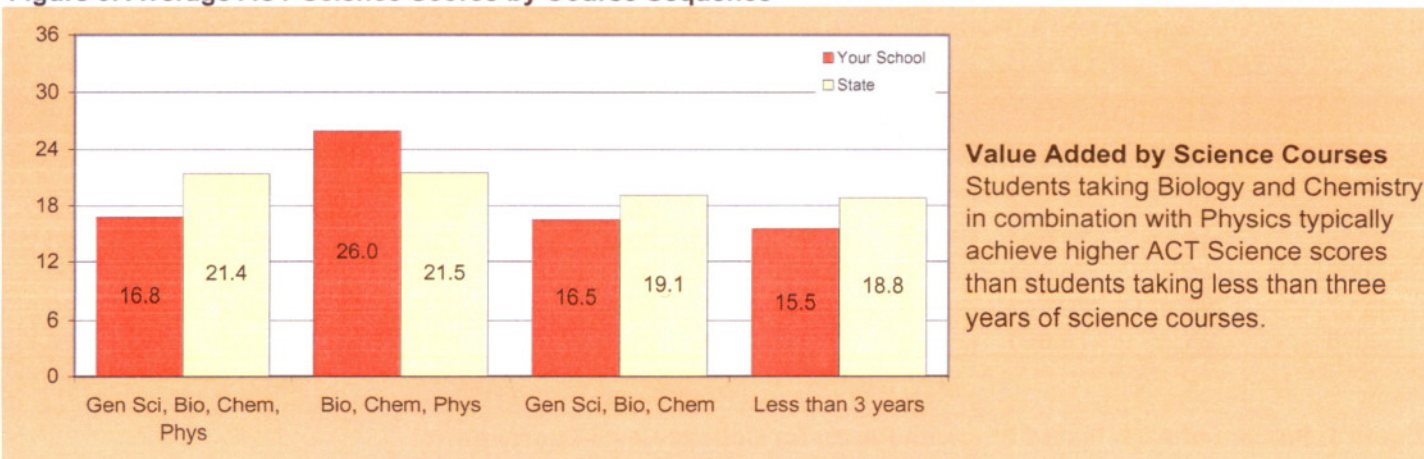


Figure 3. Average ACT Science Scores by Course Sequence



In order to ensure that all students are ready for college and work, an overview of vital action steps is provided.

College Readiness for All: An Action Plan for Schools and Districts

1. **Create a Common Focus.** Establish collaborative partnerships with local and state postsecondary institutions to come to a shared understanding of what students need to know for college and workplace readiness. Use ACT's College Readiness Standards and the ACT as a common language to define readiness.
2. **Establish High Expectations for All.** Create a school culture that identifies and communicates the need for all students to meet or exceed College Readiness Benchmark Scores.
3. **Require a Rigorous Curriculum.** Review and evaluate the rigor and alignment of courses offered and required in your school in English, mathematics, and science to ensure that the foundational skills leading to readiness for college-level work are taught, reaffirmed, and articulated across courses.
4. **Provide Student Counseling.** Engage all students in early college and career awareness, help them to set high aspirations, and ensure that they plan a rigorous high school coursework program.
5. **Measure and Evaluate Progress.** Monitor and measure every student's progress early and often using college readiness assessments like EXPLORE, PLAN and the ACT. Make timely interventions with those students who are not making adequate progress in meeting college readiness standards.

To learn more about these recommended action steps and ACT programs that will help improve college readiness at your school, contact your ACT Regional Director at 512-345-1949, or email Austin@act.org.