Start Strong: Fall 2022 Administration

Somerset Hills School District

January 25th, 2023

Support in Identifying Student Needs

Start Strong Assessment Overview

Start Strong Fall 2022 assessments:

- Created in response to the disruption in education due to pandemic
- Were brief (45–60 minutes), in person, and provided quick results.
- Expressly designed as a standards-based complement to the resources used by educators in their classrooms to evaluate the needs of students
- Are analyzed alongside other important measures of student outcomes, like NJSLA, benchmark assessments, teacher-created formative assessments, and attendance data to provide a more complete perspective on resources, support, and student success.

Fall 2022 assessments <u>DO NOT</u>:

- Replace local standards-based benchmark assessments districts may already have in place.
- Replace the spring 2023 New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) statewide summative assessments or are predictive of their results.

Start Strong Test Design

- **Start Strong results must be interpreted and used differently than NJSLA results**.

- Based on a **subset** of prioritized **prior-year** academic standards to provide a data point on the level of support a student may need to engage in current grade-level content

- Used **released** high-quality items from the NJSLA item bank

- As a formative assessment the test contains efficient, fast-scored question types to produce on-demand results for educators - no CRTs (Constructed Response Tasks), all computer scored, multiple-choice, and technology enhanced items.

- Could be administered in 45–60 minutes

- Item analysis reporting for teachers, including the item image and student responses, by the student and by item, as well as an Individual Student Report (ISR) for parents/guardians after the administration.

Start Strong Grade And Content Alignment

If the student is currently enrolled in....	the student is assigned the Start Strong...
ELA Grade 4-10 and Math Grade 4-8 *Note:* Grade 7 and 8 students taking HS mathematics courses are administered the Start Strong assessment for that course.	ELA exam that aligns with their current grade and is based on the previous year's content. MATH exam that aligns with their current grade and is based on the previous year's content.
Algebra I	ALG01 exam that is based on Grade 8 Math content with a focus on standards relevant to algebraic concepts
Geometry	GEO exam that is based on Grade 8 Math content with a focus on standards relevant to geometric concepts
Algebra II	ALG02 exam that is based on Algebra I content
Science Grade 6	Science 6 exam that is based on Upper Elementary (Grade 3 through 5) Science content
Science Grade 9	Science 9 exam that is based on Middle School Science content
Science Grade 12	Science 12 exam that is based on High School Science content

Start Strong Score Interpretation and Support Levels

The three support levels for the Start Strong Assessment are:

- **Level 1: More Support (Strong Support) May Be Needed**
- **Level 2: Some Support May Be Needed**
- **Level 3: Less Support May Be Needed**

The support levels on the Start Strong Assessment are directly derived from the NJSLA performance levels. However, there is not a one-to-one mapping.

Start Strong Support Levels	NJSLA-ELA Performance Level	NJSLA-Math Performance Level	NJSLA-Science Performance Level
Strong Support May Be Needed	• Did Not Yet Meet Expectations • Partially Met Expectations	• Did Not Yet Meet Expectations • Partially Met Expectations	• Below Proficient
Some Support May Be Needed	• Approached Expectations	• Approached Expectations	• Near Proficiency
Less Support May Be Needed	• Met expectations • Exceeded expectations	• Met Expectations • Exceeded Expectations	• Proficient • Advanced Proficiency

Somerset Hills School District's
Number of Students Tested
Start Strong Fall 2022 Administrations

English Language Arts	Students Tested
ELA04	94
ELA05	98
ELA06	117
ELA07	124
ELA08	118
ELA09	191
ELA10	204
Total	**946**

Mathematics	Students Tested
MAT04	94
MAT05	98
MAT06	117
MAT07	120
MAT08	62
Algebra 1	187
Geometry	171
Algebra 2	211
Total	**1060**

Science	Students Tested
SC06	117
SC09	200
SC12	140
Total	**457**

Note: "Students Tested" represents individual valid test scores for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science.

Somerset Hills School District's
Start Strong Fall 2022 Administrations
English Language Arts — Support Levels

Grade	More Support Needed (Count)	More Support Needed (Percentage)	Some Support Needed (Count)	Some Support Needed (Percentage)	Less Support Needed (Count)	Less Support Needed (Percentage)
4	25	**27%**	22	**23%**	47	**50%**
5	18	**18%**	18	**18%**	62	**63%**
6	31	**26%**	24	**21%**	62	**53%**
7	24	**19%**	23	**19%**	77	**62%**
8	20	**17%**	21	**18%**	77	**65%**
9	43	**23%**	13	**7%**	135	**71%**
10	58	**28%**	29	**14%**	117	**57%**

Note: *Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.*
Critical Data Considerations: *Results are for reporting purposes only. Due to earlier testing window in the Fall 2022, test results from 2021 and 2022 should not be used for direct comparison purposes.*

Somerset Hills School District's
Start Strong Fall 2022 Administrations
Mathematics —Support Levels

Grade	More Support Needed (Count)	More Support Needed (Percentage)	Some Support Needed (Count)	Some Support Needed (Percentage)	Less Support Needed (Count)	Less Support Needed (Percentage)
4	28	**30%**	24	**26%**	42	**45%**
5	28	**29%**	18	**18%**	52	**53%**
6	28	**24%**	38	**32%**	51	**44%**
7	24	**20%**	43	**36%**	53	**44%**
8*	20	**32%**	26	**42%**	16	**26%**
Algebra 1**	79	**42%**	47	**25%**	61	**33%**
Geometry	74	**43%**	29	**17%**	68	**40%**
Algebra 2	53	**25%**	62	**29%**	96	**45%**

* Math 8 outcomes are not representative of grade 8 performance as a whole.

** Students beginning Algebra I and Geometry in the 2022–23 school year may have taken different mathematics courses depending on their individual course pathways. The Start Strong Assessments for Algebra I and Geometry are based on the Grade 8 learning standards.

Grade	More Support Needed (Count)	More Support Needed (Percentage)	Some Support Needed (Count)	Some Support Needed (Percentage)	Less Support Needed (Count)	Less Support Needed (Percentage)
6	28	**24%**	42	**36%**	47	**40%**
9	60	**30%**	94	**47%**	46	**23%**
12	55	**39%**	26	**19%**	59	**42%**

Note: *Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. 2022 statewide student performance is not yet available for comparison.*
Critical Data Considerations: *Results are for reporting purposes only. Due to earlier testing window in the Fall 2022, test results from 2021 and 2022 should not be used for direct comparison purposes.*
Results in Context: *Grade 12 NJ SS Science 2022 results are not representative of the entire Grade 12 student population.*

New Jersey
Start Strong Fall 2021 Statewide Results (percentages)

English Language Arts	Proficient (Less Support Needed), % NJ 2021	Mathematics	Proficient (Less Support Needed), % NJ 2021	Science	Proficient (Less Support Needed), % NJ 2021
ELA04	37%	MAT04	29%	SC06	23%
ELA05	48%	MAT05	24%	SC09	16%
ELA06	41%	MAT06	22%	SC12	27%
ELA07	47%	MAT07	24%		
ELA08	50%	MAT08	18%		
ELA09	54%	Algebra 1	16%		
ELA10	55%	Geometry	29%		
		Algebra 2	40%		

Note: *NJ Start Strong 2022 statewide results are not yet available for comparison.*

Somerset Hills School District's Subgroup
Start Strong Fall 2022 Administrations
English Language Arts— Percentages

Subgroup		More Support Needed	Some Support Needed	Less Support Needed
District Total	(946)	23%	16%	61%
Ethnicity				
Asian		10%	23%	67%
Hispanic / Latino		46%	17%	37%
White		17%	14%	69%
Two or More Races		7%	14%	79%
Other Demographics				
Students with Disabilities		47%	19%	33%
English Language Learner: Current EL		88%	7%	5%
English Language Learner: Former EL		36%	36%	28%
Economically Disadvantaged		56%	18%	26%

Note: Subgroups included are those with over 10 students.

Somerset Hills School District's Subgroup
Start Strong Fall 2022 Administrations
Mathematics — Percentages

Subgroup	More Support Needed	Some Support Needed	Less Support Needed
District Total (1060)	32%	27%	41%
Ethnicity			
Asian	13%	21%	66%
Hispanic / Latino	56%	27%	17%
White	23%	29%	48%
Two or More Races	22%	13%	64%
Other Demographics			
Students with Disabilities	59%	23%	17%
English Language Learner: Current EL	95%	4%	1%
English Language Learner: Former EL	31%	58%	12%
Economically Disadvantaged	67%	22%	11%

Note: Subgroups included are those with over 10 students. .

Subgroup	More Support Needed	Some Support Needed	Less Support Needed
District Total (457)	31%	35%	33%
Ethnicity			
Asian	20%	43%	37%
Hispanic / Latino	61%	25%	14%
White	21%	39%	40%
Two or More Races	8%	42%	50%
Other Demographics			
Students with Disabilities	60%	21%	19%
English Language Learner: Current EL	95%	5%	0%
English Language Learner: Former EL	45%	45%	9%
Economically Disadvantaged	71%	26%	3%

Note: Subgroups included are those with over 10 students.

Observations on student learning and Next Steps

- When compared to State results currently available (Fall of 2021), SHSD results from the Fall of 2022 indicate a smaller percentage of students who are identified as *More Support Needed*
- Results are used by teachers and administrators to target necessary supports for individual students
- Analysis of student testing data informs certified staff goals and targets professional learning
- Expand implementation of reliable formative assessments (e.g. CommonLit and i-Ready Diagnostic)
- Continue Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) training to support English Language Learners
- Continue existing/develop additional summer and extended day programming for identified students, appropriately leveraging all available funding (Title funds, ESSER II/ARP monies)
- Intervention & Referral Services (I&RS) teams will use data to support decision-making
- Continue to consider assessment data to inform curricular decision-making

Start strong Individual Student Reports (ISRs)

- Individual Student Reports from the Start Strong assessments provide parents with information on key areas in which their student may need more support.
- Printed copies of the NJ Start Strong Individual Student Reports were mailed home to parents on January 5th.