

# Instructional Bull's Eye: Quality Teaching and Targeted Interventions

Adele Macula  
Jersey City Public Schools

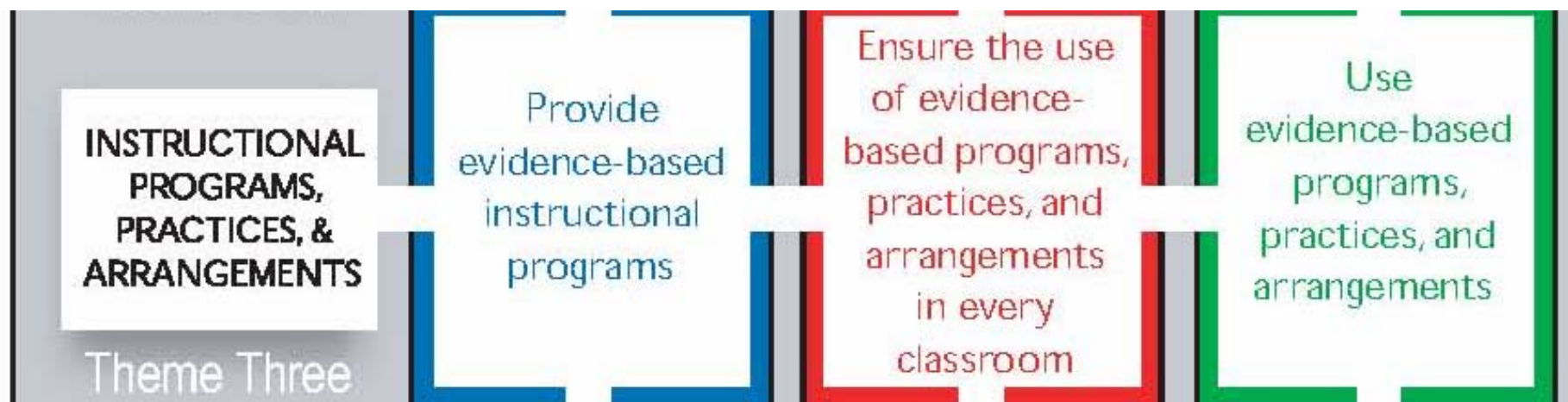
Rudolph Crew  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

September 18, 2006

# Instructional Programs and Practices/Interventions



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# The Broad Symposium 2006

## Instructional Bull's Eye: Quality Teaching and Targeted Interventions



**Adele T. Macula**  
**Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction**  
**Jersey City Public Schools**  
**September 18, 2006**

# Jersey City Public Schools

## Instruction is driven by NJDOE Abbott Regulations including Whole School Reform Model

- High-quality preschool for all eligible 3 and 4 year-old children (10-hour day).
- NJ Core Curriculum K-12 Content Standards in 9 content areas with grade level benchmarks/assessments.
- K-3 “Intensive Early Literacy.”
- Focuses on middle grades literacy (4-8) with interventions.
- Rigorous mathematics instruction focused on mastery.
- Alignment of science curricula with a schedule of implementation.
- Parallels expectations for special education and ELL student populations.
- “Secondary Schools Initiative” focused on instruction in small school learning communities.



# Jersey City Public Schools

## Quality teaching with a rigorous curriculum supported by continuous professional development

- Problem-based learning
- Literacy initiatives
- Jersey City Communicator Math - LL Teach
- Inclusion model
- Career-magnet high school programs



# Jersey City Public Schools

## Problem-Based Learning

- Learner-active, technology infused, student-centered classrooms.
- Transdisciplinary thematic units based on overarching life concepts with problem-based activities related to real life.
- Rich, abundant teacher and student resources.
- Pre-established grading criteria (rubrics).
- Quarterly performance-based assessments.
- Students as “quality producers” with collaborative and reflective skills.
- Parental information and involvement.



# Jersey City Public Schools

## Literacy Initiatives

### Curriculum

- Highlights essential daily instructional practices
  - Grades K-2 (165 minutes daily)
  - Grade 3 (120 minutes daily)
  - Grades 4-8 (90-120 minutes daily)
- Reading workshop
- Writing workshop
- Guided reading work with letters, sounds and words
- Daily independent reading at home
  - 100 Book Challenge model



# Jersey City Public Schools

## Literacy Initiatives

### Instructional Resources

- Selected, purchased or wrote best available resources for each component.

### Professional Learning

- Job-embedded professional learning experiences for teachers with support from consultants, literacy coaches and reading specialists.

### Assessment

- DRA as formative assessment.
- DRA, Terra Nova, NJ Assessment of Skills and Knowledge and Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment as summative assessments.
- Series of quarterly literacy benchmark assessments.

# Jersey City Public Schools

## Math Initiatives – Core Elements of “LL Teach”

- **Module Workshops** – Focused on both mathematics content and appropriate standards-based instructionally appropriate pedagogy.
- **Coaching** – Twelve 90-minute coaching interactions per teacher during the year. Includes demonstration lessons, collaboratively delivered lessons and conferencing either before and/or after the interaction.
- **Video lessons for teacher learning** – Every teacher receives a DVD library/player with demonstration lessons.
- **Special Education Program Supports** – Designed to accommodate the multilevel classroom needs.
- **Parent Support** – Series of cable TV shows, website access available for assistance, and dedicated daily phone support providing customized additional help to clarify instruction.

# Jersey City Public Schools

## Math Initiatives

### **Changed the culture of teaching math in the district**

Significant professional growth and changes in student performance, not only as exhibited in student test scores, but also in anecdotal accounts and observations of students and teachers as they work with mathematics in the classroom.

### **Increased Acceptance**

Teachers, building-level administrators, parents and students have shown increased acceptance of a standards-based mathematics program and of discovery-based, hands-on instruction, especially since the program has acquired a certain external validity as test scores have improved.

# Jersey City Public Schools

## Inclusion Model

- Goal is to educate all children, regardless of disabilities with their chronological peers in their neighborhood schools.
- Incorporates a co-teaching model in which general and special education teachers teach collaboratively at each grade level in every school.
- Inclusion Specialists are intensively trained in differentiated instruction, cooperative learning and behavioral strategies.
- Increases student engagement in learning through differentiated instruction, cooperative learning and positive behavioral supports
- Incorporates best practices.

# Jersey City Public Schools

## Career-Magnet High School Academies

- Four-year programs with academically challenging and career focused courses preparing students for further education in a university/college, technical school or employment.
- Associated with national organizations that provides staff development, curricula, and business contacts.
- Students participate in a variety of competitions.
- Students take part in internship and apprenticeship programs in senior year.
- Training in a variety of software and systems applications connected to career choices.



# Jersey City Public Schools

## Instructional Program Supports

- Real-time, job-embedded professional learning for all language arts and mathematics teachers.
- Focused support from external consultants.
- Teacher experts that share skills and strategies to ensure delivery of the curriculum.
- Investment in classroom resources, materials, libraries and teacher resource materials.
- Ongoing benchmark assessments.
- Building internal capacity with coaches and specialists.



# Jersey City Public Schools

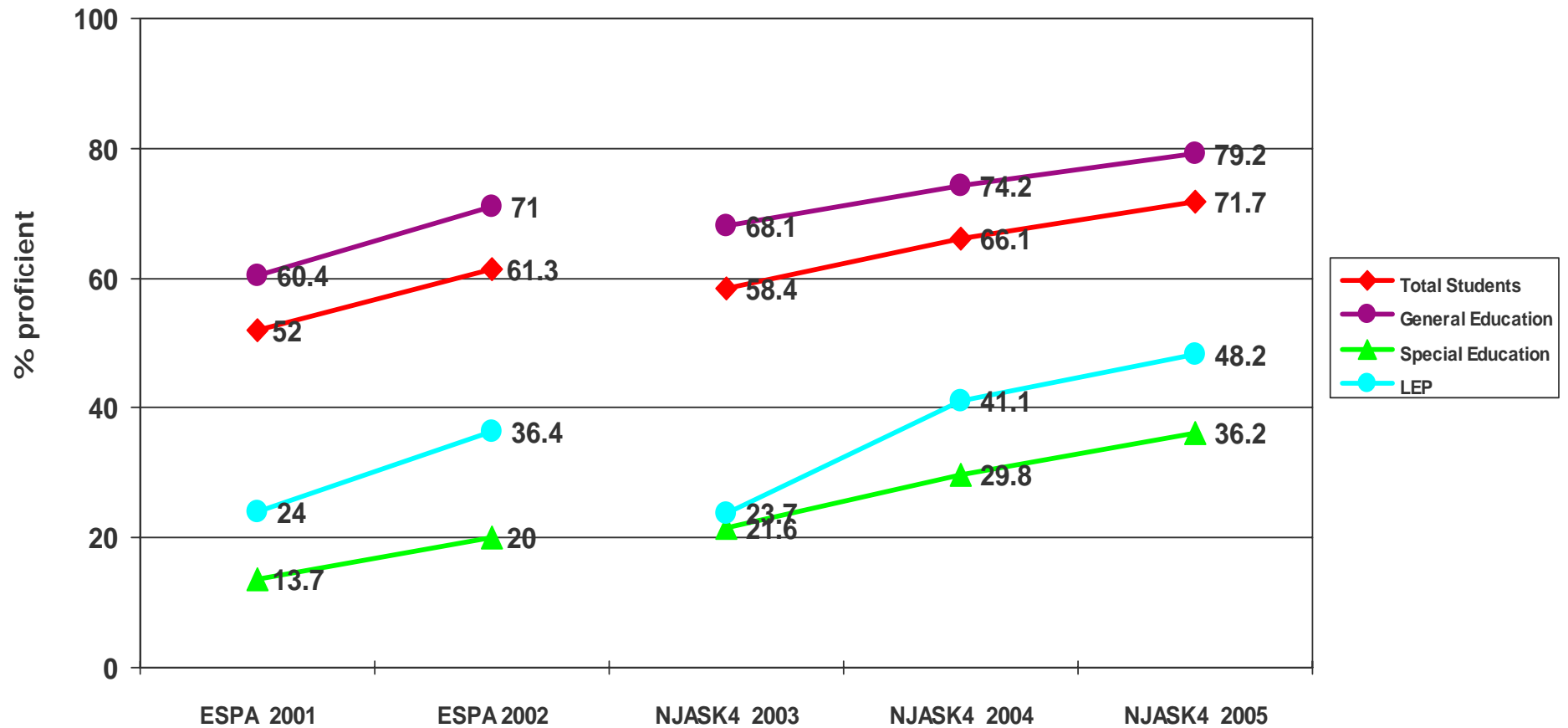
## K-2 Results

	2003 DRA	2004 DRA	2005 DRA	2006 DRA
	<b>Percent at/above benchmark</b>			
<b>Kindergarten</b>	78	89	90	89
<b>Grade 1</b>	50	61	60	66
<b>Grade 2</b>	50	51	57	59

<b>2006 Terra Nova</b>
<b>Median percentile</b>
77
61
52

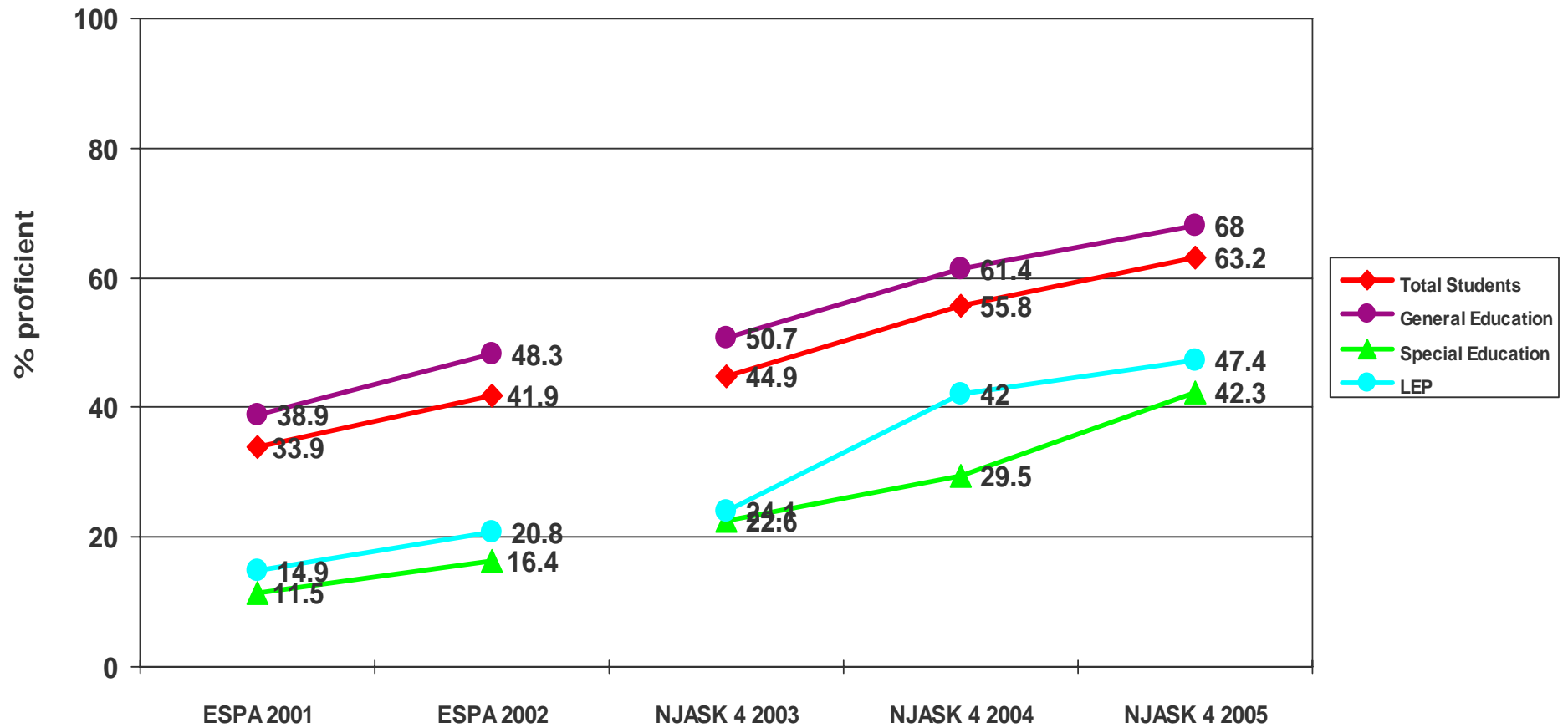
# Jersey City Public Schools

## ESPA/NJASK 4: 2001-2005 Language Arts



# Jersey City Public Schools

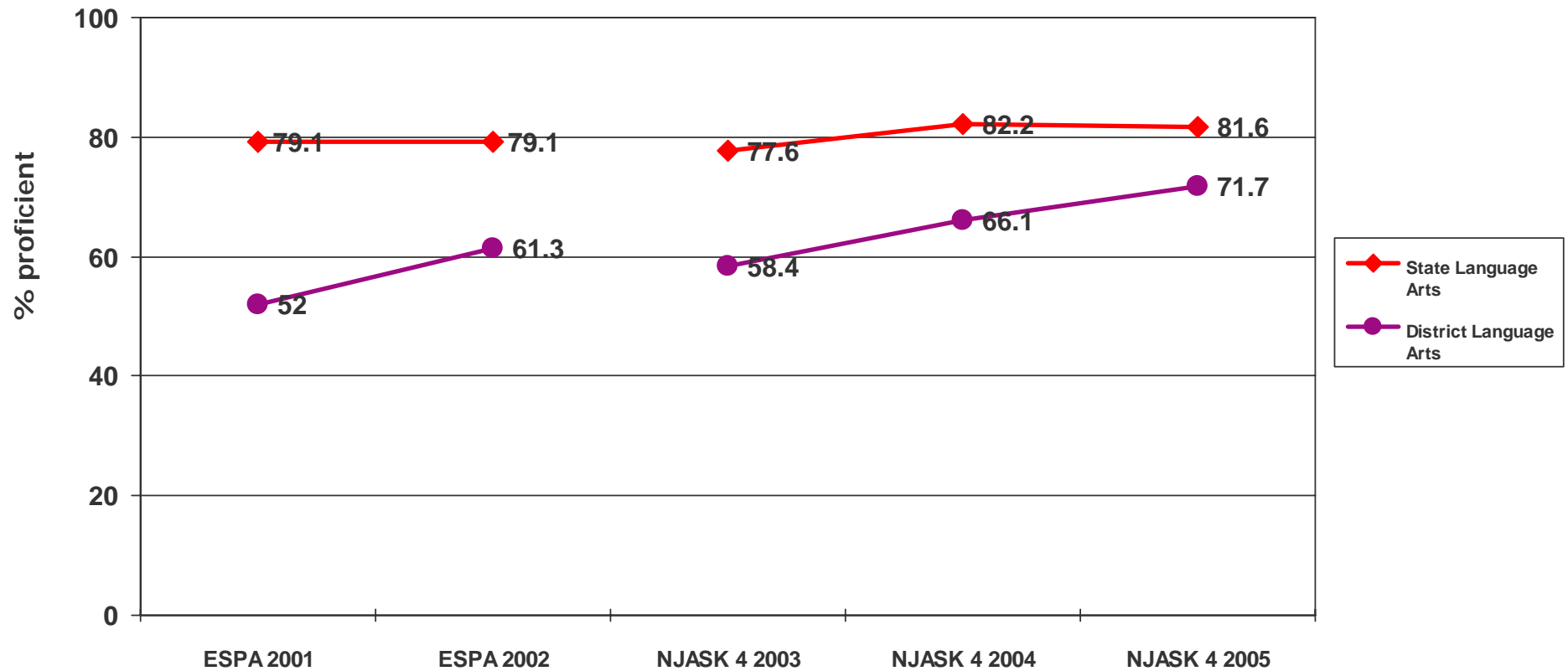
## ESPA/NJASK 4: 2001-2005 Math



# Jersey City Public Schools

## ESPA/NJASK 4: 2001-2005 State/District Comparisons

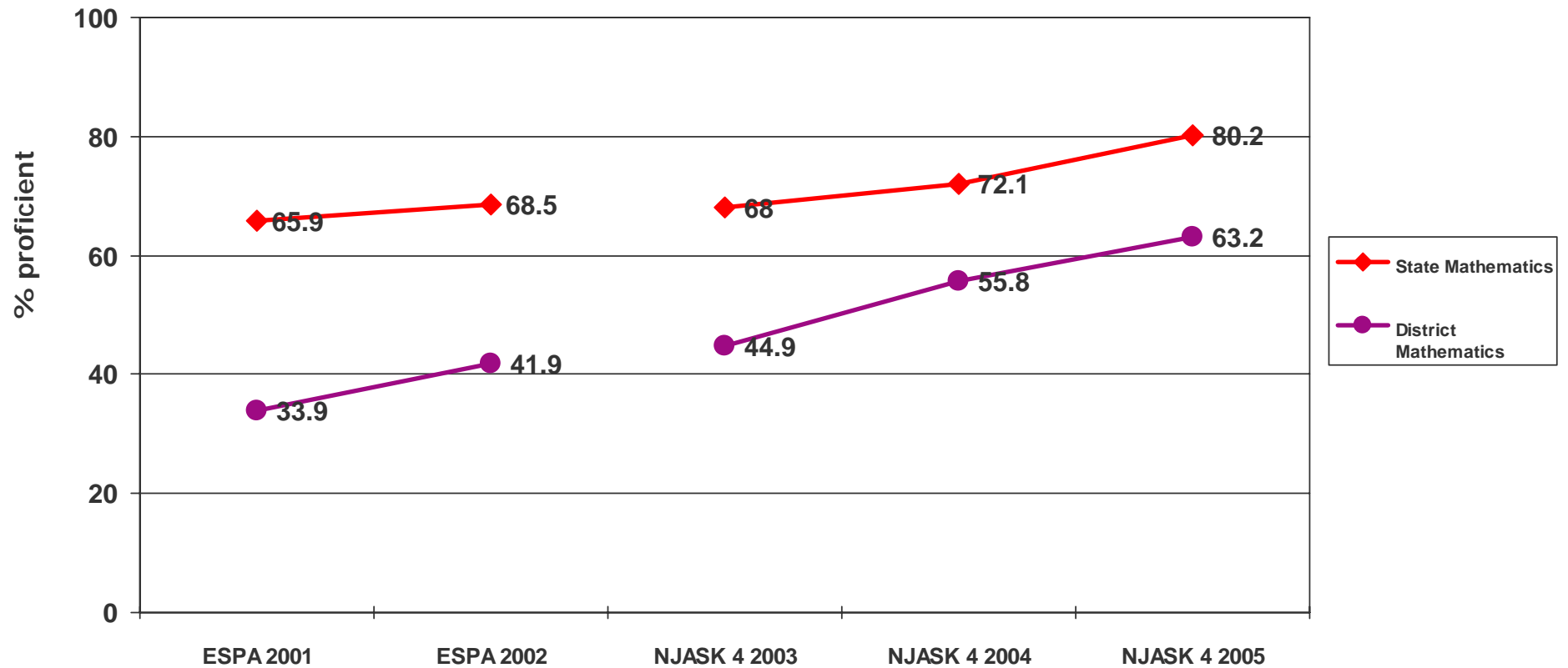
### Language Arts



# Jersey City Public Schools

## ESPA/NJASK 4: 2001-2005 State/District Comparisons

### Mathematics



# The Broad Symposium 2006

## **Instructional Bull's Eye:** Quality Teaching and Targeted Interventions



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Rudolph (Rudy) Crew  
Superintendent  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

September 18, 2006

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Intervention and Adjustment

### Numerous intervention programs for struggling students and schools:

- Tutoring and before and after school programs
- Exploratory summer program
- Double-academic blocks
- Student-teacher support teams
- Coaches to support teachers
- Zone Schools

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Zone Schools

- The School Improvement Zone promotes high achievement and eliminates low student performance for students in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.
- This differentiated approach provides selected schools with a K-12 focus on literacy as a core component of the instructional program.
- Key intervention strategies.

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Characteristics of Zone Schools

### Zone schools selected based on:

- Low academic performance for three years
- Low performance across feeder pattern
- Leadership capacity

### 39 schools from 8 feeder patterns

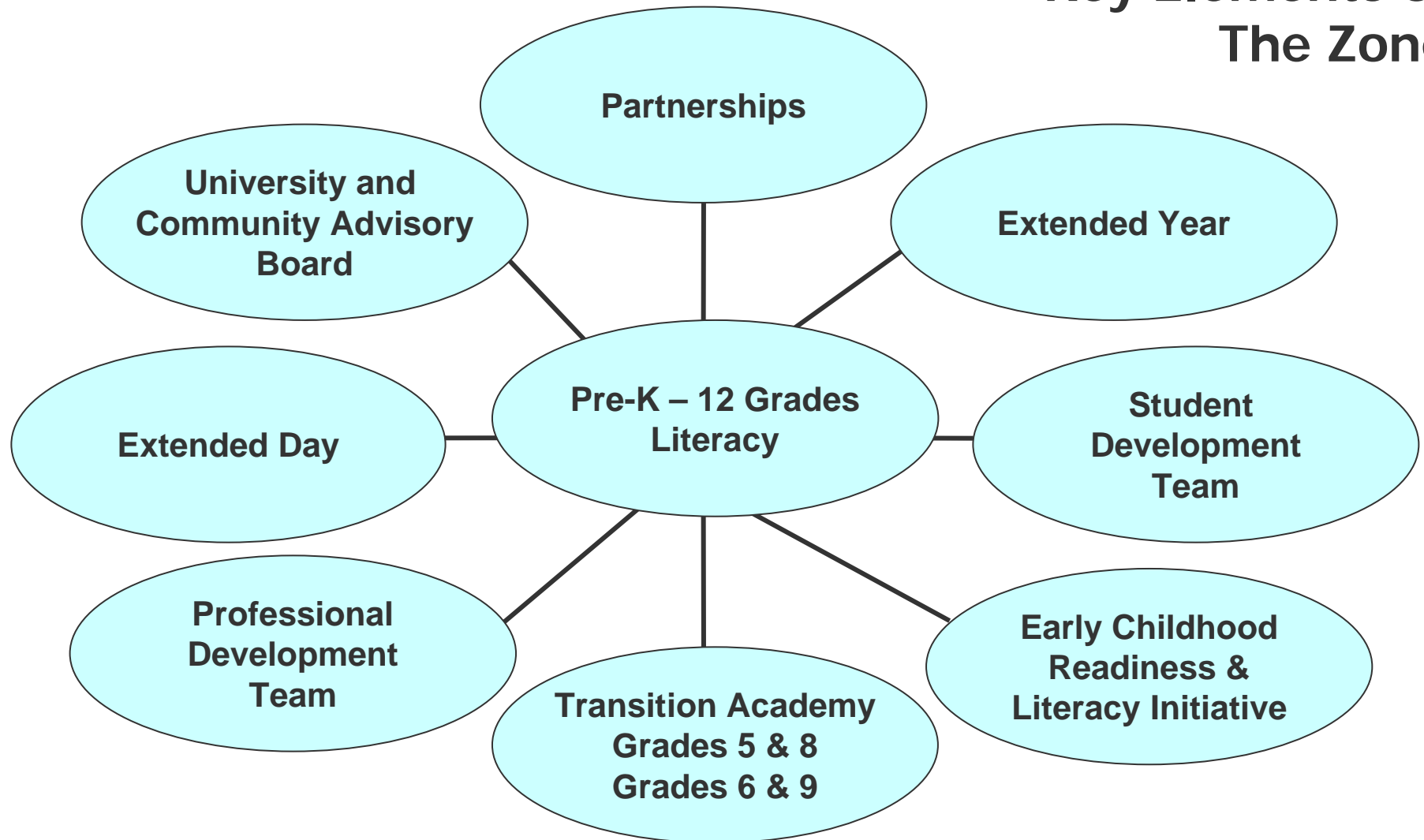
- 20 elementary, 11 middle and 8 high schools
- Report structure

### 43,960 students

- 66% African-American, 30% Hispanic
- 78% free & reduced lunch
- 17% English language learners

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Key Elements of The Zone



# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Key Elements of The Zone

### Academic Interventions

- Pre-K–12 literacy
- Early Childhood Readiness and Literacy Initiative
- Transition Academy
- Extended day
- Extended year

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

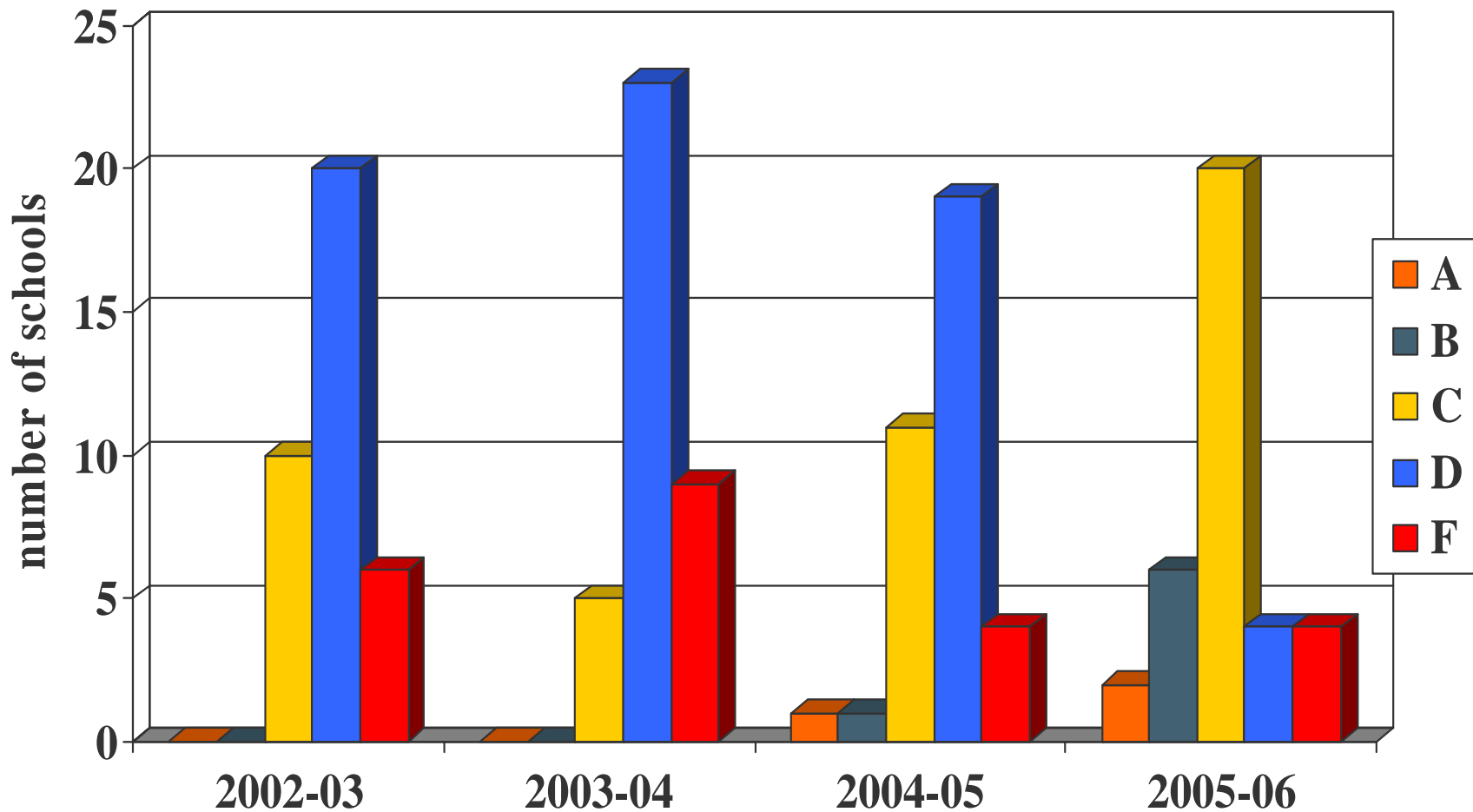
## Key Elements of The Zone

### Academic Intervention Supports

- Student development team
- Professional development team
- University and community advisory board

# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## State Grades for Zone Schools



# Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Anticipated Outcomes

**All schools in the School Improvement Zone will earn a letter grade of C or higher based on 2007-2008 FCAT results.**

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## Contact Information

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