



NORTHWEST CHINESE ACADEMY

西北中文书院

SY 2018 – 19 ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT BRIEF

Northwest Chinese Academy (NWCA) publishes our school-wide test results annually to keep our stakeholders informed of student achievement. NWCA uses two types of standardized assessments (summarized below). These exams allow us to benchmark our students' performance to students in Oregon state schools and a national sample of Chinese learners¹. Unlike traditional schools and most Chinese language programs in the United States, NWCA maintains a 90:10 Chinese immersion model². The 90:10 model poses a special opportunity for NWCA students: they learn core-subject content in Chinese and demonstrate mastery on English-based standardized assessments. It is quite an accomplishment that 100% of NWCA students scored at the highest levels on Oregon's statewide assessments in English, Mathematics, and Social Studies. In addition, 100% of students exceeded NWCA's grade-level Chinese language proficiency standards, and the average grade-level scores surpassed national averages for Chinese language proficiency in all tested areas. This brief summarizes student achievement in English, Mathematics, and Chinese language proficiency.

We attribute our students' success to NWCA's educational advantages of proven standards-based instruction, personalized learning afforded by small class sizes, and an extended learning day that includes a study hall hour led by students' classroom teachers. We are proud of our dedicated faculty, students, and parents who come together to create an enriching community of learners.

NWCA'S ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Oregon's Statewide Assessment System³

NWCA uses Oregon's English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Sciences Assessments.



STAMP 4Se⁴

NWCA uses STAMP 4Se to assess students' Chinese proficiency in four essential skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening.



¹ Due to the small class sizes at each grade level, caution is warranted in making comparisons to other programs.

² In the upper grades, the Chinese-English ratio is tailored to support advanced English vocabulary development.

³ For more information on Oregon's Statewide Assessment System, see <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Pages/Statewide-Assessments.aspx>. For scores and achievement standards, see <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/assessment/Pages/Assessment-Group-Reports.aspx>.

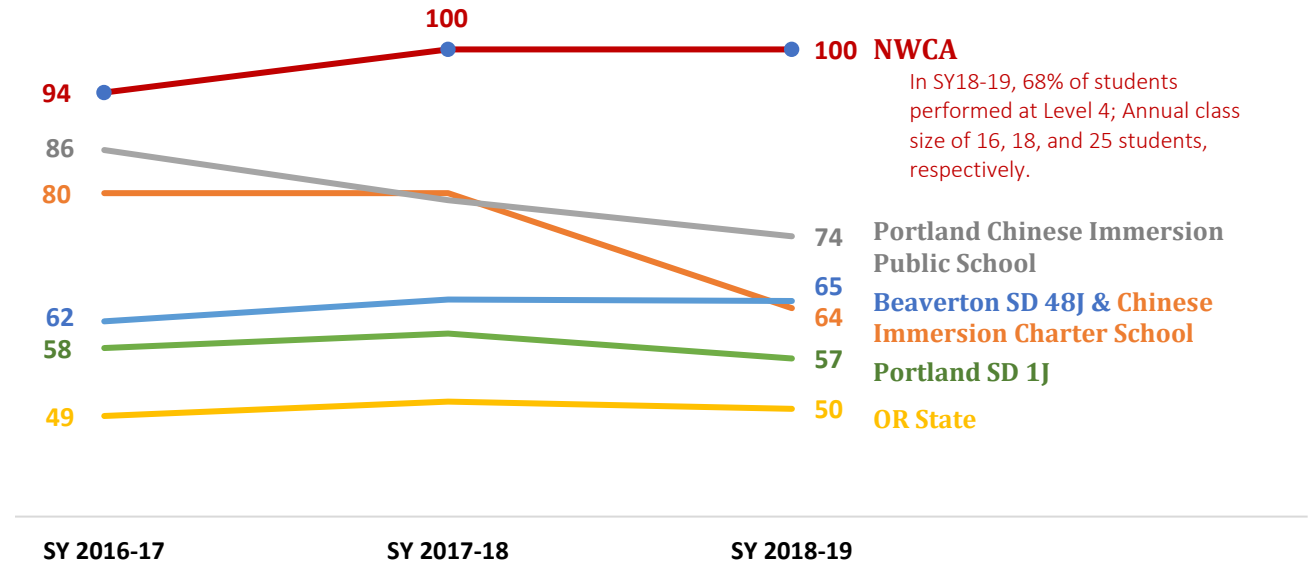
⁴ For more information on STAMP 4Se, visit <https://avantassessment.com/stamp4se>



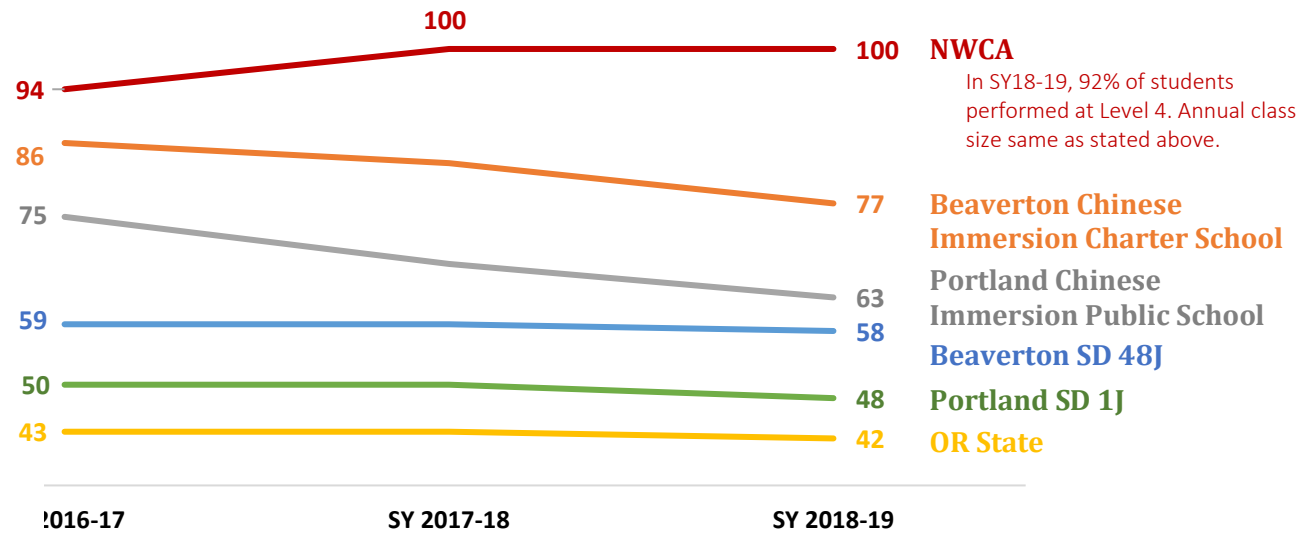
Chinese programs outperform traditional education programs; NWCA outperforms local-area Chinese programs for three consecutive years.

The charts depict School Years 2016-17 and 2018-19 (SY1617 to SY1819) outcomes for students enrolled in NWCA, local area Chinese immersion schools/programs, the Beaverton School District (SD 48J, a high-performing Oregon school district), the Portland School District (SD 1J) and Oregon public schools. The percentage of Grade 3 through Grade 5 students performing at Level 3 and 4 in Smarter Balanced English and Math subtests are illustrated. Data for comparison schools was retrieved from www.oregon.gov.

Smarter Balanced English Exam: Percentage of Students Performing at Level 3 or 4 Performance Across Grades 3-5



Smarter Balanced Math Exam: Percentage of Students Performing at Level 3 or 4 Performance Across Grades 3-5



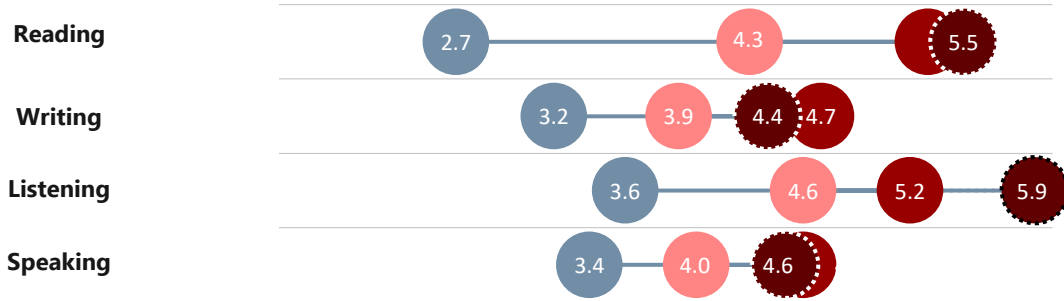


NWCA students' STAMP 4se scores exceeded national averages and increased to three-year highs in expressive and receptive skills in the upper grades, and receptive skills (reading and listening) in lower grades.

GRADES 2 & 3

(N_{SY1617}=15, N_{SY1718}=18, N_{SY1819}=13)

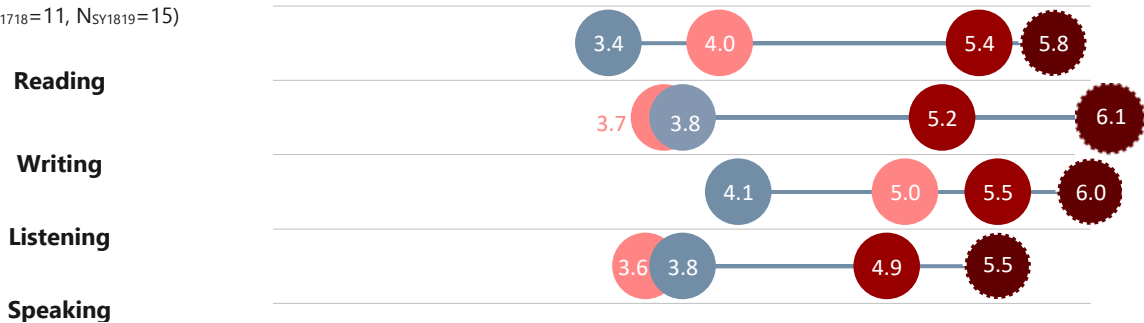
Natl Avg 17-18 NWCA SY16-17 NWCA SY17-18 NWCA SY18-19



NWCA students perform at Intermediate levels of proficiency based on American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Standards and have the ability to accomplish basic survival tasks in Chinese (Avant, 2019).

GRADES 4 & 5

(N_{SY1617}=7, N_{SY1718}=11, N_{SY1819}=15)



More on the STAMP 4Se

NWCA students complete the STAMP 4Se in Grades 2 - 5. Students receive an achievement rating ranging from 1 – 9. A score of 1 -3 corresponds to novice proficiency and 4 - 6 corresponds to intermediate proficiency based on ACTFL standards (see below). The transition from Novice, Level 3 to Intermediate, Level 4 marks the beginning of the “survive and cope” level where students can actually communicate to accomplish basic survival tasks in the language they are learning (Avant, 2019).

Avant STAMP 4se Score	1	2	3	4	5	6
ACTFL Proficiency Standard	Novice			Intermediate		
	Low	Mid	High	Low	Mid	High

Note that SY2017-18 STAMP 4SE national averages (Natl Avg) for immersion programs (Avant, 2019) are presented above; the average scores across grade levels were calculated.