

CCSD Grade 5 Program

January 10, 2012

Context

- District Focus on Program and 21st Century Learning
- District Goal—Individual Academic & Developmental Needs
- Implementation of Common Core Standards
- Concerns about Middle School ELA and Math Scores
- District Focus on Capacity of Buildings
- Investigation of K-8 buildings nationally

Raises the question...

What is the most appropriate
program and location for grade 5
students?

Process

- Board Presentations
- Meetings with 5th Grade Team
- Review of Research
- Facilities Review
- MED Parent Meeting
- MED Parent Survey
- 5th and 6th Grade Parent Survey
- 5th and 6th Grade Student Survey
- 4th grade Classroom Visits

Teacher Input—Positives of Middle School

- Teachers teach fewer subjects—develop subject area expertise
- Team Approach—Teachers have time to meet and develop goals together, speak about individual student needs
- Socially stimulating environment
- Consistency of experience—All 5th graders have same teachers
- Students interact with an increased number of adults
- Access to guidance program

Teacher Input—Challenges of Middle School (Current Program)

- Time for ELA and Math—schedule and changing classes
- Organization—Students having proper materials for class
- Challenge of forming close relationships between students and teachers—teachers have more students, students have more teachers
- Coordination with elementary school
- Overall structure of middle school schedule
- Students need to meet expectations of many teachers
- Exposure to older students
- No playground equipment

What does the research say?

- Evidence to support both models
- Advantage to Middle School—
 - Structure focuses on physical and emotional development of early teens
 - Program opportunities from older grades
 - Many elementary schools do not have guidance programs
- Advantage to Elementary School
 - Leadership opportunities for 5th graders
 - Elementary structure allows for greater focus on language arts and math
 - Maturity level of many 5th graders more appropriate for elementary setting

Student Surveys

- Feel like “Big Kids”—walking in lines, lockers, changing for PE, etc.
- Appreciate instrumental music and after school opportunities
- Responsibility, Homework, Independence
- Changing Teachers
- Relationships with teachers
- Social dynamics
- Playground

5th & 6th Grade Parent Surveys

- 38 Responses
- Complimentary of 5th Grade Team
- Social Concerns
- Organization
- Report Card Grades
- Input reflected success of individual children

MED Parent Surveys

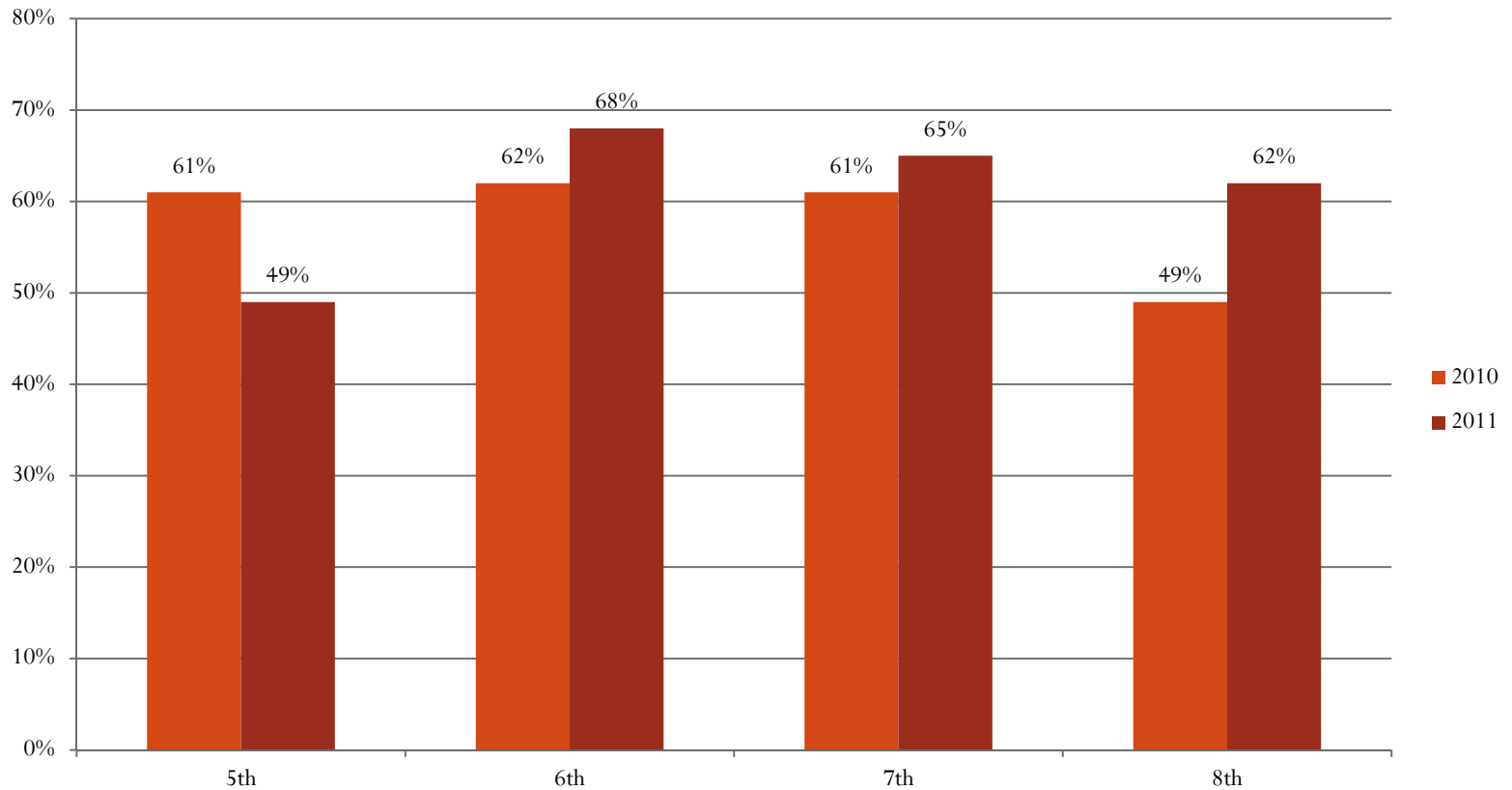
- 42 Responses
- Social Pressures
- Academic Challenge
- Individual Student Needs
- Program over Location
- Clubs
- After School Help
- Grading

Academic Data

- Concerns about ELA and Math Achievement—
 - CMS School in Need of Improvement—ELA for Students with Disabilities
 - Overall Results
- Leads to Need to Increase Time Spent on Core Subjects
- Regardless of Location—Reduction of Encore time is necessary

NYS TEST RESULTS 2010 To 2011

Math

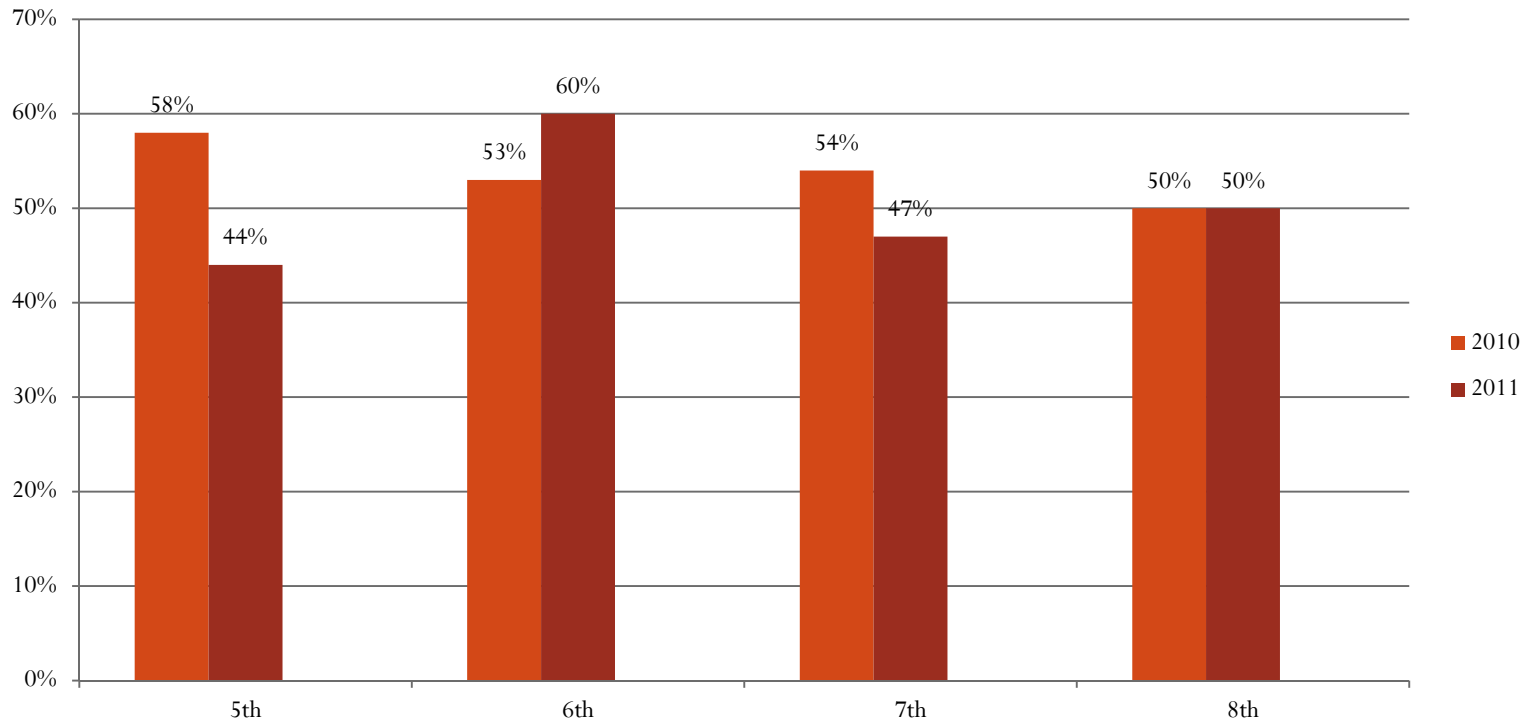


Math Statewide Average 2010: 61%

Math Statewide Average 2011: 63.3%

NYS TEST RESULTS 2010 To 2011

English Language Arts

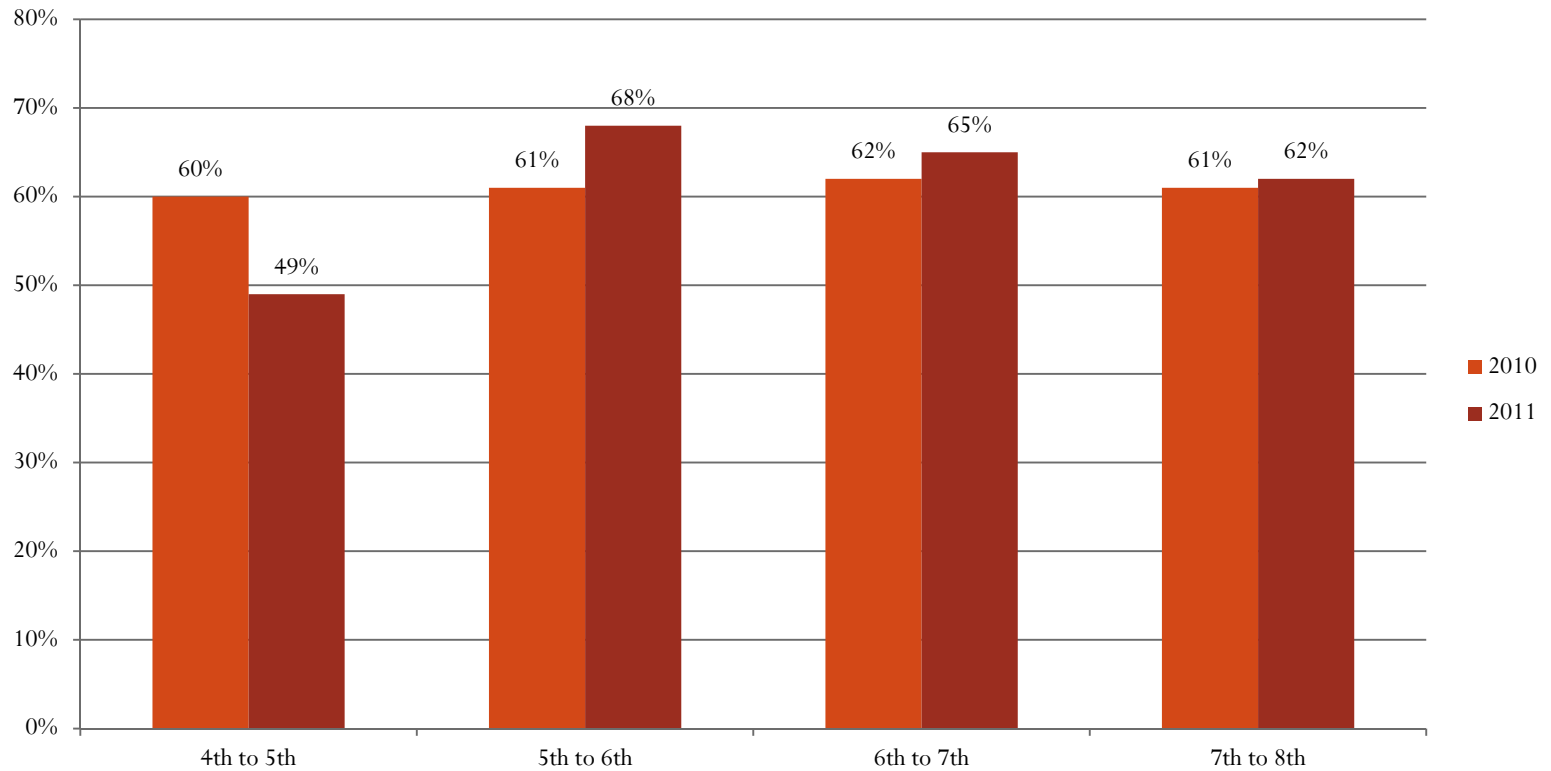


ELA Statewide Average 2010: 53.2%

ELA Statewide Average 2011: 52.8%

Cohort Comparison

Math

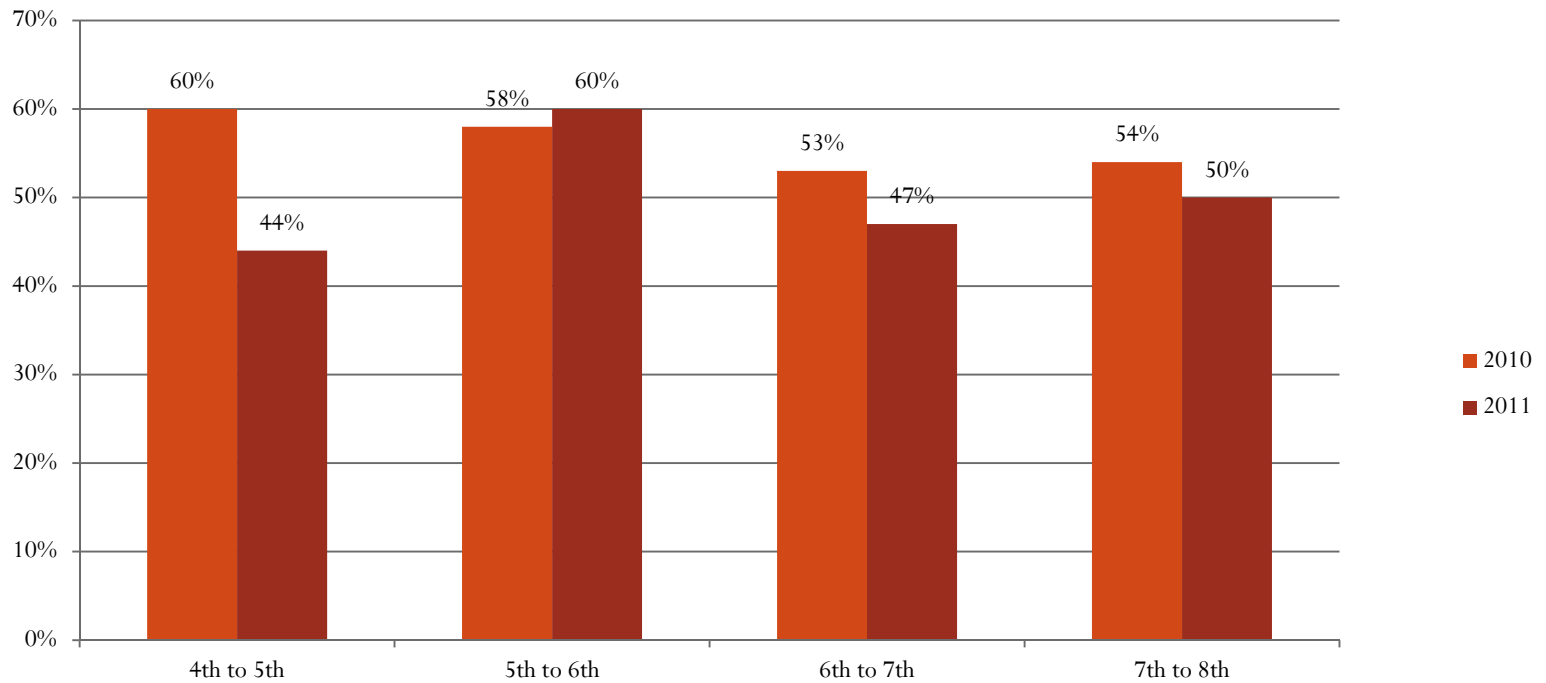


Math Statewide Average 2010: 61%

Math Statewide Average 2011: 63.3%

Cohort Comparison

English Language Arts



ELA Statewide Average 2010: 53.2%

ELA Statewide Average 2011: 52.8%

Recommendation

Locate 5th grade at MED beginning in 2012-2013.

Program Outline

- 5th grade housed on main floor—4th and 5th Grade Hallway
- Block instructional time for ELA and Math
- Transition in changing classes—3rd Grade through 6th Grade
- Social Privileges for 5th graders—Not walking in line, etc.
- Leadership Opportunities for Students—Student Government, etc.
- Minimum of 5 Choice Clubs move from CMS to MED
- At least 1 Homework Club/After School Help
- Reallocation of Guidance Time
- Revise Report Cards—Earlier Introduction of Letter Grades
- Budget Proposal—Instrumental Music for 4th Grade

Next Steps

- Board Resolution January 29
- Reworking of Master Schedules
- Teacher Meetings
 - Grading
 - Team Configuration/ Changing Classes
 - 5th Grade Leadership Opportunities
- Professional Development for Teachers
- Curriculum Writing Over Summer

Questions?
