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PRELIMINARY 2008 SOL RESULTS RELEASED FOR W-JCC PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Divisionwide Gains Recorded in English (Reading), Mathematics, and Science;
Subgroups Also Show Significant Improvements in English (Reading) and Mathematics*

The Williamsburg-James City County Public School Division has released its preliminary “unadjusted” results for the Spring of 2008 Standards of Learning Tests in keeping with past years’ No-Child-Left-Behind subgroups (see attachment).

According to Dr. Peggie Robertson, Assistant to the Superintendent for Accountability, Assessment, & Research, W-JCC has recorded the following “preliminary” and “unadjusted” scores for the Spring of 2008 SOL testing for all students (elementary/middle/high school combined):

	<u>Percent Gain Over Prelim 2007</u>
➤ 89% pass rate in English (Reading)	+3
➤ 82% pass rate in Mathematics	+6
➤ 87% pass rate in Science	+1

As for various subgroup performance, Dr. Robertson notes the following percentage gains on these Spring 2008 preliminary results:

	<u>Percent Gain Over Prelim 2007</u>
➤ Black Students in English (Reading)	+8
➤ Black Students in Mathematics	+11
➤ Hispanic Students in English (Reading)	+3
➤ Hispanic Students in Mathematics	+9
➤ White Students in English (Reading)	+2

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➤ White Students in Mathematics	+4
➤ Students with Disabilities in English (Reading)	+21
➤ Students with Disabilities in Mathematics	+15
➤ Disadvantaged (F/R Lunch) Students in English (Reading)	+7
➤ Disadvantaged (F/R Lunch) Students in Mathematics	+10
➤ Limited English Proficient Students in English (Reading)	+2
➤ Limited English Proficient Students in Mathematics	+3

According to Dr. Robertson, of the 21 categories (3 subjects x 7 subgroups = 21), W-JCC Public Schools recorded gains in 15 of the 21 categories, showing no gains in one category and declines in five categories of which two were insignificant, i.e., less than three points.

“These ‘preliminary’ SOL results from 2008 are *very* encouraging as this now marks two consecutive years of significant progress for our students,” said Superintendent Gary Mathews. “I am especially pleased to see a couple of things: the size of the gains for all students in reading and mathematics, as well as the size of the gains recorded for our black, special education, and disadvantaged students. Hispanic students, too, recorded a sizable gain in mathematics while showing progress in English [reading] as well.

“As for our declines in science, we will examine the ‘final’ results very closely once we receive them next month,” Dr. Mathews said. “However, I would note that overall science performance for the school division was a strong 87 percent, a one point increase over last spring’s preliminary results due to the performance of 105 Asian test-takers in science. Asian students are not considered an NCLB subgroup.”

Final, adjusted scores are expected to be released by the Virginia Department of Education some time next month at which time W-JCC will update the attached table to show “Final 2007 vs. Final 2008” SOL results. Adjustments are made in SOL final calculations to reflect “recovery” students (those who failed a spring 2007 SOL test in

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English and/or mathematics, but passed the spring 2008 SOL test in that same subject), “transfer” students (those who entered a school after the 20th day of instruction), and “re-testers” (high school students who failed an SOL test more than once, but are not counted as a failure more than once).

Accountability Officer Dr. Robertson said that with the latest preliminary results, all schools should remain “fully accredited” under state standards.

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Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools
Preliminary "Unadjusted" SOL Results (2006-07 vs. 2007-08)
by NCLB Subgroups

NCLB Subgroups		Final 2003-2004			Final 2004-2005			Final *2005-2006			Unadjusted *2006-2007	Unadjusted *2007-2008	Diff.
		WJCC	VA	Diff.	WJCC	VA	Diff.	WJCC	VA	Diff.	WJCC	WJCC	
All	English	83	79	4	84	81	3	85	84	1	86	89	3
	Math	85	83	2	87	84	3	75	76	-1	76	82	6
	Science	84	84	0	87	84	3	86	85	1	86	87	1
Black	English	61	66	-5	61	70	-9	64	73	-9	68	76	8
	Math	64	70	-6	70	73	-3	52	62	-10	51	62	11
	Science	58	70	-12	64	72	-8	63	73	-10	67	65	-2
Hispanic	English	68	69	-1	87	73	14	75	76	-1	80	83	3
	Math	78	76	2	84	77	7	72	66	6	69	78	9
	Science	75	72	3	85	73	12	82	74	8	88	79	-9
White	English	90	85	5	90	87	3	92	89	3	91	93	2
	Math	90	87	3	92	89	3	82	81	1	84	88	4
	Science	91	90	1	93	90	3	93	91	2	95	94	-1
SWD	English	59	51	8	55	56	-1	61	63	-2	43	64	21
	Math	59	57	2	66	61	5	48	52	-4	44	59	15
	Science	64	64	0	67	64	3	63	65	-2	68	68	0
DISADV	English	57	64	-7	61	69	-8	65	73	-8	67	74	7
	Math	63	72	-9	65	74	-9	53	63	-10	53	63	10
	Science	58	71	-13	67	73	-6	74	80	-6	71	68	-3
LEP	English	63	65	-2	75	70	5	70	72	-2	74	76	2
	Math	82	76	6	86	77	9	72	65	7	75	78	3
	Science	71	66	5	76	69	7	80	69	11	80	71	-9

Source: EIMS Virginia Department of Education

* Grades 4, 6 & 7 were added to the SOL Testing Program

Difference is between WJCC & VA for final results.

Plus or minus 3 is a statistically significant difference.

Difference is between WJCC & WJCC for preliminary "unadjusted" results.

Note: This table is expected to be updated in August when VDOE releases the final results for 2007-2008..