

# Sangster Elementary School 2016-17 Annual Report



**Lisa M. Reddel, Principal**



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The annual report data points originate from the FCPS Department of Instructional Services and represents the most recent data available at time of print.

# 2016-17 Sangster School Plan:

School Plan: All schools in Fairfax County Public Schools must develop an annual school improvement plan submitted to the Regional Assistant Superintendent at the beginning of every school year. The plan includes student performance goals and strategies designed to achieve the goals.



## Reading

Goal #1: By the end of the 2016-2017 school year, the average Pass Advanced rate on the Grades 3-6 Reading SOL Tests will increase from 46% to 48%.

Goal #2: By the end of the 2016-2017 school year, the average Pass Proficient rate on the Grades 3-6 Reading SOL Tests will increase from 69% to 73% among Special Education students.



## Math

Goal #3: By the end of the 2016-2017 school year, the average Pass Advanced rate on the Grades 3-6 Mathematics SOL Tests will increase from 44% to 46%.

Goal #4: By the end of the 2016-2017 school year, the average Pass Proficient rate of Special Education students on the Grades 3-6 Mathematics SOL Tests will increase from 80% to 82%.

# Our Mission and Vision:

## Mission:

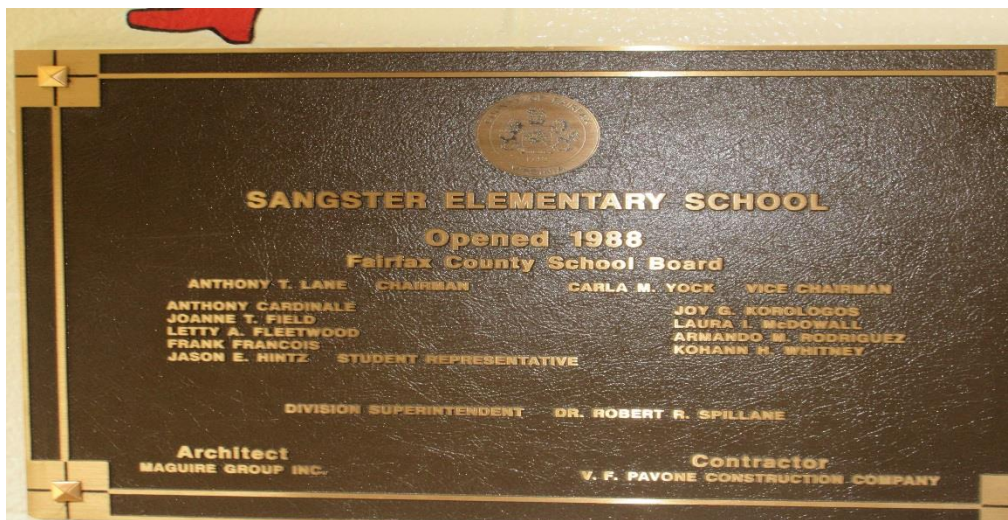
**ENGAGE \* INSPIRE \* THRIVE**

*"I just love the welcoming atmosphere and the caring staff at Sangster." —Parent of 4<sup>th</sup> Grader*

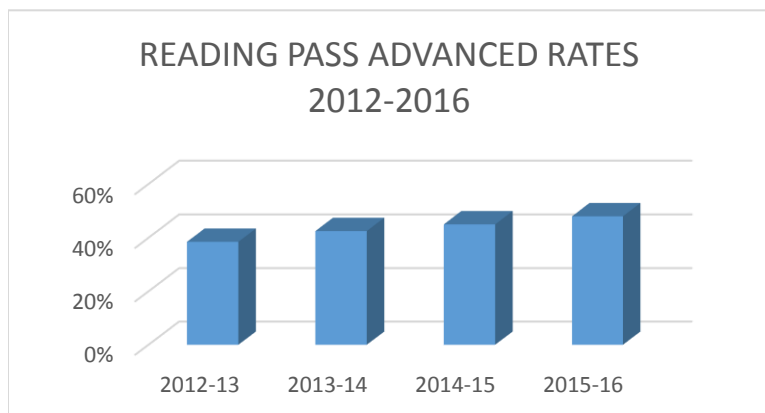
## Vision Statement:

The vision of Sangster is to...

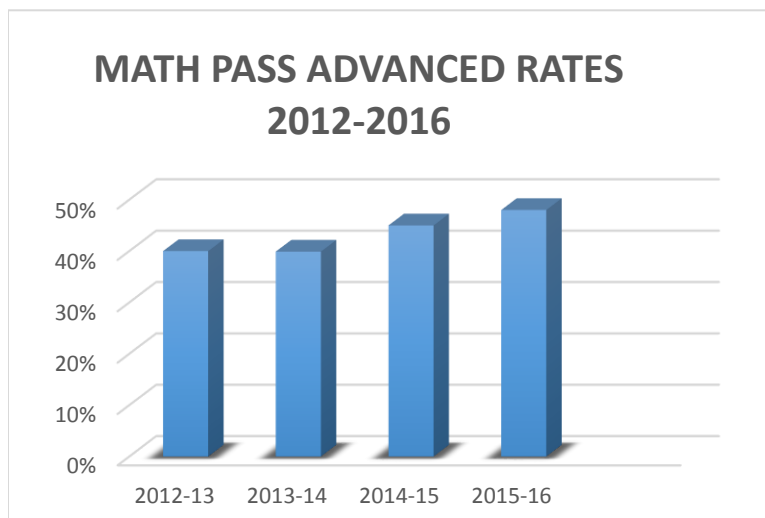
- Value and recognize every member of the school community.
- Create a collaborative teaching culture.
- Create a stimulating environment that contributes to high level of performance and achievement.
- Provide a challenging and appropriate curriculum to achieve the FCPS Portrait of a Graduate.
- Implement strategies for improving student achievement.
- Infuse technology throughout the curriculum.
- Develop a process of continuous school improvement.
- Monitor every student's progress.



## Raising the Bar- Reading & Mathematics



*“Our Pass Advanced Rates on the SOL Benchmark Tests continue to improve.”*

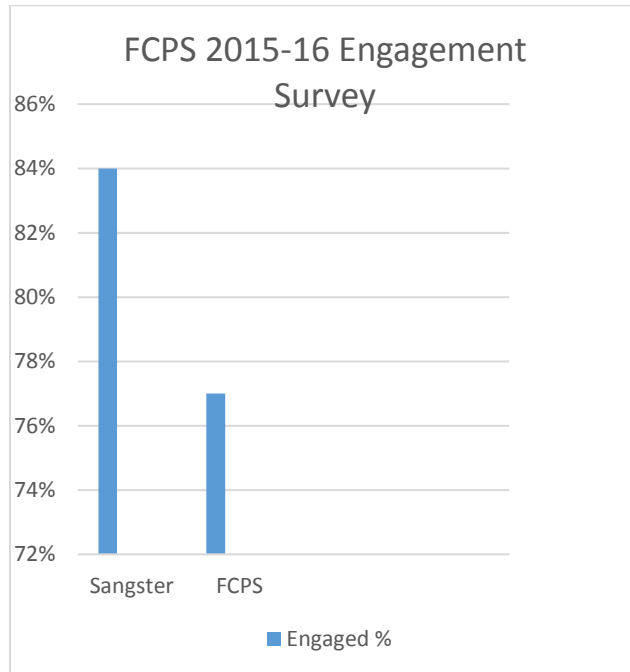


The Sangster School Improvement Plan for 2016-17 seeks to improve pass advanced rates in reading and math at all levels.



## **2016 FCPS WORKER ENGAGEMENT SURVEY:**

For the past several years FCPS has administered a Working Conditions Survey as well as a Worker Engagement Survey to measure employee's satisfaction with FCPS and their work location. Responses range from 1=Not Engaged, through 5= Highly engaged. All schools in Fairfax were given the survey during 2015-16. With over 17,000 employees responding, 77% of FCPS reported they were engaged, and we are happy to report that 84% reported they are engaged in their work at Sangster. Sangster's and Region IV's Median score was a 3.65, which is evidence of an engaged staff.



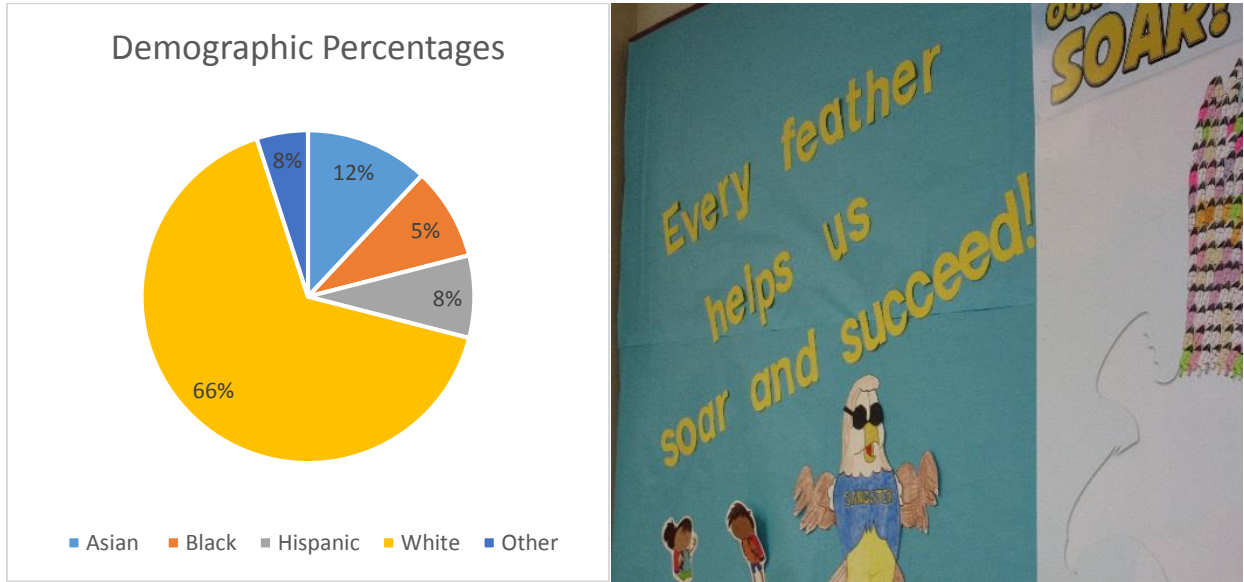
## Sangster Demographics Data:

**Sangster Students: The Sangster student population in September of 2016 is 50.79% male and 49.21% female and enrollment has increased slightly for the past four years. Sangster has grown to 970 students in our current school year 2016-17, up roughly 40 since 2012. 49.95% of students access the Advanced Academic Program, 11% access Special Education, and 3.5% access English Language Services.**



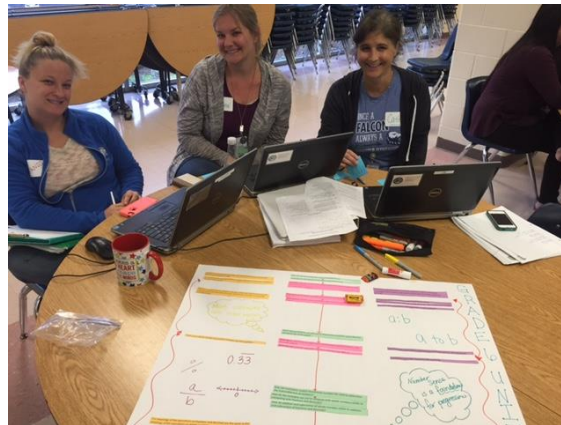
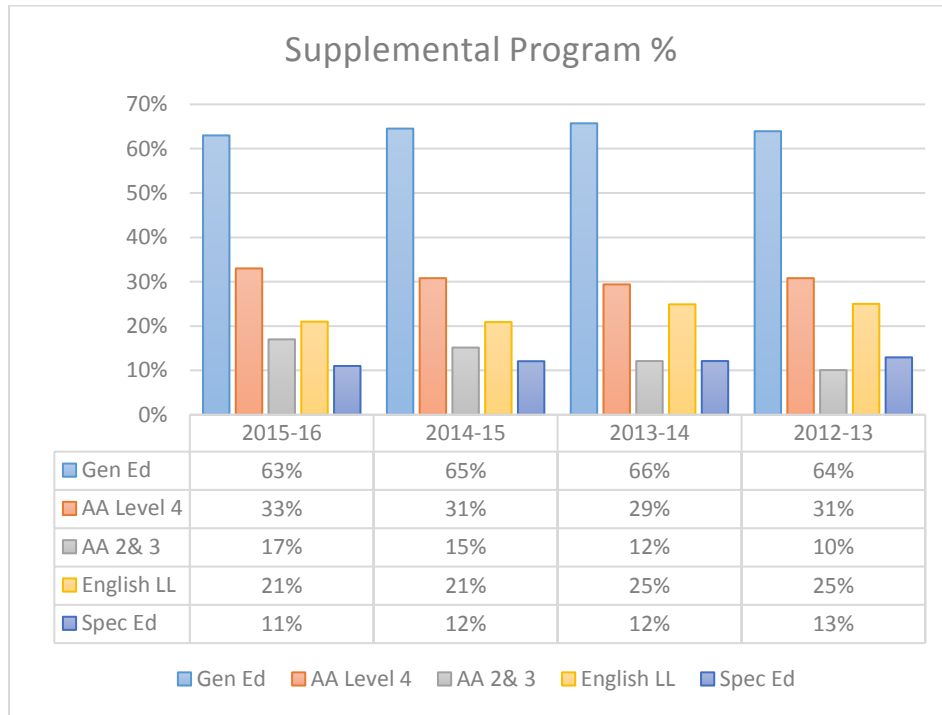
**4 Years of Membership Growth**

## Ethnicity %

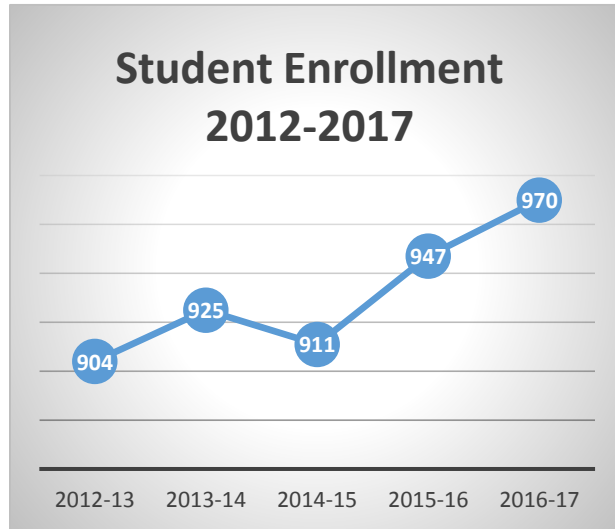




# Membership in Supplemental Programs



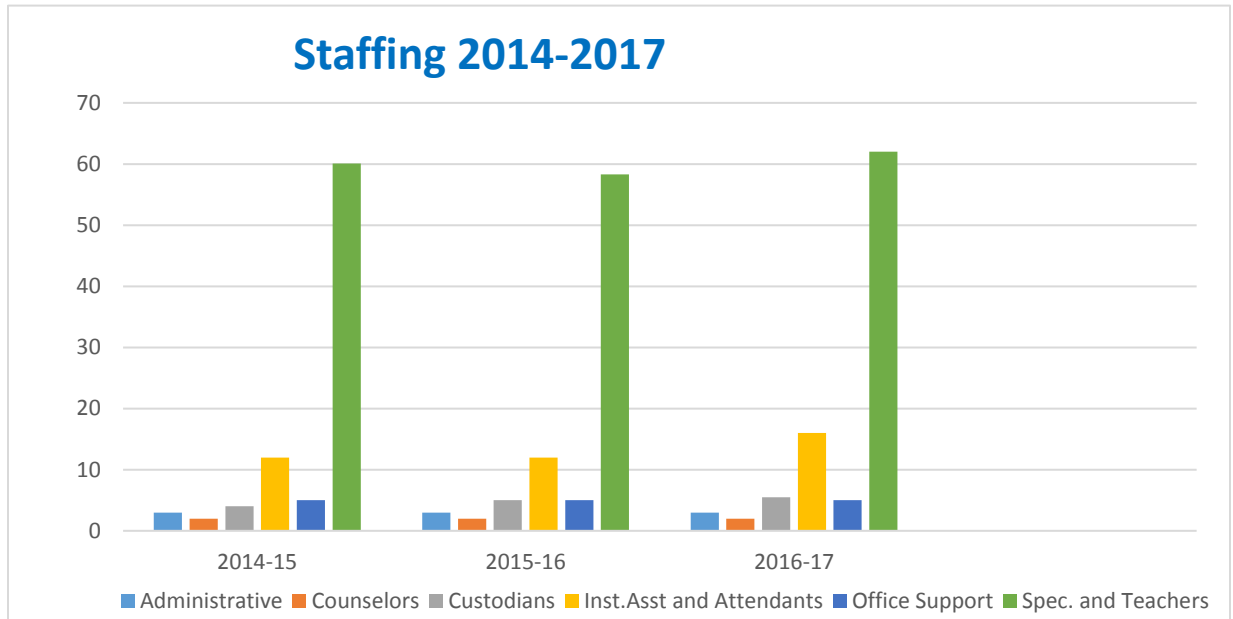
## Enrollment Growth and Staffing:



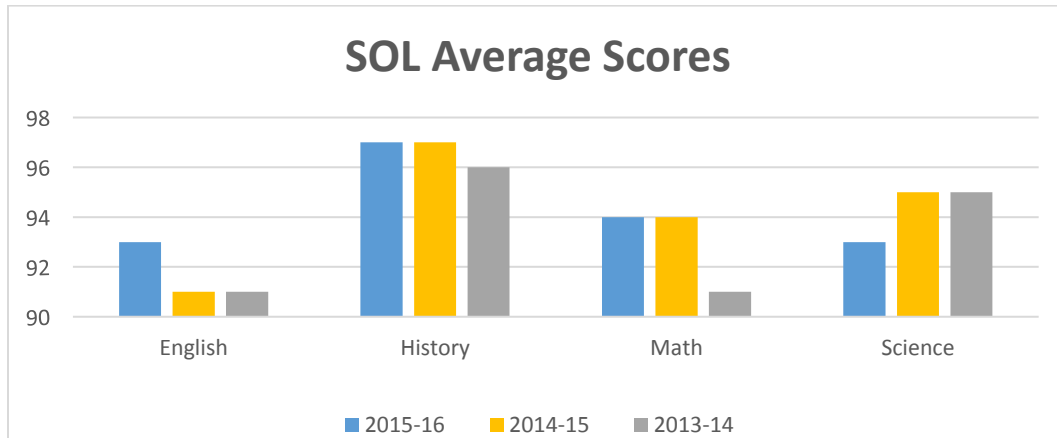
SY	BOY ENROLLMENT	EOY ENROLLMENT	G.E.	AAP	SE
16-17	970		620	473	115
15-16	930	947	586	310	102
14-15	894	911	577	276	110
13-14	929	925	617	273	112
12-13	902	904	584	278	117
11-12	852	874	560	242	112
10-11	855	868	562	240	116
09-10	801	816	551	210	113
08-09	769	769	523	206	101
07-08	750	771	522	192	90
06-07	728	734	513	180	0
05-06	756	757	536	188	0
04-05	735	737	558	144	0

- SY= School Year
- BOY= Beginning of Year
- EOY= End of Year
- GE= General Education
- AAP= Advanced Academic Program
- SE= Special Education

## Enrollment Growth and Staffing continued:



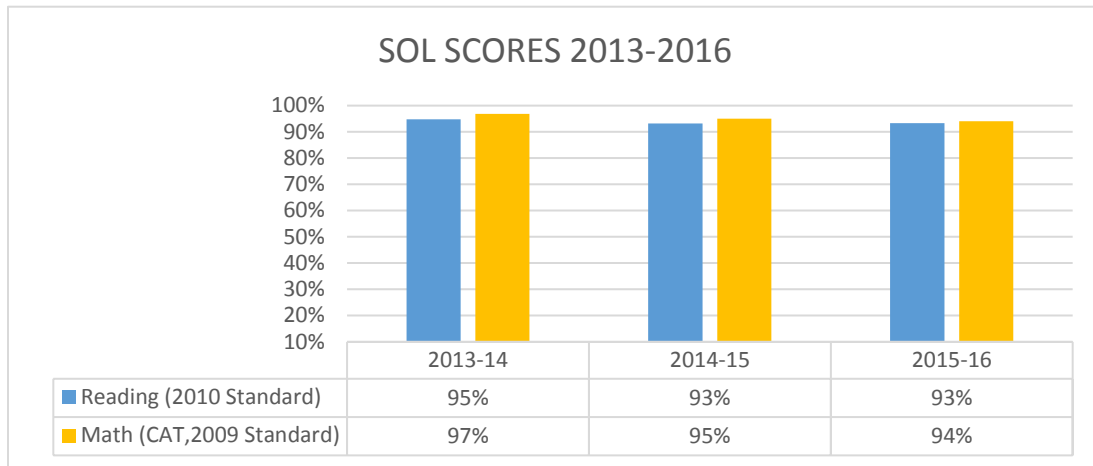
**VDOE Accreditation Summary and Rating**  
**Sangster Elementary School 2013-2016**



**Sangster Elementary received the 2016 Virginia Index of Performance (VIP)  
Board of Directors Excellence Award.  
We are Fully Accredited.**

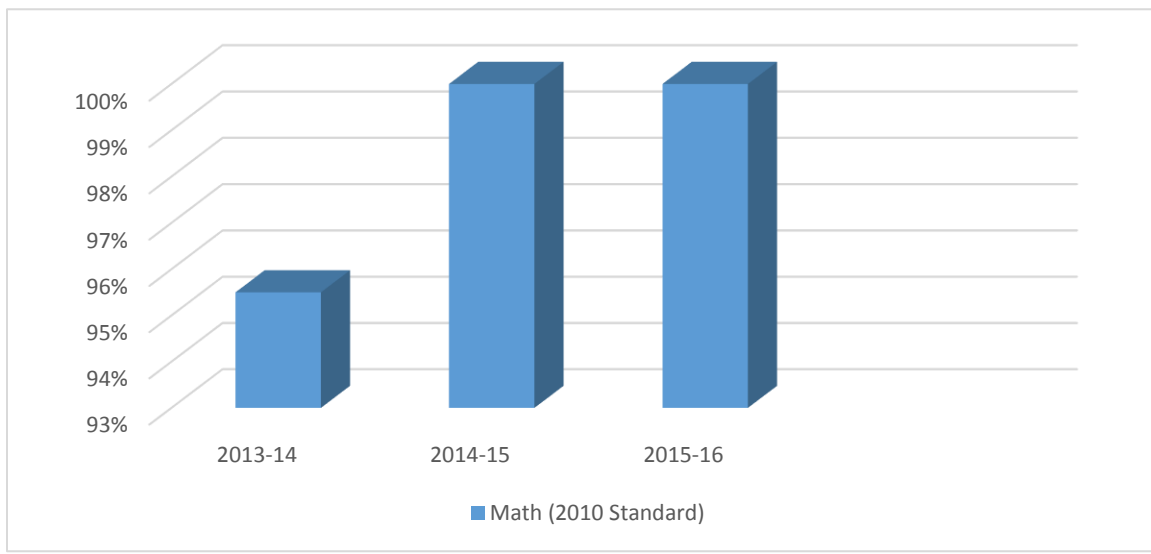


## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade SOL & Highlights



**In 2015-16: 6<sup>th</sup> grade took two SOL tests. Reading passed at 93% and Math passed at 94%.**

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade SOL Scores



**All 6<sup>th</sup> graders taking advanced math course are administered the 7<sup>th</sup> grade math SOL.**

The annual report data points originate from the FCPS Department of Instructional Services and represents the most recent data available at time of print.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade SOL & Highlights continued

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Highlights:

#### **Field Trips:**

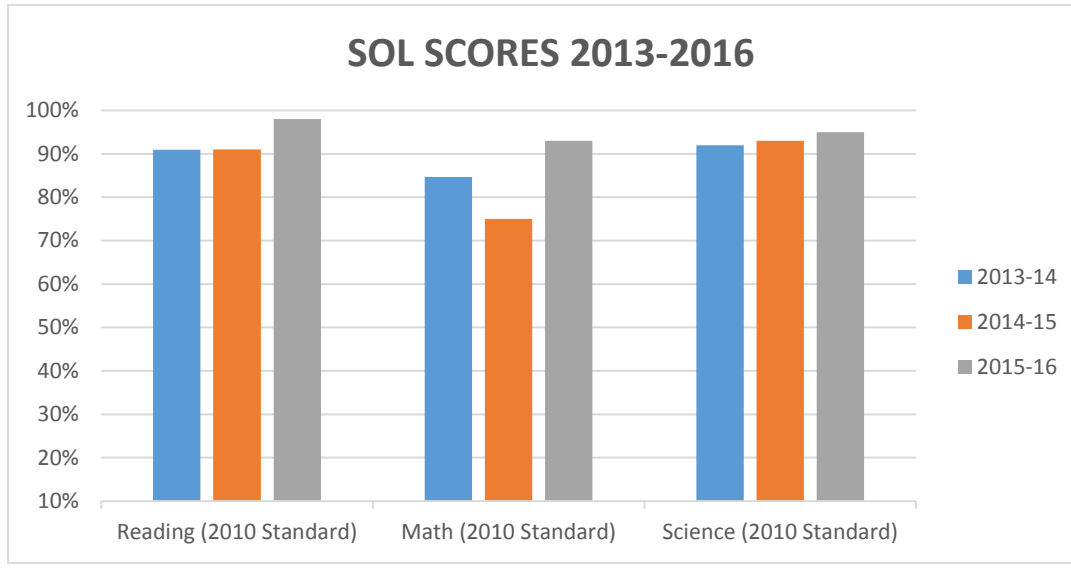
- Hemlock Overlook Park - team building, problem solving
- Pamplin Historical Park - Civil War site
- Art Museum - varies each year, follows art curriculum

#### **Academic/Classroom Highlights:**

- Great Debates/Socratic Seminar
- *Daily 5* workshop structure for Language Arts incorporating Word Study, Guided Reading, and Guided Writing
- Continental Math League Competition
- AMC 8 - Math competition for advanced math students
- Flexible groupings for math
- Junior Achievement
- Veteran's Day Guest Speakers
- 6th grade promotion ceremony in June



## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade SOL & Highlights

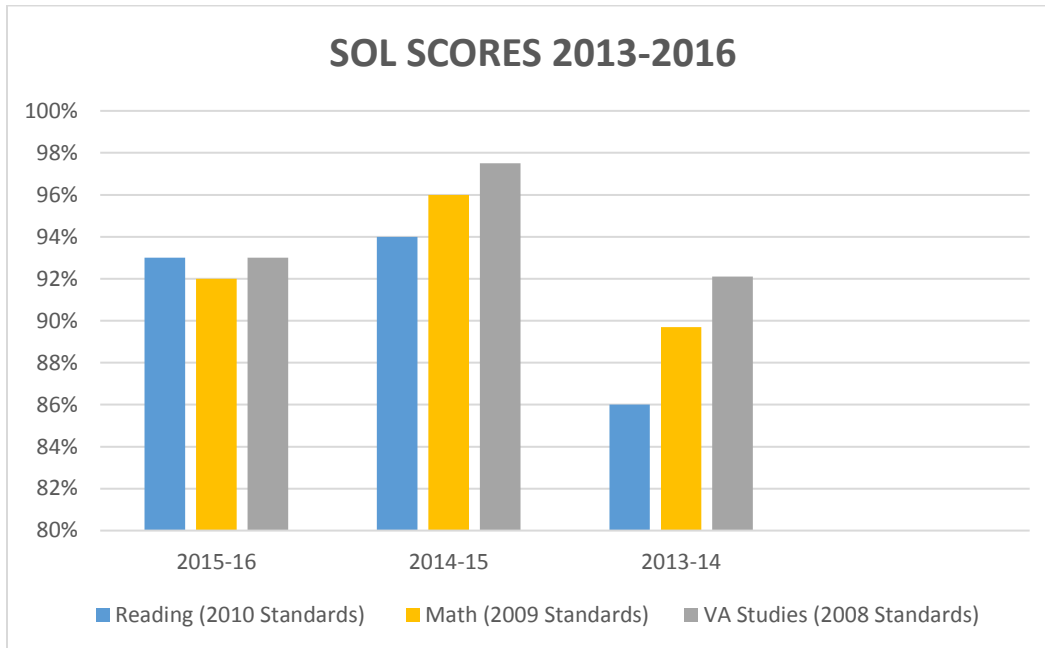


### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Highlights:

- *Teachers for Tomorrow* visits from Lake Braddock Secondary School
- Veteran's Day Guest Speakers - Parents and Grandparent
- Science Fair Competition
- Patrol of the Month Awards
- Junior Achievement Program
- Mentors to new staff in building
- Musical theater participation
- Reflection entries
- Teachers trained/ endorsed: VGLA Scorer, Certified K-12 ESOL endorsement, Global Awareness Scorer, AAP endorsement, Great Beginnings coach, reading specialist and Gifted and Talented endorsements
- Field trips: National Geographic Museum, Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, Brass Rubbings

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade SOL & Highlights



### 4th Grade Highlights:

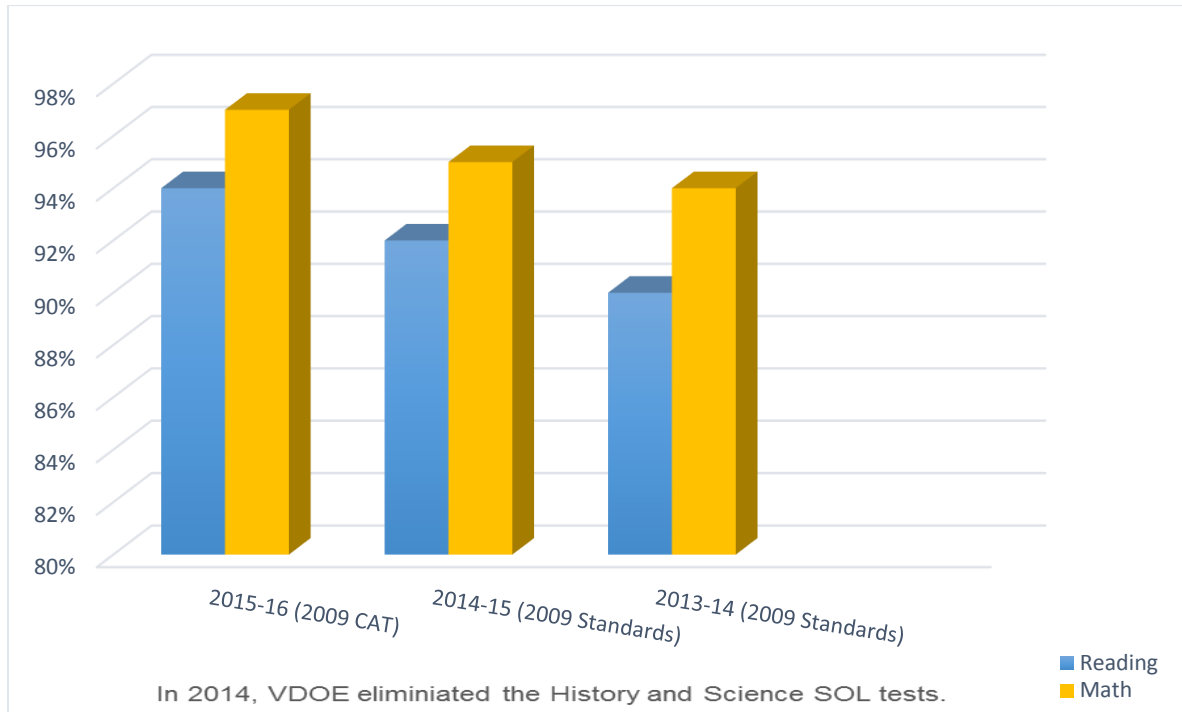
- Field Trips: Kennedy Center, Jamestown, and DeCatur House
- Yearly Colonial Day event in which students dress for the time period and participate in colonial activities to enhance their understanding of the Virginia History curriculum
- Visit from Delegate Albo to discuss Virginia's government and the process of a bill becoming a law
- Opportunity to participate in a 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Musical Theater experience directed by Jennifer Lambert
- Participation in the Junior Achievement program
- Opportunity to participate in a Science Fair Competition
- Teachers participate in FCPS courses for continuing education

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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade SOL & Highlights

### SOL SCORES 2013-2016



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Highlights:

- Biography Day
- Mount Vernon – Field Trip as we study biographies
- Huntley Meadow- Field Trip to learn about ecosystems
- Junior Achievement
- Penny Wars
- Teacher Patrice Maree – Haiti teach enrichment programs and life skills

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Highlights

### Field Trips

- National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, D.C.
- Smithsonian National Zoo, Washington, D.C.

### Academic/Classroom Highlights

- Incorporation of Touchpebbles Discussion Project into the Literacy program, fostering critical thinking and collaboration.
- Use of *Daily 5* Language Arts structure incorporating Word Study, Guided Reading Groups and Writer's Workshop.
- Reader's Theater
- Incorporation of M2 (Mentoring Young Mathematicians) Advanced Math Unit across all math classes in the grade level.
- Advanced 2nd Grade Math Class
- Flexible Math Groupings
- Student of the Week Celebrations

### Parent/Family Participation

- Book Talk Day: Each Spring, students showcase their accomplishments in reading by presenting story elements and their own book review of a chosen book to the parents and students of 2nd grade.
- American Indian Project: Students plan and prepare a 3-D American Indian scene from one of the American Indian groups studied.
- Thanksgiving Turkey Showcase: 2nd grade families construct creative 3-D turkeys that line the Sangster hallways leading up to Thanksgiving.
- "Celebrity Readers" during Thanksgiving week and other times during the year.

### Other

- Outdoor Interactive Science Garden: used in conjunction with 2nd grade's science unit on "Monarchs, Milkweed and Mexico". Students learn about the importance of plants in the life cycle of the butterfly by seeing firsthand how milkweed, flowers and other insects play a role in their survival.
- Use of DreamBox and MyOn
- Team Teaching Model



## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Highlights

### Field Trips

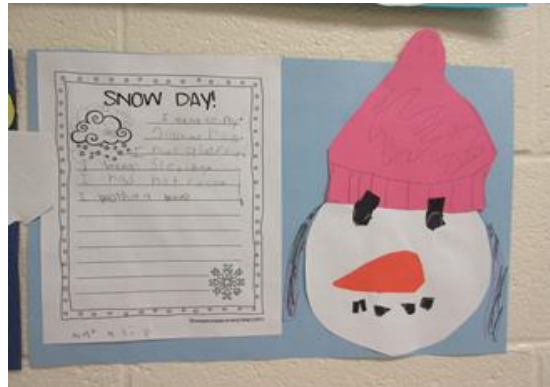
- Cox Farm Pumpkin Patch in Chantilly, VA. We learn about fall traditions by traveling to Cox Farm. The children get to see a real, working farm in a fun and meaningful way.
- Theaterworks Performance at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. Students experience a literature-based performance.

### Grade-Wide Events

- Apple Festival (October) where we celebrate the season of fall with our annual apple festival. First graders love learning all about apples: how they grow, comparing types of apples, measuring them in different ways, and even taste testing them!
- Winter Celebration (December)
- 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School (February or March) with activities across all curriculum areas, bringing to life the true value of 100.
- End-of-Year Celebration (June)

### Classroom Highlights

- Within each classroom, we teach students how to read at their “just right” level, in small-guided reading groups. We do this while students participate in the *Daily Five* allowing students to read to themselves, read to a buddy, listen to reading, work with words, and write.
- We are always looking for ways to help our readers succeed. This year we are implementing more reading interventions including LLI (Leveled Literacy Intervention) and Foundations. In addition, we’re incorporating challenges and extension to those who need it.
- As a first grade team, we pre-assesses students for each mathematics unit to create flexible, differentiated math groups perfect for each child’s unique learning needs.
- There are opportunities for interactive, hand-on learning in all subjects.
- Students have an opportunity to share their story as “Student of the Week”
- Students use classroom laptops, our Sangster computer lab, and iPads as part of our technology integration. Platforms used include DreamBox and MyON Books, Storyline Online, ABCYa, and Starfall.
- We encourage parent involvement in our classrooms! We offer many volunteer opportunities throughout the year and send home weekly emails updating parents with important classroom information.
- Our team is made up of experienced educators who put learning first. One of our teachers (Bethany Layton) is a Nationally Board Certified teacher.



## Kindergarten Highlights

- We use a modified *Daily Five* approach to literacy instruction and Writing Workshop to help our students become successful readers and writers
- We create hands-on activities to help your child learn mathematical concepts in an exciting, meaningful way. Children participate in Guided Math stations to support concepts learned, develop independence and receive differentiated instruction
- Students use laptops and iPads as part of our technology integration
- Parents are invited to be a Mystery Reader and share their favorite story with the class
- Our Fall Festival event incorporates learning objectives with fun activities and crafts for both parents and students
- Students share their literacy accomplishments with family members at our Celebration of Learning event in June



## Sangster Specials Highlights:

### Technology

- Students participated in the Hour of Code- A computer coding opportunity
- Computer programs utilized at Sangster: Dreambox Learning, MyOn, Wixie
- Global Awareness Project
- PTA has purchased new technology this year.

### Library

The Sangster Library is the heart of our school with weekly visits from 975 students and more than 3000 books checked out each week. Our new mobile computer lab will help students find the books and information they need and want!

- Spring 2016: Author visits to Sangster!
- September 2016: Celebration of our Book Your Summer readers with 6 students winning FREE books and one grand prize laptop computer winner!
- November 2016: Another successful Book Fair with participation from hundreds of Sangster families as shoppers and volunteers. More than \$25,000 of books were sold, providing approximately \$6000 in funds for Sangster to use for books and technology.
- March 2017: Sangster will celebrate Read Across America with literature-themed spirit days; library read-ins with VIP readers; book reviews and recommendations on the Morning News; and more!

### Music

- Veteran's Day Celebration
- Hand bells are used in all grade levels
- All County Chorus (6<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- School Chorus (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Every class hosts a classroom concert where parents are invited to attend
- All 4<sup>th</sup> Graders attend the National symphony orchestra at the Kennedy Center

We have a  
Handbells Musical  
Group here at  
Sangster



## Strings

- Spooky Strings Halloween Concert
- Holiday in the Halls Concert
- Lake Braddock Area Orchestra
- Solo and Ensemble Festival
- 4th Grade End of Year Concert
- 5th/6th Grade End of Year Concert

## Band

- Open to all 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students. No musical experience necessary
- Veteran's Day Performance
- Winter Concert (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Band)
- Burke-Springfield Area Honor Band
- Solo and Ensemble Festival
- FCBDA Solo Competition
- Spring Concert

## Spanish



“With ever increasing cultural diversity in our schools, how do educators establish and maintain effective relationships with those whose experiences and beliefs differ from their own?” Sangster Elementary students in grades K-6 learn about different cultures in Spanish speaking countries. The lessons help teach students fundamentals in diversity and respect for others. Additionally, it promotes empathy, dialogue in the target language, and respect for diverse opinions.

## P.E.

- Jump Rope for Fun
- Fall Field Day
- Winter Wonderland
- Patrol Field Trip to West Ox Garage
- Virginia Reel at Colonial Day
- Bike Week in May

## Art

- Principal's art gallery
- Students artwork is displayed at the Virginia General Assembly
- Students participate in the Lake Braddock Pyramid Art Show
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade goes to an art museum for a field trip
- Student Artwork submitted for publication in the *Springfield Connection*
- All students are involved in learning experiences with drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, ceramics and textile art. These experiences build skills, develop conceptual knowledge and problem solving abilities, and provide opportunities for students to incorporate personal meaning in their art.

## Counselors

- Small Groups and Individual Groups
- Promote the social and emotional well-being of students
- District classroom school counselor lessons

## Math Resource Room



# Literacy

## Reading & Writing

- Sangster staff attended a Literacy Symposium in June 2016
- Writers Workshop is implemented in all classrooms K-6

***91% of Sangster students in Grades K-6 are reading on grade level, as measured on the fall 2016 DRA (Development Reading Assessment).***



**Book Room**



## Unique Programs and Highlights:

### STEAM PROGRAM AT SANGSTER:

This year Sangster students K – 3 have enjoyed Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (S.T.E.A.M) lessons with the Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART), Jennifer Lambert. S.T.E.A.M lessons inspire integrative learning in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. Through a variety of design challenges students have felt empowered as they have learned the engineering design process as they've had to problem solve and integrate their mathematical understanding.

This year, Sangster 5th graders took part in Engineering is Elementary problem based learning units with the AART and their classroom teachers. Students took part in integrated lessons focused on the field of ocean engineering as they applied their knowledge of density, floating, and sinking to design their own submersible, equip it with research instruments, and retrieve packages from a model ocean floor. During an oil spill unit, students were introduced to the field of environmental engineering as they applied their knowledge of ecosystems and food webs. Students tested water quality and the oil-absorbing properties of different materials as they engineered a process for cleaning up an oil spill.

Last summer some Sangster teachers had the opportunity to be part of a LEGO Symposium that offered them a glimpse into how LEGO bricks can be used to boost learning across literacy, math, science, social studies, and design engineering. Each teacher received student LearnToLearn LEGO sets with basic bricks that were used by students throughout the year in a variety of grade levels as a hands on tool to experience, explore, and solve a variety of activities.

We are proud of our growing S.T.E.A.M program at Sangster, the teachers that work to integrate it into their lessons, and the students whose enthusiasm for the program inspires us.



## Sangster Musical Theatre

Over the past thirteen years, our PTA sponsored theater program has developed into something we are all very proud of as we have watched our students grow as actors, singers, and dancers.

Led by Sangster teacher and director Jennifer Lambert with the help of talented teachers Joie Verheul, Karen Clendenin, LeaAnne Long, and Melissa Whalen, Sangster Musical Theatre offers two musicals and a creative theatre class for beginners throughout the school year. Sangster Summer Stock, our popular two week intensive program, is also offered in the summer.

Performances and Classes in 2016 – 2017 school year included:

- Sangster Summer Stock – *Broadway Jukebox*
- FALL 4th Grade Musical – *A Charlie Brown Celebration*
- SPRING 5th and 6th Grade Musical – *Beauty and the Beast*
- Introduction to Musical Theatre– Grades 1-3

*Shrek The Musical, Jr.*  
2015-2016



*Shrek The Musical, Jr.*  
2015-2016



*The Little Mermaid, Jr.*  
2014-2015



*Yes Virginia, The Musical*  
2014-2015



**Unique Programs and Highlight Photos:**  
**Veteran's Day Observation**  
**November 11, 2016**



Friday, November 11, 2016, Sangster Elementary hosted a Veteran's Day Celebration assembly where all 975 students participated in honoring Veterans and Active Military Personnel. Sangster's celebration included active military personnel from each of the five branches of the armed services as well as choral, band and handbell performances of patriotic music by students in grades 4-6. In addition, every Sangster student wrote about "What Does Patriotism Mean to You." Every class Grades K-6 had at least one visitor speak about their military experience.

Sangster Elementary has a large military population and an active Military Spouses Group which helps host our Veteran's Day celebration. Currently, Sangster has identified 242 students as active duty dependents in the armed forces, reserve forces or National Guard. We have 175 of 665 Sangster families registered with the Military Spouses Group, which provides support to and offers advocacy for military families, contributes to military-focused events at school, and coordinates philanthropic involvement of military families with students at Sangster.

The purpose of the celebration is to help raise awareness of our cherished values as a nation and help instill a strong sense of citizenship and patriotism in our students.

**Twin Day**



**PTA Valentine Bingo**



**PTA Science Fair**



**Read Across America**



**PTA Smencil Sales**



**Math Award**



**Sangster Chess Club**



**Sangster Fencing**



## **Sangster Administration**



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